

**Alice Deal Middle School
ADCA General Meeting
Minutes of March 22, 2017
APPROVED**

President Lori Jackson called the meeting to order at 6:35pm.

1. **Minutes for September 2016.** The September 2016 Minutes were available for review and approval. The President moved to approve the minutes; Secretary Laura Cloutier seconded and the minutes were unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report. Neither co-Treasurer was available to attend tonight's meeting to provide the Treasurer's report. The report will be posted online.

2. **Fundraising Report.** Maan Sacdalan, co-2nd Vice President for Fundraising reported on fundraising events. The Deal auction grossed approximately \$71,000. Figures are not final but she expects the net raised to approximate between \$57,000 and \$58,000. The majority of the funds raised are for the laptop carts fund-an-item.

The mulch sale is ongoing and ends on April 15, 2017.

The President reminded attendees that events such as the auction are important fundraisers and they're also important community-building events. While much smaller scale than similar events at some elementary schools, it's still much work to organize and she expressed appreciation to Maan Sacdalan.

3. **President's Report.** Lori Jackson, ADCA President provided the following report.
 - a. **IB at Wilson.** Deal parents have expressed interest in supporting the establishment of an IB program at Wilson High School and have formed a committee to discuss the topic with Wilson's Principal. The committee will meet with the Principal and hopefully build momentum on the issue, but it will take time. If you are interested, please email Lori Jackson.
 - b. **Empowering Males of Color Program.** The Empowering Males of Color program was instituted in 2015 through DCPS central office. Deal applied for and received a \$13,000-\$15,000 grant for the summer program. It is unknown if the program will continue to receive financial support from DCPS but Deal would like to formalize and continue the program by establishing a line item for it in the budget. This will require a fundraising plan for approximately \$24,000; if you would like to volunteer please contact Lori Jackson.
 - c. **Parent Engagement.** Tabatha Thompson reported on a parent engagement initiative supported by ADCA. She provided background on the initiative. It began as an effort to find ways to share financial and knowledge resources with schools across DCPS interested in building a PTA. After reaching out to the DCPS School Partnership Program, they referred Deal volunteers to the Washington Lawyer's Committee which had established a pilot program. Parents and teachers from Title I schools in DCPS are eligible to apply for a small grant, the grant must be matched and must

engage the community and be academically connected. The initial goal is to double the \$5,000 that the Washington Lawyer's Committee has available and to date, Deal volunteers have raised more than half that through support from ADCA, Wilson's PTA and others.

- d. **Succession Planning.** It is time to start planning for the ADCA for next school year. Each year there are vacancies due to graduation and other departures. There are many opportunities to get involved. The Executive Board includes positions for fundraising, secretary, communications and treasurer. The ADCA will post available positions with job descriptions. In April, the ADCA will host a happy hour where interested parents can learn more. If interested, you should submit a bio, which will be posted and then the Deal community will vote on candidate.

4. **Principal's Report.** Principal James Albright presented the Principal's report. On Monday, March 27, 2017 the new Chancellor will be at Deal to speak with Ward 3. DCPS will announce a program for girls similar to the Empowering Males of Color program, the approach will be different. This year, for the first time, there will be a 6th grade musical. The goal, starting next year, will be to have a 7th/8th grade musical in the Fall and a 6th grade musical in the spring.

Deal is in the midst of hiring for next year. This is the time of year that teachers decide whether they will return for the next school year. Deal will add two new teams of teachers, one each for 6th and 7th grades. Hiring will continue through July.

5. **ADCA Speaker.** Nadine Parker of the DC Prevention Center for Wards 3 and 4 presented on substance abuse. <http://drugfreeyouthdc.com/ward-3-4-prevention-center/>
 - Each community within DC has different problems with regard to substance abuse. There is a program specific to each Ward.
 - They aim to bring together the community, including youth, parents, schools and businesses, to create a dialogue and to change the environment on substance abuse.
 - There are many unknowns for parents and youth – commonly abused substances, their street names, what to do with old prescription drugs – information is important.
 - Pill parties are when youth bring prescription drugs (often found at home) and mix them together, taking a handful. Parents need to monitor their prescription drugs.
 - The organization provides free bags to properly dispose of expired or not needed prescription drugs.
 - In Wards 3 and 4, the most prevalent substance used is marijuana. A survey of 64 youth in Wards 3 and 4 conducted two years ago found that 40% of respondents said it was easy to get marijuana, 39% said it was easy to get alcohol. Of respondents, 3.8% had tried marijuana, 1.25% had tried alcohol and 1.8% had abused prescription drugs.
 - Ms. Parker recommended viewing the YouTube video titled Chasing the Dragon.

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.