

**December 19, 2017**

**6:30-8:00pm**

**Meeting Minutes**

**Present:**

* **PTA Board Members:** Jeni Hornback, Rebecca Kennedy, Carrie Lewis, Rebecca Kim, Nicole Knight
* **Faculty/Staff Present:** Ms. Uyeda, Ms. Liguidi, Ms. Abbott, Ms. Winkler, Ms. Muscarella, Ms. Firster

1. **Overview of School Resource Program**

Officer Blow, Abingdon’s new school resource officer introduced himself and explained his role at the school. Officer Blow, an Abingdon parent himself, has been a police officer for 15 years. He is assigned to Abingdon and six other Arlington schools to act as a positive influence for students and address security issues.

1. **Overview of Abingdon Gifted Services**

Jackie Firster, Abingdon’s Gifted Serves Resource Teacher, presented an overview of the school’s gifted program. The program is based on personalized learning that ensure each student gets what he or she needs. Content is differentiated to students based on readiness, interest and learning profile. Ms. Firster’s role is to support teachers and specialists in differentiating instruction and integrating technology in meaningful ways. Services are not provide as pull-out instruction, but rather the curriculum is brought into the classroom to every student. Ms. Firster also oversees Abingdon’s maker space, where students can create and translate their learning into real-world applications. Ms. Firster is accepting donations of maker space materials, including cardboard, Styrofoam. Legos, craft supplies, egg cartons, and paper towel roll cardboard inserts.

1. **Official Business**
   1. Principal’s Report – Joanna Uyeda

* The construction is almost finished. Music rooms are complete; the art room is almost ready and is just waiting for the delivery of furniture. The field is ready as is the new pre-k playground. The auxiliary parking lot will open soon and will be the entrance for a new drop-off pattern, beginning in early January.
* Ms. Edmonds was selected Abingdon Teacher of the Year and Ms. Staren-Doby was selected Support Staff of the Year. Letters of support are due to the county by January 8.

1. **PTA Events and Activities**
2. Read-A-Thon – Abingdon students will participate in a Read-A-Thon February 6-15. The theme will be “Abingdon ‘hearts’ books.” While the event is a fundraiser, the focus will be on encouraging kids to read, both at home and at school. Donations are flat fees, not based on hours read. A bulletin board at school will track hours by class. Prizes for classes reading the most will be given to the teachers to spend on their classrooms. Local business are needed as corporate sponsors; ads will appear on all fundraising pages.
3. Key Upcoming Dates:
   * 1. Dec. 22-Jan 1: Winter Break (No School)
     2. January 10: Early Release
     3. January 15: Martin Luther King, Jr. Day (No School)
     4. January 19: Movie Night
     5. January 23: PTA Meeting, 6:30-7:30 (NEW DATE)
     6. January 26: Grade Preparation Day (No School)
     7. February 5-16: Read-A-Thon

Next PTA Meeting – Tuesday, January 23 at 6:30 pm