

**Principal's Coffee and PTO Meeting
9/8/2017**

Call To Order: 9:33 am

Principal's Report: Mr. Coch

Mr. Coch welcomed everyone and the new parents to the school. Introduced Mrs. Booe and Mrs. Cofer and John Kelly, Navy's Tech Guy.

We are very large elementary school-top 8 in the county. We have 978 students.

There are several new teachers this year:

- Kendall Correno-1st Grade
- Samantha Spencer-4th Grade AAP
- Katie Hunter-SPED Teacher
- Cristyn Scott-6th Grade Resource Teacher
- Emily Meehan-4th Grade Teacher
- Jenneys McKinney-FLES
- Stacey Sinclair-SBTS
- Juliana Rodriguez-5th Grade FLES
- Lucy Wrenn-Music Teacher
- Emily Litz-Librarian
- Rama Kannan-Office Assistant
- Amanda Price-School Health Nurse-looks over 9 schools
- Kristina Mirlas-Clinic Aide

Mr. Coch introduced his family. He has 2 daughters—a 3rd grader and 5th grader. His wife is also a teacher in the county.

Educational Philosophy-Established over the last 15 years.

Implementing 21st Century Skills—move away from lecture. We want the kids to develop the skills that will set them up for success later in life. Positive environment. Each year we get ranked high for positive work environment.

VA Board of Excellence—We received this award for the 3rd straight year. Based on SOL scores.

2017 Scores:

Reading: 93%

History: 96%

Science: 91%

Math-97% one of the top scores in the whole state

PBL—We are the model school with this. We have a lot of teachers and administrators who observe our school and how we do PBL. Every grade level and every class implements PBL throughout the course of the year. PBL does 8-10 a year, AAP does about 4. We will be the pilot for developing assessments for the entire county.

Digital Transformation—There are 7 schools out of 200 in the county who have received funding for 1:1 ratio with computers.

Navy has saved up money and we have now started it in 3rd grade. Each 3rd grade student has a laptop for the year. It was a difficult process to decide what grade to start with. Our hope is to add a new grade level each year. We are pushing it for ourselves. We are 2:1 for the rest of the students. In order to buy these computers we

were given some money from the county and the rest was paid for with the PTO funds that were raised.

Staff Cookout—Mr. Coch will hold a staff cookout once a month. He will be grilling for the teachers. This cookout is to help so the grade level teachers can get to know each other.

Video: We watched a 3 minute video that Mr. Coch also showed his staff. This is his 7th year as principal and we try to stay positive.
Important Message—stay positive for the kids

Questions: Mr. Coch opened up the meeting for questions for him:

New Parent-new to Fairfax County—Heard about Blackboard for parents to log on to get to the know curriculum. Is that something he should be doing now?

Each classroom teacher will tell you what they use at Back to School night.

They will tell you about Blackboard or Google Classroom.

3rd Grade Parent—Is there some kind of scheduling schedule for recess?

Basically, we sat with each team and they picked their recess time based on Instructional blocks. We had 3 grade levels that wanted the same time, but we narrowed it down to 3rd grade and K. On T/W/Th as of right now—3rd grade uses the field and black top and K uses the playground. Probably next week—this will change because K is tired at the time and we might need to change their recess time.

Bus Schedules—Bus 9 and Bus 10—why are the buses really late in the morning and afternoons? Will this be fixed soon?

They are trying to work on it—you can email Mr. Coch so he can forward it to the Transportation Department. They are the ones who do the routes and we need to give them feedback.

Kiss and Ride—we need to add cones so that the cars do not go to exit on Ox Trail. The cars are coming around the corner and they are not seeing the pedestrians crossing in the school parking lot.

5th Grade-Resource Teacher—what is the threshold to add another classroom?

The 3rd Grade has 27 in each class and 5th grade has 31 in each class.

When they are close to the max class since the county gives you 1 teacher to help with Math and Reading.

We only get a new teacher if the county gives you one. There is a teacher shortage now so it is hard to hire after July 1. We don't want to hire someone just to hire someone.

We are working with 4th grade. We also don't have the space in the school.

Where are we headed on Space? Another option would be adding a new learning cottage which we are close to needing.

Franklin Farm—would they switch to Crossfields?

Probably not on the schedule to figure out for a while.

978 students—last year we have 994.

148 6th graders largest class size

We thought the numbers were going to go down—a lot of new families

Largest class 5th grade 33 AAP

31 PBL

How does the SACC room work? Are there spaces for each grade?

There is a long line for SACC—it is very unfortunate. It is on a first come, first serve basis. Get signed up as soon as possible if you can. We do have a lot of after school buses and activities that can help if you can't get your child in SACC.

Is there a session for the kids to learn how to use the laptop and devices safely?

Yes, we spend the first few weeks giving the kids lessons. The county blocks inappropriate sites. As parents we should be constantly looking over their browse history. Never let your child close their doors while they are using their devices.

Bathroom Policy—transgender bathrooms—are we offering transgender students bathrooms?

We are following the county regulation—I don't know of any right transgender students right now at Navy, but we will have them go to the clinic. It is a single bathroom in the clinic.

Thank you!

President's Report: Hagan Donaldson—New to this position

Learning a lot of new things—a little overwhelming.

Lot of things on track for the year—last spring there was a survey that went out to the general population to see what Navy needed to focus on

We usually come up with a goal for the PTO to fund. The smartboards were the previous goal. We reached that goal early! We are going to come up with a new goal this year. What can we do to benefit Navy?

1st option: Navy Track

2nd option: Increasing Technology

We took this info and sat down with Mr. Coch, we spoke about it as a group and took field trips to other school with tracks, etc. We put together information and sent it to the county. We don't have a definite answer at this point. We are still waiting to hear back. On the other standpoint—we want more technology. We are hoping other grades besides 3rd grade can move to 1:1 technology. At the next PTO meeting, we hope we will be closer to our decision. Overall theme—we want to do something that is the most beneficial to Navy and the community. This is a multi-year goal. The PTO does have funds in reserve for smaller projects.

Question: Is the Runners Club from the PTO?

Yes—and you will be receiving a flyer in the Friday Folder today.

Treasurer's Report: Mike Bush

Mike was not present so Hagan gave his report.

2016-2017 Audit was complete and will be posted in the next day or two. We use the accounting software called Zero. This is posted on the Navy PTO site for everyone to look at.

There is a new reimbursement form. You just have to go to the Navy PTO website and click on Treasurer and it will pop up.

Navy PTO Treasurer Report is also updated and posted on the website.

Mike is trying hard to push us to use more technology for Navy events—One of them is use the Square to run your credit cards at school events. It works out very clean in the audit. We are trying it out and it is a great option instead of cash.

We will discuss the budget in New Business. This is all of our funds together and we try to use it in the best way possible for our kids at Navy.

Question: I'm noticing on the budget that our credit card fees are pretty high. Have we looked into other options with cheaper credit card fees?
Yes, we have.

1st Vice President's Report: Dana Rosensweig

Fundraiser in the Fall—We have elected to bring back the Boosterthon Fun Run. The whole school participates to get pledges for each lap, they have character lessons every day. This year the theme is Castle Quest—they encourage character traits like bravery, respect, self-awareness and being a life learner to name a few. The Boosterthon concludes with a fun run—hopefully we will have good weather this year. We have the same team back this year and we are excited because they did a great job. They do take a percentage of our money, but it is still a hugely successful fundraiser. This year we are kicking off the Boosterthon on **Wednesday, October 18th** with a pep rally. This is when all the materials will be sent home. **Fun Run is Friday, October 27th**. We will need a few volunteers, but not many.

Question: Are you going to try to hit the 50 states, get rewards among the classes? I know that was really successful last year
Yes, we will do similar rewards as last year.

Also, if your child does not elect to participate in the fundraising—that is fine and they can still participate in the run and all of the events.

2nd Vice President's Report: Emily Albelda

Volunteer Coordinator

Thank you to all the parents who have already volunteered to help get things started this school year...school kits, welcoming committee, Welcome Back breakfast and the committee for the Back to School picnic tonight.

We have a couple of meetings coming up--see Announcements (below) for the meetings and dates.

We still have a few chair positions open—the school store, Dolphin Depot, needs a volunteer to help the 6th graders run it.

Nominating Committee—help find people for the PTO board.

Bike to School—We need a volunteer to help coordinate this event.

The sign-ups are out right now so you can sign up today.

Student Activities Report-Before and After School Activities/Enrichments: Uzma Geloo

I have a long list of afterschool activity options. They are great and there are so many.

After School: 15 lined up for the Fall Session

1 will be before school—chess will be offered before and after school

5 STEM class, 4 Dance Classes, Pottery, Karate, Wizard Class

If you have suggestions for classes and you think they would be a good addition to Navy—let me know now so I can reach out to them in the spring. Please send the info to Uzma.

Registration is opening up this Sunday, 9/10 at 6pm. There will be a list of all of the classes in the Friday folders that goes home today. Some classes fill up quickly.

Runners Club—will start Sept 27th. It is a morning running club 8:10-8:40am and then they will pack up and go to class. They get toe tokens for their shoes after they run a certain number of laps. Top 100 runners get a t-shirt. You have to fill out the permission slip which will be home in the Friday folder today. Inclement Weather cancellations will be emailed. Parents can join their kids.

Enrichment—4th-6th grade—this is new to the PTO Board.

These are tests that children sign up to take—Math Enrichment—Continental Math Enrichment. The students get several months to prepare for the test and then you come to Navy to take the test. This can be used for future applications. There will be a table tonight at the Picnic for you to learn more about these Enrichments.

Question: Fees with the tests?

Yes—we will have the information posted on the PTO website and registration will be on the PTO website, too. It will open on Sept 18th and will be open for 1 month. There will be an information session in the evening to explain the Enrichment programs.

Lego League—We need a parent volunteer to lead the Junior FLL. Sabrina—she ran it last year. Jan-April or May is when it runs. It is a showcase of a project they have been working on for 6-8 weeks and they get to share their findings. They problem solve, build and work together with a team. They can program, too.

Committee Reports

- **Welcome Back to School Picnic-Debra Angell**—The picnic is tonight. We have lots of volunteers—middle schoolers, parents and teachers. We will have bounce houses, food trucks—ice cream and donuts, Chantilly Robotics doing demonstrations, face painters, and an obstacle course with prizes. The vendor show will be smaller this year, but we will have a few promoting their local businesses. The Eco-Club will have a tent and they will be selling waters. Should be a lot of fun. Free activities and you can buy dinner. 5:00-7:30pm
- **Apparel:** It is open now and closes on 9/22
We have a good start with the sales. Online ordering information is on the website and Facebook page. It was also in the PTO blast. We sell T-shirts, sweatshirts, yoga pants, etc.
- **Dining for Dollars:**
Monday, September 25-Chipotle Franklin Farm—1st Event of the year
Thursday, November 9—Jersey Mikes
They give us a percentage
- **Directory:** Opt out deadline is 9/21 and the ordering deadline is 10/2
- **Yearbook:** Picture Day will be 10/4/17—this will go in the yearbook. There will be a make-up day
- **ECO Club:** There will be a table tonight and they will be happy to talk to you tonight at the picnic

New Business

- **2017-2018 Budget Review and Vote**—this is put together after we gather information from Mr. Coch, the teachers and looking at previous years.

Annual Gift to Navy Elementary school—every year we give a gift to Mr. Coch and he spends it where he sees fit. He saved it to buy all of the additional computers.

Art Dept. carry over—Original Works was very successful last year. The money was given to the art teachers to support all the wonderful projects they work on with our kids throughout the year. They were not able to spend it at the end of the year last year and so they are spending it now.

No Assemblies this year—we have divided it for each grade level to enhance what they are teaching.

We might move the money here and there to enhance what we are doing here at Navy.

Are there any questions: No

All of this information is posted online and we can speak to anything as needed. We need to vote on it.

Janna Wolff—moved to approve the budget

Laura Hesselton—seconded the motion

Everyone was in favor.

We have passed the 2017-2018 budget

Question: Shade structures on the playground—is this an option?

We can start the conversation with the county and we need to put in work order. Do we have an idea of what we want it to look like? Skin Cancer Awareness grant. Colvin Run Elementary has a shade structure that they got by a grant. A parent, Meredith Parker, will get a little more information about where to start. She is hoping to talk to someone at Colvin Run ES. First talk to Mrs. Drost.

Announcements

- **Back to School Nights-9/11 & 9/12**—you will get a lot of information from your teachers

Kindergarten 9/22: Kindergarten teachers went over a lot of information at their Back to School night. They are going to use this night to add more information

Feedback: New Parents have no way of knowing what is going on—it is hard to wait until 9/22 to get all of the information that we might need

- **Committee Chair Meeting: 9/15 at 9:00 am**
- **Room Parent Meeting: 9/20 at 6pm**—might slide based on the Kindergarten Back to School night.

- **Oct PTO Meeting: 10/18 at 6:30 pm:** Hopefully parents can attend if they are working parents.

Old Business

Adjournment: 10:49am