

**EPS Parent Association Minutes  
September 11, 2013 (7:40am start)  
Conference Room**

Deb Nussbaum introduced herself and explained her role as President. Vickie Baldwin introduced herself.

Anne Pillsbury stated her role as Hospitality Chair and discussed the Fall Harvest on October 4<sup>th</sup>. She explained that it is a fun chance for parents and faculty to socialize and enjoy a meal by Chef Ian. She let everyone know she needs 8 volunteers to check people in.

All the attendees introduced themselves as well as the class reps and other positions on the Executive Committee.

Dr. Macaluso welcomed everyone, especially the new families. She then offered to answer any questions.

**Do we have a directory?**

Yes, and it is already up on Canvas. We discussed the passwords and she emphasized that [Jbriggs@Eastsideprep.org](mailto:Jbriggs@Eastsideprep.org) was the correct contact for password trouble or any IT problems.

**Could you explain clubs and the club fair?**

If you go on the family site, there is a link to most of the current clubs. There will be an assembly next week explaining various clubs. Mr. Blair will talk about athletics. Dungeons and Dragons Club is not currently listed. Someone in the audience knew that the club is a go. They were waiting for a sponsor and they have secured one. The school is flexible and wants you to try out clubs and take your time to figure out where you will land.

**Can you give us some stats on the school?**

We currently have 294 students and want to be at 297 which we will be by October. 300 is our cap and we can't go bigger. There are advantages to staying small and advantages to growing a bit more. This is the first year of gender balance of incoming kids. Our retention rate is 92% which is good. Some kids leave for 9<sup>th</sup> grade. This is good for mixing up the population. We have only one new teacher and no known faculty pregnancies. It has been a smooth beginning to the year with lots of energy and excitement.

**Is there a sibling advantage for entry?**

There is no priority for siblings and no discounts or priority for faculty children. We are trying to be transparent. There is an early deadline for siblings which we believe is December 15<sup>th</sup> so if you don't get in, you will have time to apply to other schools.

**Drop policy for classes?** You have two weeks to drop a class.

**No room on campus any more for tutors.** We wish there was.

**From 3:15-4:00pm, the sports court will have supervision as will the cafeteria. We now have a quiet study room after school from 4-6 monitored by Sarah Hollingshead.** The Commons will no longer be open after 4:00. Students will need to be in a club, sports, with a teacher or in the study room. You do not need to sign up for study hall.

If you need **tutor recommendations** talk to Dr. Kelly Moore.

**How about juniors and college?** In the spring, counselors will pick up the juniors and there will be a meeting with Mr. Gummere to advise parents of the timeline for college applications, etc.

**If we get bigger, can you tell us what that would look like?** I've heard about a possible science building? We would like to move science out of the Upper School building which would free up more general classrooms. This will be decided by the board.

We can move up or out. Moving up means no renting or buying. Going out gives us a bigger footprint and more parking which is always an issue at any school. If we bought two buildings (only one is currently for sale), we can do the remodel while school is in session. It could be ready for the 14/15 academic year.

**Does the library have digital books?**

The library is small. The books are mostly for the Middle School. We have many digital resources for research that the librarian can teach the students to use.

**Do kids take AP tests?**

Yes, talk to the teacher and they will let the student what they need to do to prepare.

**Vickie Baldwin explains her title.** She is in charge of institutional advancement: the magazine, events and fundraising. Ana Safavi is working with Vickie. They work on parent events. Brittany Williams now does Ana's job of planning things for the kids such as EBC, assemblies and summer programs.

**Invites for Fall Harvest** are going out September 12<sup>th</sup>. This is a fun event for mingling. You will receive two drink tickets, hors d'oeuvres and dinner that facilities moving around. This is not a sit down affair.

**Reimbursement forms** for PA events are on the PA section of the EPS site. Please return them in a timely manner to the treasurer, Laurie Goetsch .

**Back to school night is coming up on September 26<sup>th</sup>.** You will be able to follow your child's schedule, hear about their classes and meet the teachers. This is a no kid evening. This is not the time for individual questions about your student.

There are **grade level coffees** coming up on 9/25, 10/9 and 10/16.

We have a **phone update system** you can opt into for information on: lockdowns, snow days, power outages and other pertinent info. Check with Tina Hadden to see if you opted in if you aren't sure. Usually there is a fall check of the system (which hasn't happened yet) to make sure it works.

**Spirit week** is around Halloween time.

We have **booster parents** to help rally support for sporting events, they are .

**Any new sports for the high school?** We are working on winter golf which would be played on a simulator. We will keep you posted.

Dr. Macaluso will be hosting “Vision” meetings about the direction she sees the school heading as far as growth. These will be groups of 10-20 parents for coffee on various dates and time. You will receive invites suggesting a few dates from which to pick.

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