



Newport Mill Middle School PTSA
11311 Newport Mill Road
Kensington, MD 20895

Join/Renew your membership of the PTSA here:

<https://nmms.new.memberhub.store/>

NMMS PTSA General Membership Meeting

February 10, 2021

Welcome

Meeting called to order at 7:05pm

COVID 19 Presentation

COVID-19, The History of Vaccines and Public Health Today by Dr. Melissa Clarke, MD.

Recording available on the NMMS PTSA website More information at

<https://www.drmelissaclarke.com/>

Ms Tsonis Updates

Select groups beginning March 1, metric contingent. Starting March 15, the general population will be phased in over 6 weeks.

When schools will be open?: LFI and 6th graders will come in starting March 15 and no later than April 6th. We have approximately 8 LFI students and 73 6th graders that have elected to come back at the moment. We are also looking at which staff will be coming back. We will be trying to keep the actual teacher with the students, but teaching virtually on the Chromebook. However, not all the staff will be coming back, so we may not be able to do that 100%. We'll see how much simultaneous teaching we can do. Students want to have some kind of connection with their teachers and so we'll be seeing how we can focus on doing that. The 'Support' model has a teacher working on a Chromebook and the students in the classroom, also on Chromebooks. The difference is that they can interact with the students in the classroom if the students are there.

The final plan will be released approximately February 27th. The county said the staff to students ratio will be 12 students to 1 teacher. In some cases Newport classrooms are too small for 12, socially distanced, so they will have to be spread to 2 classrooms.

There will be a virtual orientation before March 15th. All of the staff will be trained this Friday to talk about some of the concerns over PPE, cleaning, etc. to go over these things. The school has the necessary PPE and cleaning supplies, masks for children, if needed. The Building services team is being trained on cleaning and disinfecting.

Parents should email the admin and counseling team if you originally requested to stay home and now want to come into school. It will be considered a request and the school will review. MCPS will not be putting out another survey. Kids will be walked into and out of school with a teacher so they can maintain social distancing. Lunches will be in the classroom. Kids may change classrooms since we have a smaller number of students coming back initially. If more kids come back, this may end up being limited and kids may have to stay in the same classrooms all day. Weather permitting, some PE teaching may occur outside. There will be no parent volunteers permitted for now.

There will be virtual outdoor ed held at some point this school year, after March 15th.

5th grade outreach: Ms Butler and Ms Cole have started the registration process. February 25th virtual meeting for 5th grade parents. Virtual video in April. 5th grade teachers meeting next Wednesday with their kids to do their registrations and course requests.

Fundraising Update

Five Guys Night for the Newport PTSA will be on February 25th 5pm - 9pm

Next Meeting March 9th.

Meeting adjourned at 8:37pm