



PARENT REPRESENTATIVE ORGANIZATION

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CDS PRO MEETING NOTES **January 10, 2024**

Thank you to all the parent volunteers who joined us for our first PRO meeting of 2024 and had the added opportunity to engage with Dr. Rene Hackney, CDS Director of Parent Education, during her engaging presentation about screen time guidelines and our children. We've attached a link to her upcoming virtual workshops below.

And, while we continue to work Full STEAM Ahead toward our [Annual Fund](#) goal, the CDS community can also look forward to the many exciting PRO events coming up this spring. We hope to see you there, as well as at our next PRO Meeting on February 7, 2024!

Thanks,

Lindsay Hauss & Dima Najjar

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Key Dates

- **January 15:** NO SCHOOL, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- **January 16:** Staff Appreciation Breakfast, weather permitting (alternate date January 17 if inclement weather)
- **January 25:** 9 a.m. Auction Interest Meeting
- **February 5:** Teacher Workday
- **February 19:** NO SCHOOL, President's Day
- **April 15 - 26:** Big Dig Events
- **April 16:** Book Club Discussion, *Mindset* by Carol Dweck
- **May 4:** Spring Fair
- **DEAR:** Drop Everything and Read (Date TBD)
- **May 31:** End of the Year Art Show and Party

Guest Speaker

Dr. Rene Hackney, *CDS Director of Parent Education*, spoke regarding Screen Time Guidelines and Insight. Please review her [workshop schedule](#) for details on her upcoming lectures, including an eight week focus Positive Discipline. The next virtual workshop with Dr. Rene is on January 25th at 8 P.M. on "Children's Anxiety and Fears." [Parenting Resources Information](#)

Committee Updates

PHILANTHROPY

NAPKIN NETWORK: Starting now, there is an ongoing collection of items for this organization through the end of the year. Families can donate the following items:

- Diapers or Pull Ups (packages may be opened, just place diapers inside a Ziploc bag and label it with size. Larger sizes are more in demand.)
 - Wipes (unopened)
 - Formula (unopened and unexpired)
 - Drop off donations at carpool
- Co-Chairs: Jamie Hurwitz (hurwitz.jamie@gmail.com), Jess Farrell (jesparfven@gmail.com), and Meg Griffin (meggriffin212@gmail.com)

STAFF APPRECIATION

- Special breakfast will be provided Tuesday, January 16. [Please sign up here to volunteer.](#)
- Co-Chairs: Nicole Sandoz (nikkisandoz@gmail.com) and Lindsay Tharpe (lindsay.tharpe@gmail.com)

YEARBOOK

- Efforts are ongoing to prepare this year's yearbook and thank you to all the classroom parents helping to select candid photos.

GRADE AMBASSADORS

- Teacher workday activities are in progress. Grade Ambassadors will share details as they become available.

FUNDRAISING

Active recruitment of committee co-chairs is currently open. The new co-chairs will transition into their positions right away, as well as work alongside Co-Chair Sarah Imhoff at the conclusion of her maternity leave.

- Please connect with Dima and Lindsay to express interest in coordinating pizza lunches and other activities to help raise funds for exciting upcoming events such as Big Dig and Spring Fair.
- **Minted Holiday Cards:** SAVE 20% and [Minted](#) donates 15% to CDS. Enter the promo code FUNDRAISECOUNTRYDAY at checkout!
- **Additional Fundraising Opportunities:**
 - **Mabel's Labels:** Go to [Mabel's Labels](#) and type in Country Day School (McLean) in the search bar. Remember to label every glove/hat/scarf!
 - **Giant:** Get all your groceries with the best bag! Every time you purchase the \$2.50 reusable Community Bag at our designated Giant Food during the month of November, they contribute \$1 to benefit CDS. The Designated Giant is 1454 Chain Bridge Road in McLean.

SPRING FAIR

- The Spring Fair subcommittee appointments are complete and planning is underway! A large number of volunteers will be needed on the event date (May 4).
- Please reach out to Heather (heather.blanda@gmail.com) and Angela (anglee201@gmail.com) to inquire about volunteer opportunities.

SOCIAL

The End of Year Art Show and Party (May 31) is in its planning phase.

- New this year: Event attendance will be complimentary, as a thank you to CDS parents for all your support this year!
- Please reach out to the co-chairs to inquire about volunteer opportunities.

If you have ideas/local ties to potential venues for next year's Holiday Party, please reach out to Co-Chairs Irina Bassiur (irinabassiur@gmail.com), Stephanie Fay (stephecon@gmail.com), and Samantha Ofori (sccalloway@gmail.com).

AUCTION COMMITTEE

Parents interested in coordinating next year's auction, please plan to attend the Auction Interest meeting January 25 at 9 a.m. Next year marks CDS's 60th Anniversary, and our special auction event will require several enthusiastic and dedicated parents.