

General Meeting Minutes
Rock Creek Forest Elementary School PTA
April 28, 2022 - 7:15 p.m. via Zoom

Minutes taken by Recording Secretary

7:15 p.m. meeting called to order by President after determining the presence of a quorum

General Updates (President)

- Welcome and thank you for joining
- The RCF PTA Nominations Committee is still looking for a few people to fill positions on the Executive Committee for next year. Most importantly we need to fill the Treasurer position, but are also looking for a VP of Membership and VP of Fundraising. **If you are interested in joining the RCF PTA Executive Committee please email, rcfes.pta.outreach@gmail.com**
- Staff appreciation week is coming up next week. We want to show our appreciation to all staff at RCF. We have a lot planned including chalk art drawing, lunch, coffee, video appreciation and other ways families can participate. More info has been/will be sent out through the week.

School Announcements (Mrs. Lowndes)

- Thank you to all of our families for your partnership and to our tremendous staff.
- We were excited to see everyone back in the building after spring break.
- The community's response after the Friendly Gardens fire was incredible. Honored to be part of this community.
- State testing is coming up. Kids are ready and enjoying spirit week to kick it off.
- Green Initiatives at the school (Ms. Mensah)
 - We are working with BCC students on composting. The plan was to start with grades 3 and 5 but by the first day everyone was doing it.
 - 2nd graders will have a partnership with Audubon to learn about soil composition
 - Our Magenta Dragon is an electric bus and may be renamed by the students, potentially to the Electric Eel. The school will continue to advocate for more electric buses.
- Color Run/Walk
 - We started the year sharing our hopes and dreams in origami doves. We are in the process of planning a walk/run to end the year. Tentative date is May 25
 - Meet with the ADL team to celebrate around identity, race, and equity
- Focus School Designation Change
 - For many years we have had a focus designation that has led to us to have smaller class sizes in many of our programs, and an additional Focus teacher.
 - The Focus designation is based on FARMS rate. The current rate is 31.3%, and the past few years we were 25% and 21%.

- For all schools under 35% they will no longer be a focus school next year.
- This will primarily impact English class sizes by increasing their sizes. K-2 is currently capped at 18 and without focus status it can increase to 24-25.
- Every student will still have what they need. Will monitor carefully.
- Stefanie H has been working with the school and MCCPTA to learn more about what we can do to advocate for our students. More info to come when available.

NAACP Lisa Haynes NAACP Co-rep

Dr. Elizabeth Henry – Dr. Liz Consulting

- Dr. Elizabeth Henry shared a presentation on ways to talk to you kids now so by the time they are teens you can communicate with love, compassion and understanding.
- Dr. Liz Consulting - <https://www.drlizconsulting.com/>
- *You Are Not a Bad Parent: A Pediatrician's Guide to Reducing Conflict and Connecting with Your Teens* - <https://www.youarenotabadparent.com/optin1613493508795>
- Sign up for newsletter and updates on her website.

Close Meeting (President) Meeting adjourned 8:56 p.m.