

EPS Parent Association
General Meeting
September 9, 2014
Minutes

Executive Committee President Kim Merino opened the meeting. In addition to PA Executive Committee members and class reps, dozens of parents attended and introduced themselves.

Dr. Terry Macaluso encouraged parents to attend the upcoming Fall Harvest event and provided a brief overview on the construction project. Work will begin in November, with a planned 10-month construction window. If work is not finished in time for the start of school in September 2015, the school year will start with the current configuration of classrooms and offices.

Dr. Macaluso answered questions regarding construction, parking, enrollment, new staff members, and the new all-block schedule. Enrollment is current at 325 students. 350 is the project maximum but growth to that number will be held off until construction is complete. This year EPS experienced 93% retention from 8th to 9th grade.

Bob Baldwin, project manager, provided details on construction. Activity will be different from the building of the Commons, as that work was mostly contained in an existing building. This project will involve completely demolishing the current building and constructing a new one from the ground up. Impacts to students will be mitigated as much as possible, but the need to work quickly to finish in time for the next school year will make some disruptions unavoidable.

Director of Institutional Advancement Vickie Baldwin encouraged parents to attend upcoming small-group meetings for more details on the construction project.

Staff Appreciation co-coordinator Leigh Ann More described the plan for Staff Appreciation events throughout the year, including Jamba Juice in September, Halloween cupcakes in October, harvest bounty baskets in November, Valentine's Day treats in February, raffles in March, and a catered lunch in May. Parent help will be needed for the November and February events.

Kim Merino reported that the PA is planning activities to reduce construction-related stress for students and will be seeking parent involvement.

Reminders and other items:

- Back to School Night is for new and 9th-grade families only. Returning parents who wish to visit with teachers should take advantage of the opportunity to do so at Fall Harvest.
- Fall Harvest set-up volunteers needed; several parents promptly volunteered.
- Halloween Bowling, October 5 – volunteers still needed.
- Kelly Moore will continue to host the Parenting Book Club.
- PA general meetings will be onsite, instead of offsite as previously announced.

The next general meeting will be on Tuesday, December 9, at 8:00 a.m.