

Mount Vernon Exploratory PTO Executive Committee
March 27, 2025
Meeting at MVES

Officers Present: Ashley Hollifield, President; Christy Malcom, Treasurer; Elizabeth Withrow, Vice President; Jennifer Mullis, Secretary; Jennifer Westbrook, Principal; Chase Armour, Assistant Principal; Jessica Smith, Teacher Representative;

- I. WELCOME & CALL TO ORDER: The President, Ashley Hollifield, called the meeting to order.
- II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Ashley Hollifield motioned to approve the minutes from the February 6, 2025 board meeting; Christy Malcolm gave the second; all votes in favor.
- III. PRINCIPAL'S REPORT
 - A. Enrollment update - 646 students
 - i. K-3rd - average class size 22 (18-25)
 - ii. 4th-5th - average class size 26 (25-28)
 - B. Future Explorers
 - i. The first visit is this Friday for registered families, families can attend all sessions.
 - ii. Non-resident applicants cannot attend this at this time. J. Westbrook is preparing digital resources for non-resident families.
 - C. Recent professional learning was focused on updated Georgia ELA standards for 2025-2026. (<https://inspire.gadoe.org>)
 - D. Staff Appreciation Week is in May. Please plan for 80 staff members or 85 with priority subs/instructional extension.
 - E. Upcoming Dates
 - i. March 28 - Future Explorers at 1:25
 - ii. April 1-2 - MAP Growth Testing (K-5th grade)
 - iii. April 7-11 - Spring Break
 - iv. April 15-18 - MAP Reading Fluency Testing (K-3rd grade)
 - v. April 18 - Families and K & 1st Grade Egg Hunts
 - vi. April 22-May 2 - Online Art Show
 - vii. April 24 - Talent Show
 - viii. May 5-9 - Staff Appreciation Week
 - ix. May 5-12 EOG Milestones Testing (3rd-5th grade)
- IV. PRESIDENT'S REPORT
 - A. Upcoming events
 - i. March 31 - Top One and Done Donors lunch with connections teachers at 11:05. Connections teachers have been notified. Jessica Smith will email the teachers to have them notify families of those students with the date.
 - B. Field Day
 - i. PTO would like to work alongside Coach House to help with this event.
 - ii. Causey Orthodontics has offered to sponsor t-shirts for the school.
 - a) The shirts will be in 5 different neon colors so that each class in a grade has a different color.

- b) T-shirt size form will go out in Tuesday folders next week.
 - c) We discussed tents for each class to have a “home base” and a hydration station
 - d) PTO will book Frozen Frenzee pending date availability.
- C. May 5-9 - Staff Appreciation Week
 - i. Per J. Westbrook this is during the week of EOG testing; setup and service may be slightly different because the school is closed to visitors, but it is well received by the staff during this busy week.
- D. May 1 - Principal Appreciation Day
 - i. PTO plans to provide lunch for Ms. Westbrook and Mr. Armour on 5/1.
- E. One and Done Fundraiser Allocations
 - i. Window coverings
 - a) We continued to discuss window coverings as previously discussed.
 - b) Per J. Westbrook - The county does not fund window coverings at the district level unless it is a new build or renovation. New window coverings are paid for on the school level, usually by the PTO, Partners in Education, or other fundraising. The district needs to give the final approval before we install.
 - c) Per J. Westbrook - Some schools have changed window coverings in stages, one side of the school at a time.
 - d) Ashley asked if the foundation is assisting with this?
 - (1) Per J. Westbrook, they have not yet been notified of whether these have been approved.
 - ii. Playground
 - a) Ashley Hollifield asked if the playground can extend into the field or if the field is used during recess
 - (1) Per J. Westbrook some grades use the field and it is used for certain events.
 - (2) PTO asked for feedback about items that we can add to the playground: Soccer goals, kickball, another gaga pit, 9 square? J. Westbrook is going to ask about these and about other ideas that staff have to improve the playground.
 - (3) The Hawkins family would like to resurface the basketball court. PTO has some supplies that they can use.

V. ADJOURN

Submitted by Jennifer Mullis, Secretary