



**Minutes of September 20, 2021 CCPTA General Membership Meeting
Held Virtually Via Zoom 7-9pm ET**

- **Meeting Called to Order:** The Meeting was called to order at approximately 7:00pm ET. A quorum was established virtually by Zoom:
 - Executive Committee Members in attendance:
 - Claire Noakes, CCPTA Second Vice-President
 - Michael O'Leary, Secretary
 - Kendra Anderson, Treasurer
 - Dr. Kate Merrill, Grant Fund
 - Twenty-four PTA Presidents or CCPTA Representatives also confirmed in attendance.
- **Introduction:** Ms. Noakes announced that she was standing in for Ms. Kadera and introduced guests:
 - Dr. Francisco Durán, APS Superintendent
 - APS School Board Liaison, Monique O'Grady
 - Arlington County Board, Matt de Ferranti
- **Discussion with APS/County Leadership:** Guests addressed questions submitted by CCPTA Executive Committee and General Membership.
 - Dr. Durán addressed questions regarding asymptomatic testing. APS believes the program has been effective thus far. Ms. O'Grady also highlighted the importance of the testing program and asked that PTAs make sure families are aware of the testing program and encourage them to use it.
 - Dr. Durán outlined how testing program will operate and noted recent improvements to APS' dashboard on COVID-19 statistics by the APS safety and risk management team. Testing is being conducted by an outside contractor.
 - Mr. de Ferranti noted that for students exposed to COVID-19 outside of school, Arlington County is also conducting contact tracing.
 - Dr. Durán noted that APS does not require weekly testing for mask exemptions but does require documentation of their condition. If they are exempted, APS is still imposing the six-foot separation requirement.

- Dr. Durán explained that APS schools are expected to implement the Safe Eating plans on their website. He noted, however, there are exemptions.
- APS is working on amendments to plans in light of winter weather which may make outdoor lunch more difficult.
- Dr. Durán outlined some of the incentives that APS is offering to address staffing shortages. In the long term, APS and the School Board is re-evaluating teacher compensation to ensure APS is offering competitive salaries at all seniority steps.
- Ms. O'Grady noted that neighboring school districts have made APS less competitive and APS Board is looking to address that disparity.
- Mr. de Ferranti outlined some of the steps the Arlington County Board is undertaking to address staffing shortages and long-term compensation issues for teachers.
- **Presentations**
 - **APS Virtual Learning Experiences—Arlyn Elizee, Elizabeth Fabrizio**
 - Ms. Elizee and Ms. Fabrizio presented on the experiences of APS students with respect to the Virtual Learning Program so far and areas for improvement.
 - **Escuela Key Facilities—Erin Lester**
 - Ms. Lester presented to the General Membership on the status of the facilities at Escuela Key.

8:00 PM: CCPTA Business

- **President's Report—Claire Noakes for Mary Kadera**
 - Ms. Noakes initiated a discussion regarding some of the issues during the presentations
 - Approval of August Minutes
 - Minutes approved by unanimous voice vote.
 - Ms. Noakes provided an update on CCPTA's efforts to obtain additional information regarding School Meal Plans in APS and lunch protocols
 - There was discussion among the General Membership regarding outdoor eating equipment
- **Advocacy and Policy Updates - Claire Noakes**
 - Ms. Noakes provided an update on advocacy efforts with respect to specific APS Board Policies including Policy I-11.1 Family and Community Engagement
 - Ms. Noakes provided an update on APS' analysis of police in schools and youth outreach
 - Update on Ongoing Review and Advocacy Efforts with respect to APS policies
- **Treasurer's Report - Kendra Anderson**
 - Ms. Anderson provided an overview of the local unit Organizational Structure Form.

- **SEPTA Update – Kathleen Clark**
 - Ms. Clark provided an update on developments at SEPTA.
 - October 1st is the deadline for SEPTA mini-grants.
- **CCPTA Grant Fund Committee Report – Kate Merrill**
 - Ms. Merrill gave a presentation on the CCPTA Grant Fund.
- **Partnerships Committee Report – Christa Mansur**
 - Ms. Mansur outlined the purpose and goals of the Partnerships Committees.
- **Meeting Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 9:09pm ET.

Next CCPTA meeting: Monday, November 15, 2021 7 – 9 pm