

GCM PTSA Membership Meeting

April 9, 2019

Board Member attendees: Phil Pedlikin, Carolyn Keehan, Laura Eskeland, Lorene Shlaffer

Principal Litz attending

List of membership attendees with Secretary

Board Member Reports

- Minutes from last meeting approved
- Treasurer's Report – budget on schedule. We are \$750 behind but we have check coming from Catalyst SAT of \$950 soon. We are also running another Catalyst SAT program this month so we will receive more funds from that soon. There are no questions about the budget from the membership
- Vice President's Report – We are looking for a new Vice President and Secretary for next year's PTSA board. We also need a chairperson to head up the Catalyst/SAT Boot Camp fundraising efforts and we need a Communications Chairperson.
- President's Report – Annual Awards – next month's meeting we will be voting on the Teacher and Staff member of the Year and for the Withrow Award Winner (a student nominated by Marshall Teachers). Phil introduced our guest speakers – Dalia Palchik,, our Providence District School Board Representative (<https://www.fcps.edu/school-board/dalia-palchik>), and Ryan McElveen, our Member-At-Large School Board Representative (<https://www.fcps.edu/school-board/ryan-mcelveen>).

Dalia Palchik

- The School Board is funded locally by 80% and the Board of Supervisors are working on next year's 2020 budget now. We have a slight increase in funding for the 2nd year in a row. Dalia is working on increasing the living wage for teachers and staff. Later this year (November election) we will have a community vote for Bond funding increase.
- The Board of Supervisors are working on opening a new high school in about 10 years. They are looking at the Dunn Loring Center and the Pimmitt Hills Center for space for an elementary or middle school also.

Ryan McElveen

- We have more kids living in poverty in our county than in DC. Marshall is a good school working well on issues of socio-economic and diversity attendance.
- The Board of Supervisors is looking now at the school district border lines to see if these borders may have to be shifted in the future due to increased demographic changes in our areas.

Dalia and Ryan explained and answered questions regarding the new computer laptop for every high school student program that is expanded to cover all of Fairfax County this next fall after successful completion of a pilot program in Chantilly for the last 2 years. Each high school student will receive a laptop already loaded with their course applications and curriculum. The laptops will be returned every summer for maintenance and for re-loading of curriculum and given back to the same student in the fall. These laptops should last for 4 years before needing replacement. Each computer will have maintenance and repair taken care of by the county or the laptop will be replaced if needed. This program may expand to elementary and middle school students in the future.