

MINUTES

College Gardens Elementary School PTA Minutes

March 6, 2012

The meeting was called to order by Jennifer Green, President at 7:05 p.m.

In attendance

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

Motion to correct Ron's name in the February minutes approved. February Meeting Minutes approved by voice vote.

President's Report

No report

Membership Report

No report

VP of Communications Report

The PTA home page was revised slightly so that people can now see icons and links to various ways to support the PTA and the school. There is also information about the yahoo group and facebook page.

VP of Fundraising Report

Small turnout for Bamboo Café community dinner and raised about \$30. Next Tuesday the community dinner at Hard Times Café. Take out is a possibility.

Treasurer's Report

The PTA paid sales tax for book fair. In addition, payment was made for another Cultural Arts Assembly, spilling ink from India.

Voice vote approves treasure report. The PTA is still looking for a treasurer for the next school year. Ron is willing to work with whoever might be interested.

Secretary

Thank you card from Faith Adler for staff luncheon was received.

MCCPTA Reps

Next round of hearings for operating budget April 10th, 11th and 12th. March 27th at Richard Montgomery next meeting. There will be a vendor fair too. Look at the MCCPTA website regarding signing up. March 31st is the deadline for membership awards. There was a discussion regarding teacher pension. People are encouraged to write in to the state legislature to keep pension payments at the state level and not the local government. MCCPTA is looking for a variety of nominations for awards and looking for board members and committee chairs at the county PTA level.

Principal's Report

Thank you to 1st grade families for a great luncheon.

Thank you to staff, parents and students for talent show.

CGES was approved to hire two new Chinese language teachers for next year for a total of 3 teachers to allow for more Chinese language for our students.

Stephen Chaikin, State's Attorney, one of three, Speaking on Internet Safety

Work closely with school security officers and police. Misuses of electronic mail and be a crime. Use and growth of technology has added to concerns. Get involved and monitor children's use of the internet. Set boundaries. Limited privacy can affect college admission and job searches. Need a trusted adult outside the immediate family. Predominately in middle schools and high schools.

Warning signs of cyberbullying

Sudden lack of interest in cell phone, e-mail, and other electronic media

Depression

Lack of interest in school

Role play – how to say no to drinking and drugs; how to say no to a drunk driver.

Read Montgomery County Police Department website. FAQs, hyperlinks. Montgomery County State's Attorney's Office – FAQs.

www.netSMARTZ.org – resource for internet safety.

Assistant Principal

Look at what other schools are doing – using it for media support, principal priorities, student materials

Fundraising ideas: activities and events: bingo

Thank you for Family Fun Night.

\$400,000 as 21st century grants for before or after school activities available in the county. CGES may apply for some of that money

Mrs. Rogovoy is still talking with Montgomery County Community College regarding the science fair. Ms. Harris will work on the science fair. The date will be moved.

Staff Liaison

Kindergarten

- Just ended the PYP unit – “Survival of the Fittest”. This week will be starting the PYP unit – “Our Community” where kindergartners will learn about different types of communities and community helpers.
- March 21st there is a field trip to George Washington Lisner Auditorium. The time has changed and teachers will send out information this week.
- In math kindergartners are learning about measurement and shapes.

First Grade

- First grade has been working on measurement using nonstandard units in math. We have just begun working more on relationships and properties in addition and subtraction through 20; fact families.
- We will also look at unknown numbers in an addition or subtract story problems with three whole numbers. During this unit we will be developing fluency for subtraction and addition within 10 while focusing on various strategies. Some of the strategies are counting on, making a ten and decomposing a number.
- We are completing the “Roam around” unit by presenting out project describing how to get from one place to another.
- Our new unit is called “Heal the World” has just begun. The central idea of the unit is we are responsible for our actions. We will explore this unit by looking at the modifications and adaptations of people and animals caused by a changing environment. Our summative project will include a model of how things change.

Second Grade

- Second grade just completed their All Good Writer’s Unit. We had wonderful parent support at our publishing party where all the students were able to show off their beautiful hardback creative books, then celebrate with their parents and the helpful fifth graders with a party in the classroom.
- Just a reminder that as an action piece from that unit their books will be on display for other students to read in the media center for one month.
- We are now working on our new unit As the World Turns learning about different cycles such as the measurement of time, behaviors of celestial objects, and life cycles. The students are anxiously waiting for our butterflies to arrive next month!

Third Grade

- Third grade is finishing up their Let's Get Energized PYP unit and will be moving into Order of the classes after MSA's.
- In math we will begin our unit on fractions, and in reading we will begin fantasy novels.
- We will be taking Reading MSA's next Monday and Tuesday and Math MSA's next Friday and the following Monday..

Fourth Grade

- We are subtly preparing for the MSAs which are next week. Reading MSAs are Monday and Tuesday March 12/13 and Math MSAs are March 16/19.
- We are publishing our fables this week that we wrote in class.
- In math, we are exploring elapsed time.
- Our fable performance "Bebop with Aesop" is this Friday, March 9th at 2:30 in the APR.

Fifth Grade

- Permission forms for Family Life and Disease Prevention are due this Friday.
- Family life begin March 12th.
- Disease prevention begins March 19th
- MSA Reading – March 14th and 15th.
- MSA Math – March 20th and 21st.
- Philly Field Trip – Thursday, March 29th, 7:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
 - Pack a bagged lunch and bag of snacks. Your child will be responsible for personal items and money. Please drop off students 15 minutes prior to 7:00. Be here at school no later than 5:40 to pick up your child.

Old Business

Nominating committee generally selected at the March meeting. No one has volunteered. It is bad that no one is volunteering. Jen Green is not returning as President. Ron can't run as treasurer again because of term limits. CGES can't have a PTA without a board. April is when a slate is presented and May is when there is a vote. Talk up events and urge others to step up to make it better.

The PTA board helps guide events and writes the checks. We need to reach out families of younger children to keep the PTA sustainable.

Playground shade – next week meeting – no update

PTA supply closet is still upstairs in Mr. Dushel's office. It will be moved to the phone room in the teacher's lounge. Charles did well with moving paper.

Family Fun Night recap. Sold 3700 raffle tickets. Thank you to the staff for help with raffle. Not having preorders for food worked well. It was a great event. MaryAnn Hays did great decorations.

Rugs – ordered 6 to 8 weeks before delivery for Ms. Rim’s class.

Motion approved for up to \$5000 to purchase rugs k-5 in partnership with the school.

FRICK fund – trying to define and how to notify families. Ron has spoken with other schools as to how they handle. Mr. Ewald will meet with the PTA board to further discuss process.

Cultural Heritage Night – March 23rd 6-9 pm

New Business

5th Grade moving on ceremony will be held at RM at 9 a.m. Congressman Chris Van Hollen will be speaker and there will be speakers from each fifth grade class. There will be no pool party. Perhaps party in the gym. Present from the 5th grade class will be books for the library. PTA President acknowledges that additional funds may be necessary because event cannot be held at the pool. PTA will try and find additional funds if needed.

Spring Book Fair is the week of April 16th. April 18th is parent teacher volleyball game. Need staff involvement for the game.

There is a process to start clubs. It can take 4 to 6 weeks to book a room.

The PTA was approached for after prom party donation to RM. Motion to donate \$300 for RM after prom party. Motion passes with voice vote.

Thank you to the facilities staff for going above and beyond for meeting and events. Last year, the PTA gave each member a \$20 to \$25 gift card. Plan to do the same this year.

Announcements

March 9th – Family Math Night – 7-9 pm

March 13th – Community Dinner – Hard Times Café – 5-9 pm

March 16th – Family Movie Night – Dolphin Tales, Doors open at 6:30 pm, movie starts at 7:00 pm.

March 23rd – Cultural Heritage Night – 6-9 pm.

PTA meeting was closed at 9:00 pm.

Next Meeting

April 10, 2012 at 7:00 p.m., APR