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## Executive Board Update

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Shannon von Felden, PTA President, described the PTA budget process for the 2020-2021 school year. In January and February, the Executive Board will review this year's budget and see what worked well and what needs adjusting. The Executive Board will collect feedback from the community and will be sharing a [Google form](#) on the listserv. Please submit any ideas and thoughts you have on the Google form. The Executive Board will consider these in March. The PTA budget for next school year is very dependent on how much the PTA makes at Maury at the Market, which will be held at the end of March. Also, in March, the school will receive its budget from DCPS. This influences the PTA's expenses for next school year, in terms of which positions we might need to support, among other things. In the beginning of April, the Executive Board will meet and review the proposed budget that the President and Treasurer prepare. In May the Executive Board will vote on the Budget, and will present the budget to the PTA body. In June, the full PTA votes on the budget.

Sheryl Freedman asked how enrollment changes might affect the budget that DCPS announces in March. Principal Payne-Chauvenet noted that it is possible to obtain additional teachers, depending on how significant the enrollment change is. For example, this school year, DCPS provided the school an additional 4<sup>th</sup> grade teacher because class sizes would have exceeded 30 students per class. Maury's enrollment is currently at 461 students, however, the school had only projected total enrollment of 413 for this school year.

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## Principal's Update

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Principal Payne-Chauvenet reminded families that the Panorama survey is out. All parents are invited to complete it. In addition, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders will be asked to complete it. The questions range from how you feel about communication to whether your student is feeling supported in school. You can complete the survey [here](#).

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## Committee Updates

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**LSAT.** Jean Kohanek, LSAT Chair, noted that the LSAT will be very focused on the release of Maury's school budget from DCPS. The committee will be working with the Principal to ensure the school has the resources it needs. LSAT is subject to the Open Meetings Act this year, which means they have to announce every meeting they have. This is likely to be challenging during budget season because there will only be two weeks to comment on the DCPS budget. The LSAT budget meeting will be closed to the public, but the LSAT have to notify the public that it is happening. If you have any questions or concerns or ideas, please contact anyone on the LSAT.

**Maury at the Market.** Liz Lyons and Steve Stasiowski noted that the Maury at the Market Committee is currently contacting sponsors. The Committee's goal is to raise \$110,000 this year, which is ten percent over what the event earned last year. Please consider what gifts you might be able to solicit or offer. Gifts range from monetary gifts, to meals, cakes, sewing, concert tickets, vacation homes, etc. Please contact Regine Lotlikar and Meghan Gaffney regarding any gift donations. Keep an eye out for weekly Maury at the Market updates from Stephanie Winans.

**Middle School Committee.** Besa Pinchotti provided an update on Eliot-Hine Middle School. She noted that Eliot-Hine's STAR rating increased from a 1 to a 2 rating this year, which the school believes may be the most growth of any DCPS school. Members of the community have expressed concerns about the behavior of Eliot-Hine students. Besa noted that the number of behavioral incidents has declined significantly this year with the school's introduction of various strategies. She noted that sports and after school clubs are growing in number. There will be open houses in the morning and evenings of January 23<sup>rd</sup> and February 23<sup>rd</sup>. Please mark your calendars for Eliot-Hine's biggest fundraiser of the year, Basketball Fever, which is scheduled for April 25<sup>th</sup> at Eastern High School. The event will involve all feeder schools.

**Grants Committee.** Shannon announced that Maury received two grants from the Capitol Hill Community Foundation: 1) a \$2500 grant for Space Camp, and 2) a \$2000 grant for school wellness initiative. The teachers are currently planning how to use the wellness grant.

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#### Next Meeting

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The next PTA meeting will be held on Thursday, February 13<sup>th</sup>.