

## 2023-34 Percy Priest Elementary PTO General Meeting Minutes, October 17, 2023

A regular meeting of the PPE PTO was held in the school library on October 17, 2023.

The meeting convened at 6:03pm. Dr. Young began by thanking everyone for coming and giving a special thanks to all of our amazing PPE teachers. He congratulated them on a great first quarter. He also commended the first Storyteller Series speaker, PPE mom Negar Ahmadi and her daughter, 5<sup>th</sup> grader Narya, who shared about Kurdish culture. He then introduced our guest presenters from the MNPS team, who provided a building update.

Providing a building update were David Proffitt, MNPS Executive Director Facilities, Maintenance, and Construction, Casey Megow, MNPS Director of Facility Planning and Construction and Aaron Simon, MNPS Project Manager. They shared a presentation on construction progress and plans. The presentation is attached here and will be posted to the PPE website. The following are building updates:

- We are still on schedule for opening the new building in Aug 2025. They will finish in time to allow for moving furniture and teacher's boxes into classrooms (all done by the construction team) so that teachers can get in to set up in advance of Sneak-a-Peak and the start of school.
- The contractor is American Constructors. They have a lot of experience in Nashville and Middle TN and with MNPS, and the project manager Zach Baldwin is a PPE Parent.
- Our old playground equipment will be recycled and used for other projects around town.
- Construction team will start traffic control on Priest Road and will be mindful of pickup and drop off times.
- Student egress from gym is available only for emergencies.
- Blasting/excavation will start in November with one blast per day after school hours. Two blasts per day will be the schedule in later November with one of them during school. Construction team will coordinate with the school, and everyone will be warned of timing. Neighbors and those in the school will hear and feel it, but sirens will go off once or twice before, followed by a loud boom and thud. In May 2024, blasts will be more frequent.
- Drilling for geothermal wells will go down 300 or 500ft. There will be 70-80 wells.
- The new building will boast a mural wall, and the café will have 4 serving lines with 380 seats.
- \$800k in PTO funded requests
- Current building will be demolished after the start of school, likely in Aug 2024.
- Weekly or monthly drone footage will be available for viewing. We will circulate to PPE community and neighborhood.
  - o There is potential for an interactive camera to be set up where anyone could log on and move camera. This was available at another site with a different contractor. Dr. Young will discuss with the team.
- Forest Hills work hours will be followed, starting at 7am (ending time needs to be); Saturday 7am-5pm; no Sunday or holidays.
- After a parent question, the team confirmed that the school grounds will be safe for the school day and Tiger Club after school. There may be more blasts after school, but nothing unsafe.
- An updated timeline will be coming once the construction team has more specific dates, and the PPE community will be updated in the Construction Corner section of our newsletter.
- Dr. Young reminded everyone that we will always prioritize current kids and current classes. We will not sacrifice these two years; they will be reliable
  - o For example, blasting and loud construction will be paused during testing
- The question was raised: How can we help liaison with non-PPE neighbors?
  - o Aaron Simon will continue talks with Mark Hill on the Forest Hills board
  - o Some ideas: we could encourage neighbors to join the PPE newsletter or otherwise subscribe to updates/cameras/drone footage.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 7:00pm.

Erin Kaiser  
Secretary, PPE PTO Exectuive Board