

NHE/OV ES Parent Teacher Association Meeting –Reunion de Padres y Profesores

Tuesday, April 4, 2017 Location: NHE ES (Library)

Minutes of the Meeting

CALL TO ORDER

- Introductions
- Minutes of the March meeting—Motion Passed, *minutes were approved*

COLLEGE SAVINGS CAMPAIGN—Special Guest: Mr. Jones

For additional questions: www.maryland529.com or 1-888-4MD-GRAD (463-4723)

A **529 plan** is a tax-advantaged savings plan designed to encourage saving for the future higher education expenses of a beneficiary. This beneficiary is typically one's child or grandchild, but there does not need to be a family relationship. There are two different types of 529 plans: investment plans and prepaid tuition plans.

Maryland Prepaid College Trust

- Locks in tomorrow's tuition at today's prices – you pre-pay the cost of tuition. For example, tuition at University of Maryland is \$25,000 in 2017. When our kids are ready to go to college in 2027, the tuition could be \$50,000. If you select the prepay option, you would only pay the \$25,000 for tuition no matter what the cost is when our kids are ready to go to school.
- Offers affordable and flexible tuition plans and payment options.
- Open to 12th graders and younger, including newborns.
- Room board and books are covered if the student receives a scholarship to pay tuition – Generally, this plan can only be used to pay for tuition. But, if you child receives a scholarship that covers tuition, then the funds can be used to pay for room and board.
- The payments you make using this plan, up to \$2,500 per child, are deductible from your Maryland State taxes each year that you make payments.

Maryland College Investment Plan

- Offers a variety of investment portfolios managed by T. Rowe Price.
- Flexible contribution amounts starting at \$25/month.
- Maryland offers a match of up to \$250 for families that meet certain income guidelines.
- Open to children or adults of any age.
- This is very flexible. You can decide how much you want to buy. You can buy a semester, 1, 2, 3, or 4 years, etc.
- Can invest monthly or annually.
- You can use the money to pay for al education expenses at any school, including schools outside the state of Maryland. You can also use the funds to pay for room and board.
- The payments that you make toward this plan, up to \$2,500 per child, are deductible from your Maryland State taxes each year that you make payments.

It makes more sense to invest on the front end rather your child paying it back on the back end. Do what you can do to reduce your children's future debt burden. Any interest growth is tax deferred; both will be tax free. Your friends and relatives can also put money into your child's college fund. If student doesn't go to school, there is a 10% premature withdrawal penalty, and you would be required to pay back the tax credits you received on the funds.

Question: Will I lose my money if my child gets a scholarship? Answer: You can transfer the funds to another child or request a refund which has some tax implications. You can defer the use of the funds to graduate school.

PRINCIPAL REPORTS

OV—Mr. Cline

- Highly Gifted Center for 4th grade open house for parents and students is tomorrow to tour the school, visit classrooms and hear the curriculum.
- Marking period ends Thursday.
- Girls on the Run meets Tuesday and Thursdays.
- Parent Coffee attendance overall has increased. 9:30-10:30 on April 18th the focus will be Health and Nutrition, and following will be Internet Safety.
- Reading Night is Thursday April 20th 6:30 to 8:30.

NHE—Mr. Geiger

- Staffing updates:
 - Andrea Clapps who is currently a 1st grade teacher at NHE will be our new Reading Specialist. Clapps is College Professor
 - We welcome Kim Oliver-Burnim, a kindergarten teacher from Broad Acres ES in Silver Spring. She is the 2006 National Teacher of the Year, and the first to represent Maryland
- Movie night featuring the movie Minions reached a 150-200 people turnout. The PTA sold popcorn until the end of the event and the pizza sold out. That was a fantastic family event.
- Parent Coffee guest speaker, Sherman Collete explained interest of getting internet in all family's homes. His idea is the students would keep the devices to have for school years to come. This will begin in the spring and into the summer.
- Adding additional money to budget. Instead of having 2 half day Pre-K classes they would be full time days. We are one of the 4 lowest poverty schools so we would be included in this program.
- Summer program will be at Oak View this year.
- Magic show performer was sick today so event will be rescheduled.
- April 25th Parent Coffee. April 27th is Pre-K Family Learning Night.

Treasurers Report—Erin Taylor

Refer to the current copy of the budget

- Our budget is larger than last year
- Healthy Cooking Takoma Park Foundation grant from 2015. 2nd grade trying to raise \$150. Motion is approved to help them with the project which includes seeds and other supplies needed to create a garden at the school. We will continue to use this for more healthy choices.
- Congressional Country Club Whitman cluster fire affected a family with kids in MCPS. Do we want to send a donation to the families that were affected. Approved we will send \$100.

2017 Nominating Committee

The role of the nominating Committee is to find people to nominate for PTA officers next year from our community. There is one month to come up with parents who have expressed an interest in serving with our 2017-18 PTA. Names will be announced at the May meeting. Voting will occur at the June PTA meeting. Our Nominating Committee members: Erin Taylor, Jebby Rasputnis, Ginny Bumblis, and Delia Aguilar.

Adjourned 8:03

Attendees

Lora Alexander
Vernon Jones
Judith A. Lese
Anna Garcia

Ilsi Castanon
Erin Taylor
Ginny Bumblis
Bob Geiger

Jeff Cline
Thonts Ra
Delia Aguilar
Tracie Holley