



PARENT REPRESENTATIVE ORGANIZATION

Where nature and nurture come together to offer excellence in early childhood education.

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CDS PRO MEETING NOTES

February 7, 2024

Thank you to all the parent volunteers who joined us for our second PRO meeting of 2024. We are excited to announce the formation of the 2025 Auction & Gala Committee led by co-chairs Kolby DeHart and Samantha Ofori. Event date is still TBD, but planned for late February 2025! Please complete [this form](#) if you are interested in volunteering with the Auction Committee or donating an item/experience.

Next month we are going to do a trial and hold the PRO meeting at 9 am on Wednesday, March 6th to see if a daytime meeting allows more CDS parents the opportunity to attend. You can [RSVP to the meeting here](#). We hope to see you in March!

Thanks,

Lindsay Hauss & Dima Najjar

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Key Dates

- **February 19:** President's Day, School Closed
- **February 29:** DEAR – Drop Everything and Read and Pajama Day
- **March 4-5:** Parent-Teacher Conferences, No Classes
- **March 6:** PRO Meeting at 9 a.m.
- **March 25-April 5:** Spring Break

- **April 13-26:** Big Dig Events
- **April 16:** Book Club, [Mindset](#) by Carol Dweck at 9:15 am, CDS Barn
- **May 4:** Spring Fair
- **May 31:** End of the Year Party

Committee Updates

BIG DIG

- CDS is looking forward to welcoming back parents to participate in the annual Big Dig in April! Opportunities to volunteer in your child's classroom and assist the children with planting will be available the weeks of April 15th or April 22nd. **Each class is allowed five parents to participate in the class planting.** To make volunteering equitable, all class SignUp Geniuses will be sent via email on March 6th simultaneously.
- The Big Dig Committee is hoping to organize a fundraiser for Saturday April 13th. More details will be provided once the fundraiser is confirmed.

- Co-Chairs: Mallory DeBenedetto (mallorydeben@gmail.com), Caroline Crosby (carolinekcrosby@gmail.com), and Zahra Malik (malik.zahra@gmail.com)

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
- SHARE Food Drive will be kicking off March 11th for the two weeks leading up to Spring Break. A list of most needed items will be forthcoming next week.
- Co-Chairs: Jamie Hurwitz (hurwitz.jamie@gmail.com), Jess Farrell (jesparfven@gmail.com), and Meg Griffin (meggriffin212@gmail.com)

STAFF APPRECIATION

- Valentine’s Goodies will be provided to the staff on Thursday, February 15th. [Please sign up here to volunteer for any future events.](#)
- Co-Chairs: Nicole Sandoz (nikkisandoz@gmail.com) and Lindsay Scott (lindsay.tharpe@gmail.com)

SPRING FAIR

- The Spring Fair subcommittee appointments are complete and planning is underway! Over 100 volunteers will be needed on the event date (May 4), so please plan to sign up for a shift.
- Co-Chairs Heather Swietlik (heather.blanda@gmail.com) and Angela Lee Brown (anglee201@gmail.com)

SOCIAL

- The End of Year Art Show and Party (May 31) is in its planning phase. Event attendance will be complimentary (no ticket purchase required), as a thank you to CDS parents for all your support this year!
- Co-Chairs: Irina Bassiur (irinabassiur@gmail.com), Stephanie Fay (stephecon@gmail.com), and Samantha Ofori (sccalloway@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.
- Co-Chairs: Lindley Thornbug (lindleythornbug@gmail.com), Elizabeth McIntyre (elizabeth.krabill@gmail.com), and Cynthia Cameron (ckheilpern@gmail.com)

AGE-LEVEL AMBASSADORS

- Future events are being planned. Ambassadors will share details as they become available.
- For any 3s, 4s, or Kindergarten students, Golden Boots is offering its soccer program again this spring! The program will be Sundays, 4:30-5:30 p.m. outdoors at the Langley School from April 7 to May 19 (7 weeks). For more information, [please click here](#).
- Register [here](#). Follow the prompts to set up a household account, if necessary. Choose “Lil’ Boots Playgroups - Spring 2024” from the first drop-down menu, then the appropriate CDS group from the second drop-down.

- Contact Golden Boots in the office if you have any questions about the program or schedule: 703-287-0088 or info@goldenbootsoccer.com.

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 Cards:** SAVE 20% and [Minted](#) donates 15% to CDS. Enter the promo code FUNDRAISECOUNTRYDAY at checkout!
- **Additional Fundraising Opportunity:**
 - 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! The school has received over \$150 in commission from your purchases thus far this year!