



# GENERAL MEETING

**February 8, 2021 / 7:00 PM / Virtual**

## **PTA and School Staff Attendees:**

**LHMS PTA:** Kimberly Hotz, Treasurer; Annmarie Swope, Secretary; Nicola Hamilton, Communications, Traci Pickering, VP, LHMS Spiritwear and General Membership

**LHMS Staff:** Aimee Monticchio, Principal; Michele Beard, Director of Student Services, Liz Falcone, Teacher Liaison to PTA

## **7:01 PM Meeting CALL TO ORDER by Aimee Monticchio, LHMS Principal.**

### Principal Remarks & Welcome

#### January Meeting Minutes

- Annmarie, PTA Secretary, presented the meeting minutes for approval
- Meeting minutes were also shared onscreen
- There were not enough people in attendance for reach a quorum to approve so the motion to approve was postponed for a few minutes.
- Annmarie presented the meeting minutes again for newcomers to the meeting
- Annmarie made motion to approve
- Aimee Monticchio: 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion
- January meeting minutes were approved and will be posted to LHMS PTA website

#### Treasurer's Report

- Kimberly Hotz, PTA Treasurer, was not able to share the budget on screen due to technical difficulties
- Kim advised the PTA currently has \$6900 in the bank
- Most of the revenue this year is due to the success of Spirit Wear sales
- Additional funds are coming in from AmazonSmile, PTA membership, and Dining for Dollars
- The revised budget will be placed on the LHMS PTA website

#### Return to School Presentation

- Ms. Aimee Monticchio presented and Ms. Michele Beard, Director of Student Services assisted with Q&A
- Meeting and presentation may be found here:  
<https://us.bbcollab.com/recording/cd65dacb75cf476a8dc4c2cf90a32825>
- Highlights include:
  - Family resource guide for Return to School can be found here:  
<https://www.fcps.edu/returntoschool/familyguide>

- Recommend speaking to students about the changes at school and ensure them they will be safe
- Recommend students wear masks during the day for extended periods of time to help get used to what their day will be like at school
- 8<sup>th</sup> Grade students with last name starting with A-K will start in-person learning on March 2<sup>nd</sup> and will be going to school on Tuesdays and Wednesdays
- 8<sup>th</sup> Grade students with the last name starting L-Z will start in-person learning on March 4<sup>th</sup> and will be going to school on Thursdays and Fridays
- 7<sup>th</sup> Grade students with last name starting with A-K will start in-person learning on March 9<sup>th</sup> and will be going to school on Tuesdays and Wednesdays
- 7<sup>th</sup> Grade students with the last name starting L-Z will start in-person learning on March 11<sup>th</sup> and will be going to school on Thursdays and Fridays
- Students and parents will be receiving emails from LHMS this week regarding their status as online or in-person
- There will be a new bell schedule starting on February 16<sup>th</sup>.
  - School will start at 7:30am and end at 2pm.
- Students will be going through orientation during their 1<sup>st</sup> period back to school. In addition, there will be additional hall monitors to assist students with getting to and from class.
- FCPS Safety teams have audited LHMS to ensure all five mitigation protocols are in place: proper use of masks, social distancing, proper cleaning, contact tracing, and monitoring actions in case of illness.
  - Safety teams will continue their auditing process when students are back in school
  - There will be no temperature checks prior to students getting on the bus or entering the school
  - The schools will be relying on parents to adhere to the health screening process before their students go to school.
  - All parents must review and commit to the health screening form prior to their student(s) returning to school)
  - Health screening form can be found here: <https://www.fcps.edu/sites/default/files/media/forms/HealthScreeningQuestionnaire.pdf>
- It is recommended students use a backpack to carry all items including lunch, computer, and water bottle
- It is also recommended students bring notebooks and pens/pencils to class as there will be no sharing of school supplies
- There will be assigned seating in the cafeteria.
- Students can pick up lunch in the cafeteria or bring their own. Students will need to wear their mask when not eating
- If a student asks to not wear a mask, the student must provide a written statement from a doctor/medical professional
- If a student is exhibiting symptoms, they will be placed in the Care Room with the school nurse
  - A parent/guardian will be called and will need to pick up their student within one hour.
  - If a student is not picked up within the hour and symptoms continue to get worse, the nurse will call 911

- If a student or teacher is Covid-positive, the Principal will send out a statement to the LHMS community and will work with the Department of Health regarding next steps.
- If someone is exposed, the family will be notified directly by the Department of Health and advised of next steps.

#### President's Report

- Updates regarding PTA Board and Committee Chair openings will be added to LHMS PTA website.
- If anyone is interested in volunteering next year, please contact Gabriela at [president@lhmspta.com](mailto:president@lhmspta.com)

#### Principal's Report

- Recommended referencing the Return to School presentation and chat for updates

#### Committee Chair Reports

- Fundraising, Kimberly Hotz
  - Reminded everyone there is a Dining for Dollars event at Santini's of Reston on Wednesday, February 10th
- Spirit Wear, Traci Pickering
  - Magnets with the new LHMS logo are selling well
  - The Fall Spirit Wear will include the full school name
  - Spiritwear can still be purchased on the website: <https://www.lhmspta.com/home/lhms-spirit-wear3741666>

#### Other Items for Discussion

- A parent inquired about staff vaccinations to date.
  - Due to HIPAA laws, this information is private.
  - Ms. Monticchio advised 90% of FCPS staff has requested to receive the vaccination
- Class Monitors (paid personnel to watch the students in the classroom as they learn online with their teacher who opted to stay online)
  - Ms. Monticchio advised over 50% of the student population will be returning to school and the school will have less than a dozen class monitors.
  - Each in-school cohort will have approximately 325 students/day.
- Ms. Michele Beard has essentially created two schools to help accommodate those teachers and students that are returning to school and those that chose to remain online
- Kiss N Ride will remain at the same location on Ridge Heights Road
- The school is working with options for students to eat outside during lunch
- The school is hoping to be able to conduct Open House for the new school year at the school this summer.
- 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Celebration
  - FCPS does not have graduation events for 8<sup>th</sup> graders. Instead, schools create their own events to celebrate
  - Pre-Covid, LHMS held a semi-formal dance at the school.
  - Last year, LHMS did a virtual celebration with a video of photos throughout the year and messages from the teachers to the students.

- Yearbooks: LHMS will be providing Yearbooks this year.
  - The Yearbook team welcomes any pictures from students throughout this year
  - A link to submit photos will be provided on the LHMS website
- Communication regarding exposure
  - A letter will be sent to the LHMS community regarding the exposure and next steps.
  - Ms. Monticchio works closely with the Department of Health and their contact tracers to determine who may have been exposed.
  - Exposure is 15+ minutes over a 2-day period within 6ft.
  - A family will be contacted by the Department of Health if their child has been exposed and will be advised of next steps
  - LHMS has had staff members who have tested positive but there has been no transmission in the school

Key Dates:

- February 10<sup>th</sup>: Dining for Dollars – Santini’s of Reston
- February 15<sup>th</sup>: Holiday – President’s Day
- March 5<sup>th</sup>: 2-Hour Early Release
- March 15<sup>th</sup>: PTA Meeting
- March 26<sup>th</sup>: End of 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter – 2-Hour Early Release
- March 29<sup>th</sup>: April 2<sup>nd</sup>: Holiday – Spring Break
- April 5<sup>th</sup>: Student Holiday

**Meeting ADJORNED at 8:05pm.**