

# March 5, 2024 Ritchie Park Elementary School PTA Meeting Minutes

## Welcome

Meeting called to order at 7pm ET. Amy Haddad welcomed the group to the sixth PTA of the year. The next PTA meeting is April 11th

## Upcoming Events & Initiatives

Please join us for the following upcoming events.

- **March 22 Maryland Day** - Wear your red, white, black and yellow and lace up your shoes. RPES will again celebrate and run a metric marathon in celebration of Maryland Day. There will be staff and parent relays, a DJ, balloons, and lots of fun as we celebrate everyone crossing the finish line. There will be cross-country team members that will run with the students.
- **May 2 Kickball Match** - there will be a lower grades parents and staff versus upper grade (6-8pm) kickball match. There will also be grade-level games and prizes, concessions and more. We encourage all parents to sign up.
- **Recruitment** - PTA is recruiting volunteers to serve on the board and to chair programs. These include President, President-Elect, MCCPTA Delegate, Event Chairs (Skate Night, Staff Person of the Year Award, Geo Bowl). It's a great way to plan exciting programs, meet new people, and work with leadership and staff.

Our MCPS cluster coordinator, Amy, joined the meeting and shared that is an open MCCPTA delegate role open that helps coordinate within our MCPS cluster to serve as a voice back to MCPS.

She noted that there is a **boundary study** open that could impact our high school (and maybe middle school zone). Elementary schools will not be changed. The study will look at four dimensions:

1. Geographic proximity
2. Demographics
3. Stability of school assignment over time
4. Facility utilization

The cluster coordinator would be the community voice in the study.

**Teacher Appreciation** - Victoria Padin and Emily Newlan are in charge of teacher appreciation work at RPES and always looking for volunteers and donations to help honor our teachers.

St. Patrick's Day

## Principal's Report

Mrs. Tibbs is acting principal and encouraged parents to reach out if they need anything:

- **Addressing Winter's Leave** - Principal Winters remains on leave and students are aware that Mrs. Tibbs is the acting principal. The county is looking for an acting assistant principal.
- **Spring testing** starts after spring break (Thursday and Friday). More information will be provided in the next week.
- **April 22** - is an asynchronous learning day where students will not physically come to school. Rather they will login and watch videos.
- **Mrs. Gramzinski** is returning to school. We thank Mrs. Mitchell for filling in.
- **Open roles** - the only current outstanding role at RPES is a reading specialist role