



# MINUTES

OES PTA Meeting

March 8, 2024, 8:30am

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## In Attendance

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Joy Park, Meredith Campbell, Keith Eck, Chris Kelley, Abby Holzinger, Karen Rose, Elissa Shahan, Katie Prince, Lela Martinez, Amy Gillard, Sunghye Yeom, Jessica Gowda, Taesung Hwang, Mira Yoon, Nick Jacoby, Sue Ann Orsini, Christine Lancman, Teri Milstein, Andrea Caggianelli

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## Special Presentation

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Joy called the meeting to order at 8:35am and introduced our presenter, OES Reading Specialist Andrea Caggianelli. Mrs. Caggianelli's presentation will be posted at a later time for those not at the meeting. She talked about the reading and literacy strategies that OES uses currently, and answered questions from the audience. Her main tips were for parents to try to instill a love of reading in their children, leave the decoding to the teachers instead of trying to teach it at home (unless you are a trained professional), and to utilize summer reading programs through Fairfax County libraries and places like Barnes & Noble. She also said that while there is not a specific grade that children should be fully reading by, because all children develop differently, that early intervention is key and that OES tries to focus on that. The state of Virginia says that technically, children should be reading fully by 3<sup>rd</sup> grade. In terms of spelling, she said that having students sound out letters and sounds is great, but also to read the text back to the child so they can model the parent and improve fluency. In terms of tablets versus physical books, Mrs. Caggianelli thinks there is definitely a place for tablets and electronic means but she prefers books in hands so that students can refer back to certain pages and passages, use sticky notes, etc.

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## PTA Business

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The PTA is actively looking for volunteers to join the board and take on board positions. We will have many open positions for next year as many board members are vacating their positions. The last PTA meeting for the year will be in May and is virtual; we will be holding elections for new board officers at that time. If you have interest, please email Joy at [president@oaktonpta.net](mailto:president@oaktonpta.net). We also have many events coming up, including large events such as Book Fair week and Field Day, which will require many volunteers so please sign

up when the signups come around. First come, first served! Our last skate night is Friday, March 15<sup>th</sup>, and we are selling Kindness t-shirts to be work during Autism Acceptance Week in April.

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### Budget

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We have money to spend! Mr. Eck provided us with an update on any playground enhancements. FCPS facilities presented us with a proposal to add new pieces of playground equipment, which is around \$35k for all four pieces, if we choose to add all. We are also looking into what it would cost to install a rubber surface versus the mulch that is there currently, to make it easier access for all students. The PTA board will be discussing any monetary allotments towards playground improvements at a forthcoming date.

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### Upcoming Events and Activities

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Principal Kelley noted that the variety show was a great one and that it was the first event held in the auditorium for our K-2 students!

Joy made a motion to end the meeting at 9:05am. Meredith seconded.

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### Next Meeting

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The next PTA meeting will be in May and it will be virtual. We will hold board elections for 2024-25 at that time.