

**Takoma Park Middle School Parent Teacher Association
Minutes of October 13, 2015 - General Membership Meeting
TPMS Cafeteria 7:00 – 8:30 pm**

General membership meeting was called to order by Lisa Finkelstein, PTA Vice President, at 7 pm.

Agenda Addenda Nothing was added to the meeting, but Lisa announced that the order of the items would be changed.

Principal's Report

Ms. Deeny reported on recent and upcoming school events. The Walk to School Day and History Makers Assembly were both a success. Recently a South African Delegation of Educators visited TPMS to see how the school implements special education instruction and policies. Ms. Spera, TPMS art teacher, was recognized at the First Lady of Maryland's Delegates Gallery. Next week is cyber-citizenship week, and there will be lessons during TAP. The November assembly will feature writer Kwame Alexander.

Feasibility Study The MCPS project manager Ray Marhamati and two representatives from architectural firm Smolen, Emr, and Ilkovitch (SEI) gave an overview of needs for the TPMS expansion and presented the two top concepts. These concepts will be presented to the superintendant and the board of education within a couple of months, and then will be budgeted and sent to the county council. Once the budget is approved (by May of 2016), the timeline is about 1.5 years for design and 1.5 years for construction.

PTA Updates

- Lisa reported that Columbus Day Open House was a success. The PTA was represented by Shruti Bhatnagar, PTA President who received a lot of positive feedback on the PTA by parents.
- International Night is scheduled for Nov. 19. This annual event needs coordinators and volunteers. Please contact Shruti Bhatnagar or Mary Hanisco if you can help coordinate.
- The Blue Devil Appeal has started. Look for letters in the mail and please donate.
- The school's unique link on the Amazon site has already raised about \$700 this year. Please remember to use it when ordering from Amazon.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Submitted & Signed By:

Mary Hanisco, Secretary _____

Final Minutes Approved by the PTA President:

Shruti Bhatnagar _____