

# MINUTES

## College Gardens Elementary School PTA Minutes

**December 6, 2011**

The meeting was called to order by Jennifer Green, President at 7:04 p.m.

### **In attendance**

Jen Green, Eric Van Ryzin, Ron Hays, Jen Halper, Gegi Leeger, Linda Sankanung (board members) Absent: Nancy Paul

November Meeting Minutes approved by voice vote.

### **President's Report**

Thank you for coming. There is a Cultural Arts Assembly this Friday. Families and siblings are welcome.

### **Membership Report**

The President recognized and thanked Fred Moser for setting up the database for the directory. There are about 380 members. The directories were delivered to families through the oldest child at the school. Families receive only one copy. The Treasurer indicated the PTA will net about \$3,100 from membership fees and the PTA budgeted \$2,800.

### **VP of Communications Report**

The VP of Communications is including articles from Maryland and National PTA in the NewsFlash. If you have anything to put in the Flash please send to [info@cgespta.org](mailto:info@cgespta.org).

### **VP of Fundraising Report**

Community Dinner at CiCi Pizza contributed \$55. This probably covered printing of flyers. The PTA is interested in continuing to provide a variety dinner options for community dinner night. The next dinner is tomorrow night at California Tortilla. Lots of teachers will be there. California Tortilla will be contributing 25%. Austin Grill contributed 20% and the PTA received about \$220. January/February Mama Wok for Chinese New Year offer complimentary soup in addition to proceeds. Mid-February Bamboo Café. March at Hard Times Café. April Fontina Grill. May for Cinco de Maio at California Tortilla. May 20<sup>th</sup> Buffalo Wild Wings.

Linda is meeting with Kids First Swim Center about providing private swim party with some type of fundraising. Linda is interested in other ideas for fundraising. If you have ideas, please contact her.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Net number for book fair is \$3,400. The PTA is very happy with that. Scholastic is already paid. The PTA looks to have made the grocery budget for gift cards but only because sold last year's inventory. When we purchase new inventory, the budget numbers will change. Karen Hagan will be handling gift cards now. The PTA is still running negative on school supplies through escrows.

### **Secretary**

Thank you card received from Habitat for Humanity Team for the lunch provided by the PTA.

### **MCCPTA Reps**

Dr. Starr will speak about the operating budget tomorrow at Richard Montgomery High School. Next stop County Council for the capital budget. First Wednesday in January MCCPTA will have its operating budget night. Legislators, County Council, etc. attend. Resolution voted on having honors courses at the middle school level passed at the last MCCPTA meeting to allow for more differentiated instruction.

### **Principal's Report**

Welcome back to Stacey Rogovoy. Thank you to Ms. Bailor and Oehler for staff lounge.

Boundaries & Facilities Hearing was held November 14<sup>th</sup> and there was great turnout before the Board of Education by College Gardens families.

IB Board of Governors' visited on November 18<sup>th</sup> and it was a great visit. The Board was impressed with College Gardens.

Thank you to students, staff & parents for the cooperation in handling the minor emergency that occurred the morning of Wednesday, November 22<sup>nd</sup> involving the fan near the elevator.

Thank you to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Parents for providing the Staff Luncheon on December 6<sup>th</sup>.

The Board of Education approved the building of RM Elementary School #5. Capital Project: Projections indicate enrollment at College Gardens Elementary School will exceed capacity by more than

four classrooms throughout the six-year CIP planning period. Relocatable classrooms will be utilized until Richard Montgomery Cluster Elementary School #5 (Hungerford Park site) opens in August 2015. An FY 2013 appropriation is recommended in the Rehabilitation and Renovation of Closed Schools (RROCS) project to begin the architectural design for the opening of the new elementary school. The school is scheduled for completion in August 2015. In order for this project to be completed on schedule, county funding must be provided at the levels recommended in this CIP.

Projected enrollment:

HS	K	1	2	3	4	5
16	138	139	134	145	117	151

Dr. Joshua Starr, the superintendent of Montgomery County Public Schools, will present his proposed fiscal year 2013 operating budget for the school system during a speech on Wednesday, Dec. 7, at 7:30 p.m., in the auditorium of Richard Montgomery High School, 250 Richard Montgomery Dr. in Rockville. The event is open to the public.

Board of Education Operating Budget Hearings will be held at Carver Educational Services Center (CESC), 850 Hungerford Drive, Rockville, MD 20850 on

- Wednesday, January 11, 7:00 p.m.
- Wednesday, January 18, 7:00 p.m.

It is not yet known when the Richard Montgomery Cluster will be testifying.

Mold growth was found under the soffit at the main entrance. To remediate this condition, an urgent work order was submitted to the Indoor Air Quality (IAQ) Team carpenter to remove the moldy portion of the soffit. Once the soffit has been opened, the IAQ Team will be able to locate and eliminate the source of the moisture. After the source of the leak has been eliminated, the carpenter will replace the damaged plaster.

PTA closet items moved to 1<sup>st</sup> floor.

Playground shade no pictures yet now hoping for pictures by January.

Mr. Ewald will be requesting more portables exact number not yet known. Currently, the school has two teachers on carts and Ms. Meadows is teaching in a class smaller than she should have.

Winter weather is coming soon. Stay on top of school closures, delayed openings or early dismissals by subscribing to the MCPS QuickNotes email news service, Alert MCPS or Twitter. Learn more about weather decisions on the MCPS emergency information website.

College Gardens has a Chinese language instructor. Welcome Ms. Kou Jai. She began teaching Monday after Thanksgiving and has a 1 year visa. All classes will be taught once per month for 30 minutes. This may be increased, if possible.

Visitor Management System – implementation after winter break. It is installed onsite. It is cumbersome. Cross referencing license info with a national database. If no license, then type in name. All Montgomery county schools will eventually have this. Helps collect volunteer hours. Staff trained on how to handle someone who is not allowed into the school. Administrators will handle that. Only during school instructional day.

### Spirit Week

Dates to Remember:

Wednesday, December 7 Monthly Connect ED Test Message

Wednesday, December 7 College Gardens ES PTA Community Dinner; California Tortilla, Rockville, 5:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Wednesday, December 7 Superintendent Presents His Recommended Operating Budget; Richard Montgomery HS, 7:30 p.m.

Monday, December 26 Holiday; Christmas Day, Schools & Offices Closed

Tuesday, December 27-30 Winter Break; No School for Students & Teachers

Monday, January 2 Holiday; New Year's Day, Schools & Offices Closed

A parent voiced concerns about seeing the back double door near Ms Barrett's classroom always propped open during dismissal. There are also concerns about the back drop off area which is no parking zone but people are stopping to pick up from kindergarten classes. Mr. Ewald will monitor.

### **Assistant AP**

Thank you to Ms. Paul and her children for bringing lunch to the Habitat for Humanity Team. Thank PTA for approving budget for the NAACP dinner. Now Mrs. Rogovoy will be spending the PBIS budget. She will also work with the PTA about randomly selecting a teacher who joined the PTA to receive a premium parking space for a month.

### **Staff Liaison**

## Kindergarten

Just ended "Our Changing World" unit  
Started "Let's Find Out" unit

K and First grade are looking for volunteers for our Volunteer group to help students with letter identification and sounds. !!! If you can help out please do!!! Training Friday morning. If you can't make the Friday meeting, please see Ms. Gilbert.

## First Grade

The first graders are finishing up their unit on Observations, Investigation and YOU with presenting their projects on countries each student chose to research. We are now starting Cha-Cha- Cha Changes and will be looking for things that change.

The Maryland Science Center from Baltimore came and performed experiments with chemicals and sound. Some students were able to go up on the stage and help with the experiments. We also participated in the Health Fair on Friday, December 2nd.

In math we have worked on story problems and graphing. We are now learning composing and decomposing numbers, adding three numbers, and modeling numbers.

## Second Grade

Second grade just completed our unit, planet patrol where we learned about how individuals must work together to respect the natural resources of our planet. We will be having our second grade musical, the Lorax, presented for parents on December 21st at 2:40pm in the APR. They will also be presenting the musical for all grade levels that week. This musical directly relates to our central idea.

Next, we will be kicking off our new unit May the force be with you where the students will be learning about forces, simple machines, and technological innovations.

In math we continue to work on addition and subtraction up to 1000 using multiple strategies. In reading and writing we are focusing on folk tales and fairy tales and identifying character traits and the important messages within those stories.

## Third Grade

## Fourth Grade

We just wrapped up our "How do we get there" unit of inquiry by writing historical fiction pieces and researching influential events throughout history. Now we are moving

into our next unit which has students explore geographic features and their connection to culture.

In math, we are finishing up our factors and algebra unit and moving into decimals and fractions.

Students should continue studying their basic multiplication and division facts.

Our upcoming field trip is right after break on January 6th to Imagination Stage.

#### Fifth Grade

We just had a very successful field trip to the Library of Congress last week. Ask your child about the “LOC box”.

We are wrapping our geometry unit, specifically with solid figures. We are beginning decimals, percentages, and fractions sometime next week.

We are wrapping up our “Matter of Fact” unit of inquiry and kicking off our “So Who’s In Charge?” unit of inquiry, exploring the theme of “How we organize ourselves”. We will be studying different forms of government in the U.S. and internationally.

We have a chorus performance in house and a field trip to White Flint mall right before winter break – check notices from Ms. Meadows.

The Philadelphia trip for 5<sup>th</sup> grade is back on.

#### **Old Business**

The Staff lounge redecorating is moving forward and the furniture is in, and the committee is looking for artwork and magazine donations. There is only \$12 left of the budget.

Playground shade is in the drawing phase. The PTA board is looking for a real life picture of the structure.

The PTA directory is out. Thank you to Fred Mosher and Ms. Armi. She worked hard to ensure correct data and to distribute and label probably. Some errors still but everyone was a volunteer. PTA asking for a \$5 donation if family did not join PTA. The PTA is over budget by \$480 on the printing costs of the directory. The PTA printed less directories than last year. There are some extra directories in case a family did not receive one or if a family would like to purchase a second directory.

Recess equipment. Games for the indoor recess kits were purchased. Mostly games like Sorry, Trouble, Candy Land, Chutes and Ladders. \$150 was spent and Ms. Savage is ordering more balls, etc. for outside.

### **New Business**

PTA paper now in phone room in 219. Majority stuff kept in the closet is Cultural Heritage Night, Family movie night, and family fun night supplies. PTA needs help moving stuff. Mr. Ewald indicated the school will move it.

### **Parent's Forum**

Third grade students were informed that they could not play tag but boys can play football. The girls want to play tag. Mr. Ewald will discuss the issue with the students.

The PTA received an e-mail from a karate school. It is looking at having an afterschool program here. We don't have a PTA board position for activities coordinator so a parent volunteer is needed to sponsor the event, if it is to obtain the PTA discounted room rental amount. It was recommended to send out an announcement in the Flash soliciting parent volunteer and seeing interest. PTA may sponsor a health night to allow families to see various sport opportunities.

### **Announcements**

The PTA secretary has membership cards. Please see her for your card.

Motion to adjourn 8:24pm. Approved unanimously by voice vote.

### **Next Meeting**

January 3, 2012 at 7:00 p.m., APR