

GENERAL BODY MEETING MINUTES
Seaton Elementary School Parent Teacher Organization
October 15, 2025

PTO Updates

School and PTO Events

- 10/17 Bike to school day (8am start at Seaton)
- 10/23 Dacha Family Happy Hour (5-8 pm)
- 11/12 Talent showcase (5:30-7 pm)
- 12/2 Giving Tuesday
- 12/3 PTO meeting (5:30-6:30 pm)
- 12/12 Winter Dance for 2nd - 5th grades (7-9 pm)

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

- 1/30 Science Fair (9-10:30 am)

Principal Updates

- Principal and Assistant Principal are here and available to help families - please reach out.
- School-wide Cape and I-Ready standardized testing results:
 - Overall growth in ELA and Math in SY 2024-2025 compared to prior year (3-5th grades).
 - Shout out to Ms. Fizer for spectacular growth in last year's 3rd grade math scores!
 - More students starting this school year at grade level compared to last year in both math and reading (K-5).
 - **Question: how does current performance compare to pre-pandemic performance?** [OSSE posts data publicly for all schools and historic years](#) back to 2015. For Seaton, only have access to student level data for 3 years.
- Modernization
 - Concept A had the most votes. SIT provided broader comments to make improvements to all designs (e.g., maintain existing garden, maintain entrance on Rhode Island, maximize outdoor space, privacy from 10th, create large gathering space). The designers will take this feedback in totality, and bring a new design back in January and invite feedback on the new design at that time.

- Advocating council to add classroom space to plan for growth and allow 3 additional upper grade classrooms. Advocating for maintaining grass over turf, and bus to swing space.
- Ledroit Park ANC commissioners supportive of a bus because they don't want to increase traffic to the neighborhood. They are also writing letters.
- Swing space:
 - Renovations to space and playground (\$14m)
 - Separate budget to redo fields around space (\$900k)
 - PTO, DPR, and DCPS coordinating across these two projects (this coordination was not a given – thank you to our representatives for pushing for this!).
 - Community meeting last week. Playground is prioritized over fields. Fencing to ensure access from school only, not from street.
 - Field renovation will happen once we're in the school – advocating to do it in a way that is the least disruptive as possible and potentially allow us to use the fields in the fall before starting the field updates. Also advocating for soccer, perhaps a mini pitch.
 - DC Water building is right next to playground. Advocating to push DC Water to update that building - it's decrepit. They've committed to putting a mural over it.
 - **Encourage families to share feedback directly with DCPS.** Primarily, we want space for a garden, grass over turf, security, privacy, shade.
 - **Call to action:** Write to your councilmember, Seaton's councilmember (Brooke Pinto), and the at-large councilmembers and tell them you support the bill Holding School Budgets Harmless During Modernizations Amendment to ensure our budget is maintained throughout the modernization. This will ensure we don't lose teachers and funding for other essential services.
 - Tubman lost enrollment during modernization, and budget was cut 9%.

Treasurer's Report

- Total unrestricted: \$52,230.77
- Total restricted: \$3,604.92
- In a great position for the start of the year
- **WE NEED VOLUNTEERS FOR THE FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE – PLEASE reach out to president.seatonpto@gmail.com if you're willing to help!**

Committee Updates

- Afterschool
 - Fall clubs: Dance, art, double dutch, chess, DC Way soccer are all underway
 - Winter clubs: will start week of January 26th. Will share what they are, sign up opportunities, when we're back from break.
 - Please share feedback, questions, comments to seatonptoenrichment@googlegroups.com
 - DC Way Day Off Camps: 10/9 and 10/10 were first pilot. Another coming up 11/3. If you have feedback, please share with Kat Matza.
- Events
 - We can only do this with parent volunteers – [please sign up](#) or find Anna Cavnar or Angela Parsons.
- Fundraising
 - No updates
- Family Relations
 - No updates
- Teacher appreciation
 - Next activity will be Halloween focused
 - Still need room parents! What it entails: asking teachers: do you need help? Do you need volunteers? Potentially: holiday gift organizing, teacher appreciation gifts. Get the teacher to fill out the favorite things form. Teacher appreciation also does gifts using PTO funds. **Current needs are in:**
 - PK3: Ms. McCan, Ms. Freedman, Ms. Nixon
 - K: Ms. Rodgers, Ms. Algarra
 - 2nd: Ms. Langston
 - 3rd: Ms. Perez
 - 4th: Ms. Werner
 - Ms. Wittig
 - Ms. Riddick
 - Ms. Luna
- Yearbook/T-shirts
 - No updates
- Ward 1 and 2 Education Council
 - Tuesday is next meeting. Focused on immigrant safety.
 - November 18 meeting: Focus on name of the middle school. Reach out to Anne Louise and join the meeting 11/18 if you have thoughts.

- So far Alma Thomas (Shaw Middle School teacher) has been suggested, and CM Nadeau has introduced a bill nominating Doris Tucker, the rest of the council has pushed for community input, and this meeting is that opportunity.
- People have also suggested renaming Seaton after the modernization.