

PTA Meeting Minutes: 29 June 2020

Fall Teacher Assignments

Mr. Burns summarized the teacher / grade assignments, including the exciting news that RCV was able to secure 3 teachers for 1st grade! This means Ms. Maloy is able to return to RCV (moving to 3rd Grade), and also means our specialists (art, music, PE teachers) will be restored to full time status at RCV! Hooray!!!

Teachers (and approximate class sizes) for each grade are listed below:

Kindergarten:	Anspach	Pearce	Tastet
1st Grade (~17 kids / class):	Silverbook	Chin	Petrucelli
2nd Grade (~23 kids / class)*:	Molina	Connelly	Zhu
3rd Grade (~20 kids / class):	Iraheta	Ferrick	Maloy
4th Grade (~26 kids / class):	Berman	Rush-Smith	Larkin
5th Grade (~24 kids / class):	Howard	Miller	McNiece

* Reading initiative teacher Ms. Pomponi will help teach 2nd Grade literacy (normally she would also help teach 1st Grade literacy, but not this year due to the very small 1st Grade class size)

RCV will be getting increased ESOL support – both Mrs. Kallinock & Mr. Behrens will be teaching ESOL this year. We were also assigned 1.5 teachers to Instrumental Music (Mrs. Branch + a newcomer).

Compacted math is going to happen in the fall. It will be taught by Mrs. Winnokur for 4th/5th grade, and by one of the 5th grade teachers (TBD) for 5th/6th grade.

This year, a few grades tried departmentalization / switching kids between different teachers based on subject matter. Next year, 1st Grade will switch back to single teacher format due to the likelihood of online learning – they’ll have a very small class size anyway, so engagement should be relatively easy. 5th Grade is still discussing whether or not to departmentalize.

Due to the likelihood of online learning, RCV and other MCPS schools will be switching to Eureka math and Benchmark reading curricula next year.

Summer Classes

Mr. Burns gave an update on what to expect for summer classes. Mrs. Polsinelli (RCV’s staff development teacher) is the lead teacher organizing the summer classes for rising 1st through 5th graders. So far 158 kids have signed up! Enough kids have registered that they’ll be able to run every type of class for every grade, but kids are welcome to continue registering until tomorrow, June 30th. Sign up using the google form: <https://forms.gle/q3kAUjHcFnGKDhKz7>

At this point, the summer class sessions & teachers will be:

	(Rising Grade)				
Subject	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th
Reading	Tastet	Connelly	Iraheta	Rush-Smith	Howard
Math	Tastet	Connelly	Iraheta	Rush-Smith	Howard
Spanish	Molina & Connelly				

	(Rising Grade)				
Subject	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th
Coding	RCV's new media specialist & Howard				
Authors	Rush-Smith				
Yoga	Iraheta				

The summer Reading & Math classes will cover holes in what wasn't covered in marking period 4.

Classes will start July 13th and run for 3 weeks. Schedule is still being finalized. At this time it is probably going to be:

- Reading: 9-9:50AM
- Math: 10-10:50AM
- Enrichment: 11-11:50AM or 1-1:50PM
- Spanish: 2-2:50PM

For incoming kindergarteners, MCPS has prepared a Jump Start program for parents to do from home, and Mr. Burns was under the impression that MCPS would be sending info to incoming Kindergarten parents soon. *(See this link for starters:*

https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/uploadedFiles/departments/earlychildhood/kindergarten/0828.19_GettingReadyforKindergarten_PARENTGUIDE.pdf)

Other Items:

There was discussion about the importance of trying to find ways to reduce the social-emotional learning gap for incoming kindergarten students, who learn so much through physical interaction. Reducing these and other types of learning gaps will be a focus of the instructional leadership team over the summer. Mr. Burns suggested RCV might be able to release the incoming kindergarten class assignments earlier than usual to allow kindergarten families to connect in advance of the school year.

The PTA will also be holding Covid planning meetings over the summer to discuss how to adapt our activities for the upcoming year (for example, how to safely host summer playdates for incoming kindergarteners, how to identify alternatives to the "normal" social events, assemblies, etc).

All RCV parents, new and old, are welcome join in these planning meetings – we really need the hive mind mentality to brainstorm solutions! Drop in to whichever meetings you're able to attend – don't feel pressured to attend them all!

Summertime "Covid Planning" Meeting Schedule (held online every 2 weeks started July 7th):

- Tuesday, July 7th, 7-8PM
- Tuesday, July 21st, 7-8PM
- Tuesday, August 4th, 7-8PM
- Tuesday, August 18th, 7-8PM

(Meeting invites will be posted on the RCV PTA listserv & Facebook as the time nears)

THANK YOU to Mr. Burns & Ms. Carr for their phenomenal support of our kids over the years!!!! We wish them all the best!!!!