

# Sequoyah Signal

THE PTA NEWSLETTER OF THE SEQUOYAH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL COMMUNITY

[www.mcps.k12.md/us/schools/sequoyahes](http://www.mcps.k12.md/us/schools/sequoyahes)

## This month's message from our Principal and our PTA President

In less than two weeks, another school year will come to a close. Thank you to the school staff, the PTA board, parents, and students – who did their best each day to learn, share, and cooperate – for an outstanding year! We have accomplished so much together, of which we can all be proud. Believe it or not, teachers and parent volunteers are still working, right now, to put in place many of the programs that will get our next school year off to a great start!

The Sequoyah Staff recently honored the PTA volunteers who have worked tirelessly for the benefit of our students throughout the year at a Volunteer Breakfast. It's because of your efforts that our school has so many of the special resources and programs that it does! A special thank you to Sarah Hochuli, VP Fundraising, who throughout her term did a wonderfully thoughtful and skillful job with her committee chairs to raise the funds to support all of the programs offered by Sequoyah PTA...and to Lorie Craig, our esteemed PTA Treasurer, who put us back on the fiscal high road. Lorie's practical and deft approach to managing the PTA's financial records and expenditure requests was a joy to behold! We appreciate Isabel Seyed-Ali's persistently excellent job of keeping our "Conquista" parents informed about PTA and school programs, through regular, informal dialog. Also, a special "Thank You" to Pam Kostecka, a veteran Sequoyah parent, who has held many, many Sequoyah PTA positions over the years, including President. Thanks, Pam, for your endless creativity, perseverance, and just plain spunk over the years! You and the other departing 5<sup>th</sup> grade parents have set the volunteer bar high, to the ultimate benefit of all of our children. Thanks for everything!

At our meeting on June 7, we will welcome Michelle Hicks as Vice President /Fundraising, Jeff Freedman as Treasurer, and Jean Somerville as Corresponding Secretary. Michelle brings to us her experience as Corresponding Secretary, her knowledge of PTA programs, and her excellent people skills. Jeff has met with Lorie Craig, our outgoing Treasurer, and the board and is poised to hit the ground running. Jean brings her excellent writing and communication skills to the board as our new Corresponding Secretary. We are lucky to have these talented folks working with the Sequoyah PTA and Staff. On June 7, our meeting will start at 7:30, at which time we'll install our new officers and approve our 2005-06 budget.

Thanks also to all of the staff and volunteers who are (and will be over the summer) putting together the new Sequoyah Directory/Handbook. It is quite a collaborative effort that we expect will result in a single, concise, complete, and cost-effective Handbook for Sequoyah families. We also want to recognize our excellent behind-the-scenes newsletter editor, David Baker, who has worked tirelessly (and meticulously!) to keep you informed about all the events and activities of our school community.

For the upcoming school year, we will again offer an ESOL Open House, the Conquista tus Sueños Hispanic Outreach Program (this time as a collaborative effort with all of the other schools that feed into Magruder High School), and a New Parent Breakfast. Watch for the summer letter, which will contain details and important dates for upcoming events and the opening of school in August. We wish you a wonderfully relaxing and renewing summer!

Sincerely,

Pat Chapin  
PTA President

Dr. Bobbi Jasper  
Principal



June 2005

### CALENDAR

PTA Meeting - 7:30PM	June 7
Flag Day	June 14
Awards Assembly	June 14
5th Grade Farewell	June 14
Last Day of School! (Early Release - 1:00PM)	June 15
Market Day Pick- up 7:30-8:30PM	June 15
Fathers' Day	June 19
Report Cards Mailed	June 23

### SEQUOYAH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

17301 Bowie Mill Road  
Derwood, MD 20855  
(301) 840-5335  
[www.mcps.k12.md/us/  
schools/sequoyahes](http://www.mcps.k12.md/us/schools/sequoyahes)

#### PRINCIPAL

Dr. Bobbi Jasper

#### PTA PRESIDENT

Pat Chapin  
(301) 924-2606

[wpchapins@comcast.net](mailto:wpchapins@comcast.net)

#### NEWSLETTER EDITORS

David Baker

[SequoyahSignal@aol.com](mailto:SequoyahSignal@aol.com)  
Asst. Editor: Phil Buckberg  
[phil.bert@verizon.net](mailto:phil.bert@verizon.net)

September Signal Deadline:  
8/23/2005

## Un Mensaje de la Directora y de la Presidenta del PTA

En menos de dos semanas, se estará por acabar otro año escolar ¡Gracias al Personal de la Escuela, a la PTA, padres y estudiantes-que han hecho lo mejor que pudieron para aprender, compartir y cooperar por un año sobresaliente! Hemos logrado tanto, juntos, que tendríamos que estar muy orgullosos ¡Créanlo o no maestros y padres voluntarios todavía están trabajando, en este momento, para poner en marcha muchos de los programas que harán que nuestro próximo año escolar tenga un gran comienzo!

El Personal de Sequoyah honró recientemente a los voluntarios de la PTA, que han trabajado sin cesar para el beneficio de nuestros estudiantes durante todo el año, con un Desayuno de Voluntarios. ¡Es gracias a sus esfuerzos que nuestra escuela tiene tantos recursos especiales y programas! Un agradecimiento especial para Sarah Hochuli, Vicepresidenta de Recaudo de Fondos, quien durante todo su término ha hecho su trabajo en una manera maravillosa, considerada y habilidosa, con sus presidentes de comité, para recaudar los fondos necesarios para costear todos los programas ofrecidos por la PTA de Sequoyah... y a Lorie Craig, nuestra estimada Tesorera de la PTA, quién nos trajo de nuevo a la alta cumbre fiscal. ¡Su enfoque práctico y hábil para manejar los archivos y peticiones de expensas fueron un placer de contemplar! Apreciamos a Isabel Seyed-Ali por su persistente y excelente trabajo de mantener a los padres de "Conquista" informados acerca de los programas de la PTA y de la escuela, a través de diálogo regular e informal. También un agradecimiento especial para Pam KostECKa, una madre veterana de Sequoyah, que ha ocupado muchas, muchas posiciones en la PTA de Sequoyah a través de los años, incluyendo la de Presidenta. ¡Gracias Pam por tu creatividad si fin, perseverancia y pleno coraje a través de estos años! Tú y los otros padres de 5to que parten han puesto la marca de voluntarios alta, para el sumo beneficio de todos nuestros niños. ¡Gracias por todo!

En nuestra reunión del 7 de Junio le daremos la bienvenida a Michelle Hicks como Vicepresidenta/Recaudadora de Fondos, a Jeff Freedman como Tesorero y a Jean Sommerville como Secretaria de Correspondencia. Michelle trae consigo la experiencia de Secretaria de Correspondencia, su conocimiento de los programas de la PTA, y su excelente habilidad con la gente. Jeff se ha reunido con nuestra saliente Tesorera y la Junta y está aprestado para la carrera... y Jean trae su excelente habilidad en comunicaciones y escritura. Tenemos mucha suerte de tener esta gente talentosa trabajando con la PTA y el Personal de Sequoyah. El 7 de Junio, nuestra reunión empezará a la 7:30 p.m., a dicha hora instalaremos a nuestros nuevos oficiales y aprobaremos nuestro presupuesto del 2005-06.

Gracias también a todo el personal y voluntarios quienes (y que lo harán durante el verano) compaginarán la nueva Guía Telefónica/Manual de Sequoyah. Es un esfuerzo colectivo que esperemos resulte en un manual más conciso, completo y menos costoso para las familias de Sequoyah. También queremos reconocer a nuestro excelente editor de la gazeta, David Baker, que ha trabajado si cesar (y meticulosamente) para mantenernos informados acerca de todos los eventos y actividades de nuestra comunidad escolar.

Para el año siguiente, ofreceremos de nuevo la Apertura de ESOL, el Programa de Alcance Hispano Conquista tus Sueños (esta vez como esfuerzo colectivo con todas las otras escuelas que pertenecen a Magruder High School) y el Desayuno de los Nuevos Padres. Se está palneando también hacer una obra musical y una ópera. Manténgase atento por la llegada de la carta del verano, que contendrá detalles y fechas importantes para los eventos futuros y la apertura de la escuela en Agosto. Les deseamos un verano maravilloso, relajante y reponedor.

Sinceramente,

Pat Chapin  
Presidenta de la PTA

Dra. Bobbi Jasper  
Directora

### PTA Contacts

**President**  
Pat Chapin  
(301) 924-2606

**1st Vice President - Programs**  
Andrea Troutner  
(301) 990-8226

**2nd Vice President - Fundraising**  
Sarah Hochuli  
(301) 208-6556

**Treasurer**  
Lorie Craig  
(301) 977-1558

**Recording Secretary**  
Nellie Ross  
(301) 977-6490

**Corresponding Secretary**  
Michelle Hicks  
(301) 774-5740

**Delegate**  
Martha Schaerr  
(301) 963-4122

**Volunteer Coordinators**  
Andrea Dumas  
(301) 330-9633  
Pam KostECKa  
(301) 840-9562

Happy Summer Birthdays to:  
6/18 Mrs. Rae Pflieger  
6/30 Mrs. Fran Fox  
7/05 Mr. Derek Manon  
7/15 Ms. Brigid McGuire  
7/17 Mrs. Joyce Snoots  
7/17 Mr. Marshall Hoes  
7/24 Ms. Charmaine St. Bernard  
8/30 Mrs. Nanette Mount

**2005 PTA Spring Book Fair News***(respectfully submitted by Lisa Sieg)*

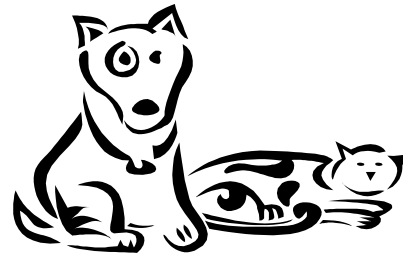
Our "Read a Great Tale" Book Fair happily "wagged its way through" our Media Center on April 20 & 21 and left Sequoyah "purrring" with a very nice cash profit of almost \$2,000 and \$800 richer in books.

Wednesday night's Courtyard Reading was the place to be to hear some of our very favorite teachers reading their "great tales". We were "udderly moooved" that we had such a "grrreat" turnout to hear Ms.Beard, Ms.Burk, Ms. Klaffka, Ms.McInnis, Ms. St.Bernard, Ms.Schectman, Ms.Wiesenberger; and honored to have such a lovely family trio, Ms.Bettinger, Ms.Mills, & Ms.McGuire, read as well. The staff's participation and generosity with their time had us howling with appreciation!

Thanks to all staff members and students who participated in our "teachers' pets" contest. Congratulations go to winners Lindsay Luhn, Bernice Simon, Steven Ngan, Haley Talbot-Wendlandt, Heather Rosario, and Emma Owen.

Parent volunteers, you are truly the "cat's pajamas"! Many, many thanks for making our fair so successful! Your gift of time went a long way in making a lot of kids very happy!

Leslie Anchor	Marissa Bailey
Susan Bernstein	Pam Kostecka
Sue Martin	Linda Kuserk
Mamta Osborn	Debbie Luhn
Kim Palmer	Nellie Ross
Ivette Sherman	Jean Sommerville
Rita Starost	Laurie Sweeney
Suzanne Talbot	Andrea Troutner
Veronica Wahrhaftig	Joanne Waters
Laura Weiner	Julie Whalen
Tracey Wright	Lorie Craig



And starring Michelle Croom as Geronimo Stilton and Tam Miller as co-chair!

Special recognition and wing-flapping gratitude to Linda Kuserk, Kim Palmer, and Julie Whalen for their undying efforts and support!

Kudos to our fantastic student volunteers:

Jason Miller	Jamie Palmer
Erica Sieg	Stephan Sieg
Taylor Wright	Brandon Weiner

Deepest thanks to Janet Freeman for her enthusiasm, support, and hospitality that made this event such an incredible success.

A very large **THANK YOU**, Sequoyah community, for supporting our educational fundraiser!

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**Community Bits...**

Cub Scout Pack 1492 is currently forming tiger cub dens for next fall. If you are the parent of a kindergarten boy and are interested in cub scouts, please call Greg Kuserk at 301-330-3926.

Looking for a part-time Nanny? An experienced, responsible adult relative of a Sequoyah teacher is looking for summer employment. June-August. Please call Mary Lou Lee at 301-840-5335

## Thank You for Supporting Sequoyah This Year!

As we end the 2004/2005 school year, I want to thank all the parents and staff for so generously supporting all of the Sequoyah PTA's fundraisers this year. While we still have some income coming in from some of the fundraisers, we are largely winding down this year and making plans for the 2005/2006 school year. As the below fundraiser chart explains, we earned more than we projected with some fundraisers and less with others. Overall, we earned a substantial amount of money that pays for all the important programs sponsored by the Sequoyah PTA that your children and the school benefit from. In addition to the financial support to the PTA programs, hopefully, you and/or your family enjoyed participating in some of the fundraisers (restaurant nights, Spring Dance, etc.). The Sequoyah PTA fundraising chairs and the incoming 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President for Fundraising, Michelle Hicks, look forward to working with you next year. Thank you once again for your generosity and best wishes for a wonderful summer.

Sarah Hochuli, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President for Fundraising  
Sequoyah PTA

## Sequoyah PTA Fundraisers 2004/2005 School Year

Fundraiser	Projected Earnings	Actual Earnings	Difference
Book Fair	\$3,000.00	\$4,544.21	\$1,544.21
Box Tops*	\$200.00	\$105.80	-\$94.20
Supermarkets*	\$2,000.00	\$278.62	-\$1,721.38
Clothing Sales	-\$650.00	-\$248.07	\$401.93
Directory Ads	\$1,300.00	\$1,452.10	\$152.10
Family Night	\$600.00	\$538.14	-\$61.86
Gift Wrap	\$10,000.00	\$8,111.66	-\$1,888.34
Interest Income*	\$10.00	\$12.75	\$2.75
Market Day*	\$5,400.00	\$6,221.41	\$821.41
Membership	\$750.00	\$627.00	-\$123.00
Recycling	\$400.00	\$179.00	-\$221.00
Restaurant Nights*	\$350.00	\$441.90	\$91.90
Sock Hop	\$3,500.00	\$3,816.59	\$316.59
	\$26,860.00	\$26,081.11	-\$778.89
* The above marked fundraisers will have further income for the 2004/05 school year.			

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**Sequoyah Elementary School PTA Committee Chair Contact Description List  
2005-2006**

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The annual "National PTA® every child. one voice®" 2005-2006 Membership card entitles you to an affiliation with the National, State, County and Local School (Sequoyah) PTA®. Sales of the card will begin at the "Open House" scheduled for Friday, August 26, 2005, and continue through November 30, 2005. This card allows the member to have full voting privileges at monthly school PTA® meetings, supplements the funding of all committee programs listed below, and entitles you to your very own "\$5.00 Sequoyah Book Fair Gift Certificate"(if your card is purchased by September 30<sup>th</sup>) for the Fall Book Fair scheduled in October 2005.

There are a few OPEN Committee chair positions awaiting a parent volunteer for the program to continue this Fall. Additional assistance with any of these committees is always appreciated and very much in need throughout the school year. For details, please call the program committee chair contacts directly or contact the Executive Board 1<sup>st</sup> VP Programs, Andrea Ciccone Troutner, at (301) 466-0611 to learn more on how you can make a difference in your child's school right now!

**Art Fever**—Coordinates the Art Fever Assistants for the art enrichment program (class art presentations, all grade levels monthly for 15-20 minutes). A great way to volunteer in your child's classroom. **Susan Bernstein, (301) 208-9348**

**Author's Program**—Selects and coordinates the published authors visits for our students. **Jean Sommerville, (301) 924-0128**

**Before/After School Care**—Monitors the before/after school care programs for Sequoyah Bar-T.  
**Karen Ehrlich, (301) 330-4145**

**Book Fair**—Manages the semi-annual Book Fair fundraiser for Fall and Spring. Coordinates the Book Fair Assistants during this fundraiser. **Tam Miller, (301) 260-0804 and Co-Chair OPEN**

**Building and Grounds**—Manages the Building and Grounds program in conjunction with the Sequoyah Building and Maintenance staff. **Laurie Sweeney, (301) 279-5434**

**Bulletin Board:**

- **At Home Reading**—Coordinates the students names of those monthly at home readers with the Sequoyah Reading Specialist Department. **Joy Buchanan, (240) 683-5444**
- **Birthday**—Coordinates the different grade level parents to create, prepare and display each month's Birthday Bulletin Board in the school lobby. **Lauren Robbins, (301) 987-2360 and Michelle Croom, (301) 990-0626**
- **PTA**—Coordinates the display of PTA materials and/or photos with the PTA executive board and program committee chairs each month on the PTA Bulletin Board. **Karen Al-Faleh, (301) 947-7675**

**Chess Club** — Coordinates the set-up, publicity, and registration for the Sequoyah Chess Club before and/or after school.  
**Linda Kuserk, (301) 330-3926**

**Conquista Outreach**—Coordinates the Hispanic Outreach Program. **Sandra Rosenbaum, (301) 990-6546 and Isabel Seyed-Ali, (301) 926-7259**

**Corporate**—Tracks the monetary benefits that Sequoyah receives from these programs:

- **Box Tops**—Monitors the collection of GM Box tops. **Kim Wood, (301) 869-7387**
- **Supermarket (Giant/Safeway)**—Monitors and collects the Sequoyah registration of both Giant/Safeway annual bonus store credits using assigned number. **Sonja Roberts, (301) 299-5335**
- **Target**—Monitors and collects the Sequoyah registration of Target bonus store credits using assigned number. **Sonja Roberts, (301) 299-5335**

**Cultural Arts**—Coordinates the presentations and special assemblies approved by the County for elementary level curricula. **Linda Kuserk, (301) 330-3926**

**Directory**—Produces the annual Sequoyah Directory, incorporating paid ads to defray the printing cost. Coordinates the distribution of one FREE copy to each Sequoyah Family in the beginning of the school year. **Sue Martin, (301) 926-6509 and Ginny Crichton, (301) 869-5512**

**Family Nights/School Spirit:** Coordinates the Family Nights and school spirit for the Sequoyah staff and students during the school year. **Martha Schaerr, (301) 963-4122 and Co-Chair OPEN**

- **Spring Dance**—**Jackie Koehn, (301) 924-4990 and Lori Rowe, (301) 924-3537**
- **Talent Show**—**Andrea Dumas, (301) 330-9633 and Martha Schaerr, (301) 963-4122**

**Family Resource Center**—Coordinates the school supply and clothing donations to students in need. **Chair OPEN**

**Foreign Language in Elementary School (FLES)**—Coordinates the set-up, publicity, and registration for Language classes for before and/or after school at Sequoyah. **Catherine Stephens, (301) 921-4652**

**Gifted & Talented**—Gathers and distributes information for our Sequoyah PTA Signal Newsletter and/or PTA Meetings about extended opportunities and programs available to our gifted students. Maintains a small resource library at the school on this topic. **Sook Chang, (301) 963-9415**

**Gift Wrap**—Manages the Gift Wrap fundraiser in September and October. Coordinates the Gift Wrap assistants with the collection, organization, and distribution of gift-wrap orders. **Michelle Croom, (301) 990-0626 and Tina Webb, (301) 924-9322**

**Hair Cut Day**—Coordinates the annual “Hair Cut Day” fundraiser event. **Sara Hochuli, (301) 208-6556**

**Hands On Science**—Coordinates set-up, publicity and registration for a practical, ‘Hands On’ Science program for after school at Sequoyah. **Mamta Osborn, (301) 948-5355**

**Health & Safety**—Coordinates the annual National Nutrition Month in March, and is the liaison to the Sequoyah Health Room to promote health and safety in our school. Updates the Health Room Bulletin Board. **Lauren Robbins, (301) 987-2360 and Andrea Troutner, (301) 990-8226**

**Homework Club Program**—Coordinates the after school Sequoyah Homework Club program. **Chair OPEN**

**Hospitality**—Coordinates the Hospitality Assistants with four major events, such as, “Back-to-School Staff Luncheon”, “Back-to-School Picnic”, “New Parent Breakfast”, Refreshment Coordinator, Surprise Staff Socials, and an “End-of-School Staff Luncheon”. Additionally, provides refreshments on an as needed basis for PTA functions.

**David Dennison, (301) 987-0070, Mamta Osborn, (301) 948-5355, Sue Martin, (301) 926-6509, Rita Starost, (301) 208-8843, Linda Burrell, (301) 963-4079, and Wanda Drake, (301) 990-6694**

**International Night**—Coordinates the International Night every other year. **Susan Bernstein, (301) 208-9348 and Yati Moeller, (301) 527-1633**

**Kindergarten Round up**—Coordinates the welcome of incoming registered kindergartners during Kindergarten Orientation

with the Sequoyah Staff. **Marissa Bailey, (301) 519-3977 and Rita Starost, (301) 208-8843**

**Market Day** – Manages the monthly Market Day fundraiser from September through June. Facilitates the operation of the Market Day Assistants during the Monthly Market Day sales and pick-up in the Cafeteria. **Ivette Sherman, (301) 330-5151 and Marissa Bailey, (301) 519-3977**

**Membership** – Coordinates the PTA Membership enrollment during the school year, and distributes the Sequoyah Calendar to new members as they join. **Tam and Mark Miller, (301) 260-0804**

**NAACP Liaison** – Disseminates NAACP -related information from County and State attended meetings at PTA Meetings and/or in the Sequoyah Signal Newsletter. **Shawn and Michelle Hicks, (301) 774-5740**

**Newsletter** – Produces the Sequoyah Signal monthly from August through June. Coordinates the Signal design and editing prior to the monthly newsletter distribution to all Sequoyah staff and students. **David Baker, (240) 631-6848 and Phil Buckberg, (301) 570-1550**

**Partners-in-Parenting/Special Needs** – Coordinates a program to assist parents with issues that occur on the elementary level. Volunteers assist in finding speakers and diverse topics of interest (Partners-in-Parenting). Provides library resources to the families of students identified with special needs, and coordinates subscriptions to appropriate publications and/or attendance at meetings (Special Needs). **Jean Sommerville, (301) 924-0128**

**Recycling** – Coordinates the Recycle for the Students (ink cartridges) fundraiser. **Gretchen Rimkus, (301) 987-0589**

**Reflections Art Program** – Coordinates the national cultural arts competition in literary, musical, photographic, and visual arts. Manages the entries judged at the school, state and national level. **Chair OPEN**

**Restaurant Nights** – Coordinates the quarterly Sequoyah Family Restaurant Night Fundraiser events. **Sara Hochuli, (301) 208-6556**

**School Tool Box** – Manages the purchase of school supplies for the Sequoyah School Store available to students before school at a zero to minimum profit margin. **Chair OPEN**

**Silent Auction/Raffle** – Coordinates and manages the Silent Auction/Raffle Fundraiser for the Spring Dance. **Linda Kuserk, (301) 330-3926**

**Spirit Wear Clothing Sales Coordinators**—Coordinates the promotion, sales, and distribution of Sequoyah’s logo clothing line. Manages the distribution of new Sequoyah T-Shirts to all incoming Kindergartners and new students. **Cindy Batz-Arnold, (301) 869-9033 and Lori Rowe, (301) 924-3537**

**Staff Appreciation** – Coordinates the Sequoyah staff ‘Thank You gifts’ for our staff members at various times of the year. **Yati Moeller, (301) 527-1633**

**Technology**—Provides assistance with PTA electronic communications, web site updates and related school projects. **David Dennison, (301) 987-0070**

**Yearbook**—Coordinates and manages the production, sale, and distribution of the annual Sequoyah Yearbook. **Elisa McGuire, (301) 977-0827**

Lista de contactos y descripción de comités de la PTA de la Escuela Primaria Sequoyah  
**2005-2006**

Las tarjetas de Socio anuales "PTA Nacional cada niño. una voz" (en inglés, National PTA every child. one voice), estarán a la venta en el evento "Puertas Abiertas"(en inglés, Open House) que se realizará el Viernes 26 de Agosto de 2005, y si la compra antes del 30 de Noviembre le otorga una afiliación con la PTA Nacional, Estatal, del condado y local (Sequoyah). Además, esta tarjeta le permite completos privilegios de voto en las reuniones mensuales de la PTA de la escuela de su niño/a, suplementar el costeo de todos los programas de los comités nombrados abajo y recibir un "Certificado de Regalo para la Feria del Libro de 5.00" (si compra la tarjeta antes del 30 de Septiembre), que podrá utilizar en nuestra Feria del Libro del otoño que se realizará en Octubre 2005. Asistencia adicional con cualquiera de estos comités será siempre muy apreciada y bastante necesitada durante todo el año escolar.

Hay algunas posiciones abiertas para presidencia de comité, esperando a padres voluntarios para que estos programas continúen este Otoño que viene. Para más detalles por favor llame a los contactos del comité directamente o contacte a la Primera Vicepresidenta de Programas de la Junta Ejecutiva, Andrea Ciccone Troutner al 301-466-0611 ;Para enterarse mejor en como apoyar a la escuela de su niño/a ahora mismo!

**Fervor del Arte**-Coordina los Asistentes de Fervor del Arte para el programa de enriquecimiento de arte (presentaciones mensuales de arte en las clases para todos los grados de 15-20 min). Es una buena forma de ayudar en las clases de sus niños.  
**Susan Bernstein 301-208-9348**

**Programa de Autores**-Selecciona y coordina las visitas a nuestros estudiantes de los autores publicados. **Jean Sommerville 301-924-0128**

**Cuidado de Antes/Después de la Escuela**-Monitorea los programas de antes/después de la escuela del Bar-T de Sequoyah.  
**Karen Elrich 301-330-4145**

**Feria del Libro**-Maneja el recaudo semianual de fondos de la Feria del Libro del Otoño y Primavera.Coordina los asistentes de la Feria del Libro durante este evento. **Tam Miller 301-260-0804 y co-presidencia VACANTE**

**Edificio y Parquización**-Maneja el programa de Edificio y Parquización en conjunto con el personal de Edificio y Mantenimiento de Sequoyah. **Laurie Sweeney 301-279-5434**

**Cartelera:**

**1) Lectura en casa**-Coordina mensualmente los nombres de estudiantes de Laquelle Lectores en Casa con el Departamento Especialista en Lectura de Sequoyah. **Joy Buchanan 240-683-5444**

**2) Cumpleaños**-Coordina los padres de diferentes grados para crear, preparar y demostrar en la Cartelera, los Cumpleaños de cada mes, en el vestíbulo de la escuela. **Laureen Robbins 301-987-2360 y Michelle Croom 301-990-0626**

**3) Asociación de Padres y Maestros**- PTA Coordina mensualmente en la cartelera, la demostración de materiales y/o fotos con la Junta Ejecutiva y los presidentes de comités de programas de la PTA, . **Karen Al-Faleh 301-947-7675**

**Club de Ajedrez**-Coordina la preparación, publicidad e inscripción para el Club de Ajedrez antes y/o después de clases. **Linda Kuserk 301-330-3926**

**Apoyo Conquista**-Coordina el Programa de Apoyo Hispano. **Sandra Rosebaum 301-990-6546 e Isabel Seyed-Ali 301-926-7259**

**Corporación**-Rastrea los beneficios monetarios que Sequoyah recibe de estos programas.

**1) Tapas de Cajas**-Monitorea la colección de las tapas de cajas de GM (cereales) **Kim Wood 301-869-7387**

**2) Supermercados (Giant/Safeway)** Monitorea y colecciona la registración anual de Giant/Safeway para los bonos usando el número asignado. **Sonja Roberts 301-299-5335**

**3)Target**-Monitorea y colecciona la registración de los bonos de Target usando un número asignado. **Sonja Roberts 301-299-5335**

**Artes Culturales**-Coordina las presentaciones de asambleas especiales aprobadas por el condado para los programas del nivel primario. **Linda Kuserk 301-330-3926**

**Guía Telefónica**-Produce la Guía Telefónica Anual de Sequoyah, incorporando avisos vendidos para costear el costo de imprenta. Coordina la distribución de una copia GRATIS para cada familia de Sequoyah en el comienzo del año escolar. **Sue Martin 301-926-6509** y **Ginny Crichton 301-869-5512**

**Noches de Familia/Espíritu Escolar**- Coordina las Noches de Familia y el Espíritu Escolar para el personal y los estudiantes de Sequoyah durante el año escolar. **Martha Schaerr 301-963-4122** y **co-presidencia VACANTE**

**1) Baile de la Primavera**- **Jackie Koehn 301-924-4990** and **Lori Rowe 301-924-3537**

**2) El Show de Talento**- **Andrea Dumas 301-330-9633** y **Martha Schaerr 301-963-4122**

**Centro de Recursos Familiares**-Coordina la donación de útiles escolares y ropa a los estudiantes necesitados. **Presidencia VACANTE**

**Idioma Extranjero en la Escuela Primaria (FLES)**-Coordina la preparación, publicidad e inscripción para las clases de idioma para antes y/o después de clases en Sequoyah. **Catherine Stephens 301-921-4652**

**Dotados & Talentosos**-Reúne y distribuye información para nuestra gazeta Sequoyah Signal y para las reuniones de la PTA acerca de las oportunidades y programas disponibles para nuestros estudiantes dotados. Mantiene una biblioteca de recurso pequeña de este tópico en la escuela. **Sook Chang 301-963-9415**

**Papel de Regalo**- Maneja el recaudo de fondos de Papel de Regalo en Septiembre y Octubre.Coordina los asistentes de Papel de Regalo para la colección, organización y distribución de los pedidos de Papel de Regalo. **Michelle Croom 301-990-0626** y **Tina Webb 301-924-9322**

**Día de Corte de Cabello**-Coordina el evento anual de recaudo de fondo del "Día de Corte de Cabello". **Sarah Hochuli 301-208-6556**

**Manos en Ciencia**-Coordina la preparación, publicidad e inscripción del programa práctico de Manos en Ciencia para después de clases en Sequoyah. **Mamta Osborn 301-948-5355**

**Salud y Seguridad**-Coordina anualmente el Mes Nacional de Nutrición en Marzo y es el enlace con la Enfermería de Sequoyah para promover salud y seguridad en nuestra escuela. Actualiza la Cartelera de la Enfermería. **Laureen Robbins 301-987-2360** y **Andrea Troutner 301-990-8226**

**Programa Club de Tareas**-Coordina el programa Club de tareas después de clases. **Presidencia VACANTE**

**Hospitalidad**-Coordina las asistentes de Hospitalidad con los Cuatro eventos mayores, como el "Almuerzo del Personal de Vuelta a la Escuela", "Picnic de Vuelta a la Escuela", "Desayuno de los Padres Nuevos", Coordinador de Refrescos, Sorpresas Sociales para el personal y un "Almuerzo de Final de Año para el Personal" Adicionalmente, provee refrescos cuando se necesitan para las funciones de la PTA. **David Dennison 301-987-0070**, **Mamta Osborn 301-948-5355**, **Sue Martin 301-926-6509**, **Rita Starost 301-208-8843**, **Linda Burrell 301-963-4079**, **Wanda Drake 301-990-6694**

**Noche Internacional**-Coordina la Noche Internacional cada año. **Susan Bernstein 301-208-9348** y **Yati Moeller 301-527-1633**

**Rodeo de Jardín de Infantes**-Coordina la bienvenida de los niños de jardín registrados durante la Orientación de Jardín de Infantes con el personal de Sequoyah. **Marissa Bailey 301-519-3977 y Rita Starost 301-208-8843**

**Día de Mercado-Market Day**- Maneja mensualmente el recaudo de fondos de Market Day desde Septiembre hasta Junio inclusive. Facilita la operación de los asistentes de Market Day durante las ventas mensuales y el retiro de los pedidos en la cafetería. **Ivette Sherman 301-330-5151 y Marissa Bailey 301-519-3977**

**Asociación**-Coordina la inscripción en la PTA durante el año escolar y distribuye el Almanaque de Sequoyah a los nuevos socios cuando se inscriben. **Tam y Mark Miller 301-260-0804**

**Enlace con la NAACP**-Disemina información de la NAACP, obtenida en reuniones asistidas del Condado y del Estado, en la PTA y/o en la Gazeta Signal de Sequoyah. **Shawn y Michelle Hicks 301-774-5740**

**Gazeta**-Produce el Sequoyah Signal mensual desde Agosto hasta Junio inclusive. Coordina el diseño y editado del Signal antes de la distribución mensual de la gazeta a todos los estudiantes y personal. **David Baker 240-631-6848 y Phil Buckberg 301-570-1550**

**Socios en Crianza/Necesidades Especiales**-Coordina un programa para asistir a padres con problemas que ocurren a nivel primario. Los Voluntarios asisten en encontrar personas que den charlas en diferentes tópicos de interés. (**Socios en Crianza**). Provee recursos bibliotecarios a familias con estudiantes identificados con necesidades especiales y coordina suscripciones a publicaciones apropiadas y/o la asistencia a las reuniones (**Special Needs**). **Jean Sommerville 301-924-0128**

**Reciclado**-Coordina el Reciclado para el recaudo de fondos de los estudiantes (cartuchos de tinta). **Gretchen Rimkus 301-987-0589**

**Programa de Arte Reflecciones**-Coordina la competencia nacional de artes culturales en literatura, música, fotografía y artes visuales. Maneja las participaciones juzgadas en la escuela, Estado y nivel nacional. **Presidencia VACANTE**

**Noches de Restaurante**-Coordina los eventos cuatrimestrales de recaudo de fondos de la Noche Familiar de Restaurante. **Sara Hochuli 301-208-6556**

**Caja de Útiles Escolares**- Maneja la compra de útiles escolares para la Tienda de la Escuela Sequoyah disponible para los estudiantes antes de clases, de cero a un mínimo margen de ganancia. **Presidencia VACANTE**

**Subasta Silenciosa/Rifa**-Coordina y maneja el recaudo de fondos de la Subasta Silenciosa/Rifa del Baile de Primavera. **Linda Kuserk 301-330-3926**

**Coordinadores de Venta de Ropa Spirit Wear**-Coordina la promoción, venta y distribución de la línea de ropa del logo de Sequoyah. Maneja la distribución de las nuevas camisetas a todos los ingresantes a Jardín de Infantes y a nuevos estudiantes. **Cindy Batz-Arnold 301-869-9033 y Lori Rowe 301-924-3537**

**Apreciación al Personal**-Coordina los "Regalos de Agradecimiento" para personal de Sequoyah en varias épocas del año. **Yati Moeller 301-527-1633**

**Tecnología**- Provee asistencia con las comunicaciones electrónicas, actualizaciones del sitio de web y proyectos escolares relacionados. **David Dennison 301-987-0070**

**Libro del Año**-Coordina y Maneja la producción, distribución y venta anual del Libro del Año. **Elisa McGuire 301-977-0827**

## **“Schools in Which All Kinds of Minds Can Grow in All Kinds of Good Ways”**

As a parent as well as chair of the Partners in Parenting Committee (encompassing special needs and parent support) the following article written by Dr. Mel Levine for his All Kinds of Minds newsletter really resonated with me.

All parents want their children to thrive, to learn, to feel successful and be confident, to be safe, and to be decent people who consider the feelings of others. Positive modeling by adults, positive interactions with peers and school staff, supportive behavioral policies and effective implementation, and a school that seeks and finds each child's strengths and builds on them, is important to everyone.

Therefore I want to share this moving piece with the Sequoyah community as we enter summer, with hopes of a great new year ahead for everyone.

Jean Sommerville, Co-chair  
Partners in Parenting (Special Needs & Parent Support)

As we discover more and more about how students learn and how different minds learn differently, our schools have a golden opportunity to increase the proportion of their students who experience true academic success. Armed with these new insights into brain function, educators can help all children and adolescents develop their unique strengths while overcoming the negative effects of their weaknesses. In doing so, they will have created schools for all kinds of minds. Let us consider some prominent features of such optimal educational environments:

- \* Teachers would be well trained in how learning works and would be knowledgeable about the specific brain functions that are critical for the age group and/or subject matter they teach.
- \* Teachers would have learned about the revealing signs of specific differences in learning, how to identify these in the classroom and how to manage students with learning problems more effectively.
- \* Teachers would be trained to "diagnose" students' strengths and special affinities (areas of strong interest), so as to make sure that these positive qualities are being recognized, celebrated, and enhanced.
- \* Students would be learning about learning while they are learning; they would study the different brain processes and acquire the terminology needed to think about and understand their own minds.
- \* All students would be expected to select a topic and study it as an independent study activity (with a mentor) for at least 3 years; in this way they would experience "expertise" and gain from its positive effects on mind and skill development.
- \* Students could be evaluated in more than one way; they could choose from various forms of testing or other assessment modes to demonstrate what they have learned or accomplished.
- \* Classrooms would offer an atmosphere in which it is safe to make mistakes and take some risks in one's thinking and expression; public humiliation of students would not take place.

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- \* Parents and schools would be close partners in educating students; their specific educational roles would be well defined.
- \* Every classroom would target the strengthening of some specific brain functions (such as attention controls, higher thinking abilities, or problem solving skills).
- \* Peer pressure would be reduced, and students would be taught about social cognition.
- \* Verbal and physical abuse of students by other students would be considered a significant offense.
- \* All students would be held accountable for being productive, for having a high level of academic output, although not every student would be expected to produce the same "products."
- \* Struggling children would not be burdened with diagnostic labels but instead their profiles of strengths and weaknesses in relevant neurodevelopmental functions and academic learning would be determined and managed effectively in school.
- \* There would be a stress on inclusion of students with learning problems in regular education settings, but some pullout services would still be required for a small number of children.
- \* Schools would be flexible in their curricular requirements, offering accommodations as needed.
- \* Students who benefit from accommodations could be expected to compensate by performing additional work in an area of their strength or affinity.
- \* While there would be a concerted stress on raising academic standards for all students, such standards would not be met or demonstrated in exactly the same manner by all students in the school.

The features delineated above are attainable. Some schools are already moving swiftly in these directions. Implementation requires strong support from parents, building principals, and school boards. In some communities a public school might seek the needed waivers from certain existing regulations in order to establish a demonstration model of a school for all kinds of minds. In some instances, a charter school might be based on this model.

We are talking about a strongly humanitarian movement in education. We would be acknowledging that our society desperately needs diverse kinds of minds among its adult population. We want no child to feel hopeless because of the way his brain is wired. We are hoping that every single student can see abundantly rewarding possibilities for her kind of mind while becoming an educated person.

by Dr. Mel Levine <http://www.allkindsofminds.org/articledisplay.aspx?articleid=13>

*Congratulations to Sequoyah Elementary Student Award Recipients*

**Edward Bonsu Janel Brown Muturi Kiruthi Andrea Skinner**

These students were honored among hundreds of other students at the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual African American Festival of Academic Excellence. The Festival was created in 1989 to recognize and honor African American students in MCPS who have demonstrated high academic achievement.

## The Truth about Consequence: Effective Discipline without Punishment - Review of May 9 program sponsored by Partners in Parenting - Jean Sommerville

A number of parents told me how much they wanted to attend but just couldn't make it ... and please wouldn't I write something about it to help them? One evening wasn't enough to transform our households or school but valuable ideas were shared. Patti Cancellier of the Parent Encouragement Program, Inc. (PEP) presented an engaging talk to parents motivated to change the atmosphere in their homes from one of nagging and yelling, to one of cooperation and teamwork. First she reminded us that the root of the word "discipline" comes from the Latin word meaning "to teach" including "education or training which corrects, strengthens, molds, or improves."

The traditional method of discipline was punishment, and in recent years that has become rewards to motivate behavior. With punishment the focus is on domination. Punishment may work quickly but children who are punished tend to become the rebel (want to get back at the mean adult), robot (lose ability to make decisions), or lawyer (argue with the adult). With a reward the focus is on getting a prize for a standard or behavior set by the superior, but then the child often doesn't internalize the behavior, or gain understanding of why they're necessary for the smooth running of a family or a community.

Instead, she advocates experience as the best teacher, with the focus of consequences so that children may learn through experiencing the natural or social order. Though it takes longer - and requires a lot more patience as well as calm demeanor on the part of the adult - the ultimate goal is a more positive one of actually teaching the child, and helping the child become a better person. Jane Nelson's book *Positive Discipline* was mentioned as an excellent resource. It stresses that labels ('irresponsible,' 'lazy') should never be used. Lecturing in a loud voice doesn't work either because the child tunes it out. She quoted Rudolph Dreikurs, author of *Children: The Challenge*, who wrote that "trying to influence your child with your voice is like trying to guide your car with your horn."

Natural consequences are those which happen if the adult does nothing. An example of this would be that the child refuses to wear a coat, the adult doesn't interfere with the child's decision, and the child later decides it is wise to wear a coat when it's cold. Logical consequences are those which teach about the social world and the adult, often with the help of the child, determines what the consequence will be for certain actions, or inaction. Here are the rules of logical consequences:

- 1) They must be related to the misbehavior;
- 2) They must be responsible in scope - proportional to the misbehavior;
- 3) They must be respectful to the dignity of the child (not delivered in a humiliating or embarrassing way);
- 4) They must be helpful in solving the problem.

No one wants to be humiliated in front of others. Stay calm, firm about the consequence, and friendly in the delivery. Correct children in private. When children are yelled at they want revenge or they forget what they did wrong. They become angry and discouraged and fail to learn. The whole point is to teach them the right way to behave. Empower children to act in a responsible way. It's important to remember that children don't need to suffer from consequences in order to learn from them.

With power struggles adults should talk in terms of what they're willing to do rather than forcing a child to do something. Phrase the consequence in terms of a choice (1) either/or choices, or (2) when/then choices. It should not be phrased like a threat or in a tone that makes them feel you are giving up on them.

Give kids a way to belong that's positive. Give them encouragement. Give a child important power so she won't feel the need to seize power and engage in power struggles.

Classes offered by the Parent Encouragement Program could reinforce the principles and teach interested adults how to work more effectively and calmly with the children in their lives! For more information call 301-929-8824 or see [www.ParentEncouragement.org](http://www.ParentEncouragement.org).

**PTA Meeting Minutes, Tuesday, April 4th, 2005 7:40 p.m.**

**Attendance:** Yati Moeller, Tina Webb, Bill Chapin, Tam Miller, Louise Lighter, Magda Tranamil, Kathleen McInnis, Karen Al-Faleh, Joyce Snoots, Geeta Mishra, Sherry Proctor, Kim Palmer, David Dennison, Sue Martin, Lori Rowe, Marissa Bailey, David Baker, Michelle Hicks, Sarah Hochuli, Andrea Troutner, Pat Chapin, Bobbi Jasper, Jeff Freedman, Lorie Craig, Nellie Ross

**Pat Chapin, President, welcomed everyone** and thanked those who attended the 7 p.m. parents' meeting. As only four folks came for the 7:00 open discussion, the PTA will continue to evaluate the usefulness of a pre-PTA meeting discussion – perhaps by choosing a popular topic in advance, open agenda, guest-speaker, or other format.

Many thanks were expressed to **Laurie Sweeney, Building and Grounds Chair, and Aaron Hill's team for leading an enthusiastic team of volunteers** during the extensive planning and generous execution of the Sequoyah beautification project! It was a tremendous effort by the 60 or so community members who participated, saving the school approximately \$8-10,000 in landscaping design and labor hours.

**Lisa Sieg and Tam Miller** were recognized for the outstanding results during Sequoyah's spring Book Fair. Great support from parents, students, and volunteers brought better-than-expected profits!

**Andrea Dumas, Martha Schaerr** and their parent volunteer team pulled off the second annual talent show – with great student participation and family attendance! Even with a larger performance site at Redland Middle School, the evening boasted a standing-room-only crowd. The kids worked extraordinarily hard to put on the best-ever Sequoyah talent show.

Pat Chapin explained that the Chess Club will continue to explore a possible summer camp opportunity for 2006. While there are no plans for a Chess Camp at Sequoyah this summer, the chess company still has camp openings at their location in Gaithersburg, and we plan to again have a Chess Club at Sequoyah in the fall. In other news, she also said that the PTA will sponsor an activity bus if after school activities are developed by the teachers or

PTA for the fall, that no volunteer has yet come forward to chair the important Family Resource committee, and she distributed a flyer about the event coming up on May 9 where a speaker from PEP will address Sequoyah families about parenting and positive discipline.

**Sequoyah has been so successful with the Conquista Tus Suenos program** that a collaborative program, including all the elementary and middle schools that feed into Magruder High School, is planned for the fall.

**The PTA suggestion box** located in the main office has netted some thoughtful observations. In addition to the stop sign for the parking lot that is now in the works, **Dr. Jasper** stated that a new suggestion to provide additional information about how to read and interpret standardized test scores will be answered very soon.

April PTA meeting minutes were approved as printed in the May newsletter.

**Andrea Troutner, 1<sup>st</sup> VP of Programs**, highlighted the leadership positions available for the 2005-06 school-year. As of this writing, four positions are open; please consider accepting a position to help the PTA support Sequoyah and, ultimately, our precious children.

**Andrea** noted that outgoing officers and chairs are encouraged to meet to exchange ideas and pass on valuable information to the new volunteers taking over their positions.

**Sarah Hochuli, 2<sup>nd</sup> VP Fundraising, said fundraising of late has been successful.** **Marissa Bailey** mentioned that the candy fundraiser is still in progress (\$1 candy bars to benefit the PTA, available at school functions and to individuals).

**Dr. Jasper said Sequoyah has achieved its measure of Annual Yearly Progress this year, as required by the federal No Child Left Behind Law.** Sequoyah met it with 94 percent proficiency levels. There are opportunities to boost scores in minority, ESOL, and special needs populations, a challenge faced by most schools across the

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nation. The achievement goal increases next year for Sequoyah and all other schools that met the AYP goal. Sequoyah has been proactive in acquiring materials to meet and exceed further challenges in this area. Any school that fails to meet AYP for two years will receive hands-on management by the state including increased reporting and documentation structure.

**Sequoyah's first grade teaching team presented goals through year-end** including: book writing and Authors' Tea, reading and writing testing, math skill-boosting, field-day on May 25 and their continued goals of communication through a monthly newsletter.

**Kathleen McInnis expressed thanks for everyone's efforts to initiate the recess quiet area.** After a trial period, Sequoyah staff believes the quiet area would benefit from parent volunteers monitoring responsible play within the area from 12:00-1:00 each day. The quiet area is "on sabbatical" until sufficient support is in place. Some items that have been popular are coloring books, Mr. Potato Head, checkers, Connect Four and games that have few pieces and are easy to pack up when recess is over.

**Lorie Craig, Treasurer, said the PTA has a \$17,658.43 balance,** with income and expenses still coming for year-end. Lorie estimated that the PTA will end the school year with approximately \$7,700. Expressing options to grant teacher wish-list items or carry the surplus over for 2005-06, two motions passed to fund each grade \$500 and to carry \$4,700 to begin the new school year.

**The draft 2005-06 budget was presented and will be finalized at the June PTA meeting.** All committees were encouraged to review the budget, submit any income and expense receipts, examine foreseeable needs for the new school year, and give Lorie updates ASAP.

A motion to fund the recess quiet area \$200 passed. The PTA teacher appreciation budget increased \$400 for 2005-06. In addition, volunteer coordination funding will in-

crease \$150-350.

**Sue Martin, Directory/Handbook Chair,** said Sequoyah will pursue using a supplier, called Advance Placements, to facilitate production and advertising for the 2005-06 student directory/handbook. Advance Placements will also work with other schools in the Magruder Cluster to maximize advertising circulation and minimize production costs. The company will also contact all current advertisers in the Sequoyah directory and calendar. Sequoyah has editorial approval rights to ads and information published in the handbook and all listed families' information will be used by the company only to produce the handbook, not to sell or circulate marketing lists.

**Andrea Troutner, Nominating Committee Chair,** reported official nominations for the following two-year PTA positions:

**Jeff Freedman; Treasurer**

**Michelle Hicks; VP Fundraising**

**Jean Sommerville; Corresponding Secretary**

In the absence of additional candidates from the floor, a motion was made, seconded, and was passed unanimously to elect these individuals to their new posts. Andrea Troutner will continue as 1<sup>st</sup> VP/Programs and Pat Chapin will continue as President through the 2005-06 school year. Installation of the new officers will occur at the June 7 PTA meeting. Many thanks were expressed to all who have come forward to support the PTA.

**Tam Miller, Book Fair Co-Chair, thanked the many volunteers and evening readers who assisted during the April book fair.**

Pat Chapin, reporting for Martha Schaerr, Sequoyah delegate to the MCCPTA, said April's motions passed. Two resolutions addressed improving the PE program to increase physical activity during the school day in response to recent research results about childhood obesity. The third addressed the need to review the causes of grade differences for African American and Hispanic children. The

**Actas de la Reunión de la PTA, 3 de Mayo de 2005 7:30 p.m.**

**Asistencia:** Yati Moeller, Tina Webb, Bill Chapin, Tam Miller, Louise Lighter, Magda Tranamil, Kathleen McInnis, Karen Al-Faleh, Joyce Snoots, Geeta Mishra, Sherry Proctor, Kim Palmer, David Dennison, Sue Martin, Lori Rowe, Marissa Bailey, David Baker, Michelle Hicks, Sarah Hochuli, Andrea Troutner, Pat Chapin, Bobbi Jasper, Jeff Freedman, Lori Craig, Nellie Ross.

**Pat Chapin, Presidenta** dió la bienvenida a todos y agradeció a aquellos que asistieron a la reunión de padres de la 7 p.m.. Solamente 4 personas vinieron a la discusión abierta de las 7:00, la PTA continuará evaluando la utilidad de una discusión antecediendo la reunión- quizás eligiendo un tópico con anticipación, agenda, discursante u otro formato.

¡Agradecimientos fueron expresados a **Laurie Sweeney, Presidenta de Edificio y Parque y al equipo de Aaron Hill por encabezar un entusiasmado grupo de voluntarios** durante el extensivo planeamiento y la generosa ejecución del proyecto de embellecimiento de Sequoyah! Fué un esfuerzo tremendo, hecho por aproximadamente 60 miembros de la comunidad que participaron, ahorrándole a la escuela aproximadamente entre \$8 y 10,000 en diseño de parqueización y horas de trabajo.

**Lisa Sieg y Tam Miller** fueron reconocidas por los resultados sobresalientes durante la Feria del Libro de Primavera. ¡El gran apoyo de los padres, estudiantes y voluntarios trajo más ganancias de lo esperado!

**Andrea Dumas, Martha Schaerr** y su equipo de padres voluntarios sacaron a flote el segundo show de talento anual- ¡con gran participación estudiantil y familiar! Aún teniendo un lugar más grande en Redland Middle School, la noche tuvo mucha gente de pie. Los niños trabajaron extraordinariamente duro para dar el mejor Show de Talento de Sequoyah.

Pat Chapin explicó que el Club de Ajedrez continuará explorando la posibilidad de la oportunidad de un campamento veraniego para el 2006. Aunque no haya planes para un Campamento de Ajedrez en Sequoyah este verano, la compañía de ajedrez todavía tiene lugares libres en su ubicación en Gaithersburg, y planeamos de nuevo tener un Club de Ajedrez para el otoño en Sequoyah. Otras novedades, también dijo que la PTA patrocinará un bus de actividades, si actividades para después de clases, son desarrolladas por los maestros o la PTA para el otoño, que no hay ningún voluntario todavía para presidir el comité tan importante de Recursos Familiares, y que ella distribuyó un panfleto acerca del evento que se realizará el 9 de Mayo donde un discursante de PEP se dirigirá a las familias de Sequoyah acerca de crianza y disciplina positiva.

**Sequoyah ha tenido tanto éxito con el Programa Conquistas Sueños** que un programa colectivo, incluyendo todas las

escuelas primarias e intermediarias que pertenecen a la escuela secundaria Magruder, será planeado para el otoño.

**La caja de sugerencias de la PTA** que está localizada en la oficina principal ha obtenido algunas observaciones interesantes. Además de la señal de pare en el estacionamiento, que en este momento está funcionando, **la Dra. Jasper** declaró que una nueva sugerencia en proveer información adicional en como leer e interpretar las notas de los exámenes estandarizados será respondida muy pronto.

Las actas de la reunión de la PTA de Abril fueron aprobadas como se imprimieron en la gazeta de Mayo.

**Andrea Troutner, 1° Vicepresidenta de Programas**, destacó que las posiciones de liderazgo disponibles para el año escolar de 2005-06. En este momento cuatro posiciones están vacantes, por favor considere aceptar una de las posiciones para ayudar a que la PTA apoye a Sequoyah y ultimamente, a nuestros preciados niños.

**Andrea** fomenta a los oficiales salientes y a los presidentes a reunirse para intercambiar ideas y pasar información valiosa a los nuevos voluntarios que toman sus posiciones.

**Sarah Hochuli, 2° Vicepresidenta de Recaudo de Fondos, dijo que los últimos recaudos han sido exitosos.** **Marissa Bailey** mencionó que el recaudo de fondos de dulces todavía está en progreso (\$1 por dulce para beneficio de la PTA, disponibles en funciones de la escuela y a individuos).

**La Dra. Jasper dijo que Sequoyah ha adquirido su medida Anual de Progreso durante el Año (en inglés Annual Yearly Progress), requerido por la Ley Federal No Niño Dejado Atrás.** Sequoyah alcanzó el 94 por ciento en niveles de proficiencia. Hay oportunidades de estimular las notas en minorías, ESOL, y las poblaciones de necesidades especiales, un desafío afrontado por la mayoría de las escuelas en la nación. La meta de logro incrementa el año que viene para Sequoyah y otras escuelas que alcanzaron la meta de AYP. Sequoyah ha sido proactiva en adquirir materiales para alcanzar y exceder desafíos futuros en esta área. Cualquier escuela que falle en alcanzar el AYP por dos años recibirá administración impuesta por el estado incluyendo aumento en estructura de reportes y documentación.

**El equipo de primer grado de Sequoyah presentó metas hasta el fin del año** incluyendo: escritura de libros y Té con Autores, evaluación de lectura y escritura, estímulo de habilidades en matemáticas, día de actividades el 25 de Mayo y su continuadas metas de comunicación mediante una gazetilla mensual.

**Kathleen McInnis expresó agradecimientos por los esfuerzos**

**que todos pusieron para iniciar el área silenciosa de recreo.** Después de un tiempo de prueba, el personal de Sequoyah cree que el área silenciosa se beneficiaría de tener padres voluntarios monitoreando el juego responsable dentro del área de 12:00 a 1:00 cada día. El área silenciosa "se está tomando un sabático" hasta que apoyo suficiente esté puesto en lugar. Algunos ítems que han sido populares son libros para colorear, la Cabeza del Señor Papa (en inglés Mr. Potato Head), juego de damas, Conectar Cuatro y juegos que tienen pocas piezas para guardar cuando el recreo termina.

**Lorie Craig, Tesorera, dijo que la PTA tiene un balance de \$17,658.43,** con entradas y expensas todavía por venir hasta el fin del año. Lorie estimó que la PTA terminará el año escolar con aproximadamente \$7,700. Expresando opciones de conceder los ítems de las listas de deseos de los maestros o trasladar el superávit para el 2005-06, dos mociones pasaron para otorgarles fondos de \$500 a cada grado y trasladar \$4,700 para comenzar el nuevo año escolar.

**La versión preliminar del presupuesto 2005-06 fué presentada y será finalizada para la reunión de la PTA en Junio.** Se fomentó que todos los comités revisaran el presupuesto, sometieran sus ganancias y recibos de expensas, examinaran las posibles necesidades para el nuevo año escolar, y pusieran al día a Lorie lo antes posible.

Una moción para otorgar fondos al área silenciosa de \$200 fué pasada. El presupuesto para apreciación al los maestros de la PTA fue incrementado \$400 para el 2005-06. Además, los fondos para coordinación de voluntarios aumentará \$150-350.

**Sue Martin, Presidenta de Guía Telefónica/Manual,** dijo que Sequoyah seguirá usando un proveedor llamado Advance Placements, para facilitar la producción y promoción para el 2005-06 de la guía telefónica estudiantil/manual. Advance Placements también trabajará con otras escuelas del grupo de Magruder para maximar la promoción, circulación y minimar los costos de producción. La compañía también contactará a todos los anunciantes corrientes que están en la guía y el almanaque. Sequoyah tiene aprobado los derechos editoriales de anuncios e información publicada en el manual y toda la información de las familias listadas, que será usada por la compañía solamente para producir el manual y no para vender o circular listas de mercadeo.

**Andrea Troutner, Nominada Presidenta de Comité** reportó las nominaciones oficiales para las posiciones de dos años de la PTA siguientes:

**Jeff Freedman; Tesorero**

**Michelle Hicks; Vicepresidenta de Recaudo de Fondos**

**Jean Sommerville; Secretaria de Correspondencia**

En ausencia de candidatos adicionales del piso, se hizo una moción, se secundó y fué pasada con unanimidad para elegir a estos individuos para sus nuevas posiciones. Andrea Troutner continuará como 1° Vicepresidenta de Programas y Pat Chapin continuará com Presidenta a través del año escolar 2005-06. La Insta-

lación de los nuevos oficiales ocurrirá en la reunión de la PTA el 7 de Junio. Agradecimientos fueron expresados a todos aquellos que vinieron a apoyar a la PTA.

**Tam Miller, Presidenta de la Feria del Libro, agradeció a los numerosos voluntarios y lectores que asistieron durante la Feria del Libro de Abril.**

Pat Chapin, informó de parte de Martha Schaerr, Delegada de Sequoyah de la MCCPTA, que las mociones de Abril fueron pasadas. Dos resoluciones dirigidas a mejorar el programa de Educación Física, para aumentar la actividad física durante el día escolar en respuesta a los recientes resultados de estudios acerca de obesidad en la niñez. La tercera fué dirigida a la necesidad de revisar las causas de las diferencias en grados en los niños Americanos Africanos y los Hispanos. La más reciente resolución puesta en marcha por la MCCPTA para considerar las preocupaciones de los cambios en la forma en que el aporte de la comunidad es recibido acerca de una variedad de tópicos afectando la educación de nuestros niños. (por ej. cambios de límites, nuevas ubicaciones de escuelas, etc.) Hay un esfuerzo hecho por la Junta de las Escuelas para cambiar varias "normas" (las cuales necesitan notificaciones a la comunidad y recibimiento de aporte público antes de que sean implementadas o cambiadas) a "regulaciones" (las cuales son implementadas a la discreción del Superintendente de las Escuelas, que tiene responsabilidad fiscal). Mientras que MCCPTA sienta que estos cambios son propuestos con la intención de perfeccionar algunas de las normas y procedimientos-sin intenciones de no permitir el aporte público- la MCCPTA nos ha pedido que apoyemos una resolución pidiendo más tiempo para revisar todas las ramificaciones de estos cambios propuestos. Una moción fué hecha y aprobada para apoyar los esfuerzos de la MCCPTA mandando la carta recomendada pidiendo por más tiempo para revisar. (nota editorial: Martha Schaerr ya ha mandado la carta de parte de la PTA de Sequoyah)

David Dennison ofreció hacer un bosquejo de una carta que será revisada por la PTA para ser mandada a la MCCPTA de parte de la PTA de Sequoyah para solicitar más tiempo para que la PTA pueda considerar, en su total, los impactos de los cambios y mociones solicitados. La mayoría de las solicitudes y opiniones de la MCCPTA requieren voto al mismo tiempo que los asuntos son presentados; los miembros solicitan más tiempo para investigar los asuntos presentados.

Sue Martin reflejó interés en proseguir con algunas de las sugerencias hechas en la reunión de padres del 21 de Marzo. Formas de reclutar e incluir nuevos miembros y discutir asuntos abiertos podrían incluir:

30 minutos antes de la reunión de la PTA para discusión de un tópico específico o un tiempo social.

Discusión en el café de la Directora en la mañana.

Forum abierto cuatrimestral

Reunirse en la casa de alguien

Se levanta la sesión a las 9:25 p.m. Aproximadamente 25 personas asistieron a la reunión. Sometida repetuosamente por Nellie Ross, Secretaria de Registro.

**Sequoyah PTA Meeting**  
**Tuesday, June 7, 2005**  
**Time/Place: 7:30 p.m. in Sequoyah's Media Center**

**AGENDA (Draft)**

Welcome and Introductions

President's Report

Secretary's Report – Approval of the May 05 Minutes

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President's Report (Programs)

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President's Report (Fundraising)

Principal's Report (will be given by Sarah Sirgo)

- School improvement progress
- Class distribution

Staff Comments

- Ms. McGinnis

Treasurer's Report

- Budget discussion (Wish lists, ESOL?, 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Farewell?)
- Vote for approval of new budget for 2005-06 school year

Committees:

- Calendar/Directory—Sue Martin
- Nominating Committee—Andrea Troutner
  - Officer Thank You's
  - Installation of new officers

Unfinished Business

- Playground options
- Delegate Update—Martha Schaerr

New Business