

MINUTES

College Gardens Elementary School PTA Minutes

May 1, 2012

The meeting was called to order by Jennifer Green, President at 7:03 p.m.

In attendance

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

Motion approved the April minutes passed by voice vote

President's Report

The PTA board received some concerns from families that Connect Ed messages from the PTA are spam. There will be an option to opt out of the Connect Ed messages through Ms. Armi.

Yearbook orders are down by 100 this year. The President spoke with the yearbook committee and decided not to order a lot of extras. A limited supply of extras will be available at an increased price of about \$36.00. As the size of the school population increases the yearbook needs to include additional pages and the binding is different requiring additional costs.

Leadership training for new board members and any PTA member is available on June 6th. It was advertised in this week's flash. It is free training.

Membership Report

No report

VP of Communications Report

The PTA is renewing the constant contact contract to send e-mails. The pta e-mail account is changing ownership from a previous PTA parent to the PTA. The PTA will absorb the cost of the e-mail account.

VP of Fundraising Report

Fontina Grill community dinner brought in about \$1800.00 for the restaurant and the PTA will get \$179.00. Another community dinner is scheduled at California Tortilla on Thursday, May 3rd. California Tortilla will donate 25%. On May 23rd our last community dinner for the year will be at Buffalo Wild Wings.

The PTA was approached by an energy community to facilitate families to sign up for an energy company. The company wants to do a presentation. The company claims to be about 5 to 10% cheaper and utilizes a large amount renewable energy. PTAs would earn \$2 per month per family that signs up. It is easy money. Maybe next year's board may want to consider. October is national energy awareness month. Maybe tie in there. Para-educator here at CGES recommended this program.

The VP of Fundraising indicated that she still has 21 gift certificates at \$10 for various merchants. She will give these to the new board. 44 PTA t-shirts are available. She is still doing fundraising drive so anyone who donates \$25 to the PTA will receive either a gift certificate or a t-shirt. Remember the donations are tax deductible.

Treasurer's Report

The PTA can't write checks after end of June. Get reimbursements in now. Rest of PTA share of carpets was paid in April. Another box top check was received for \$448.00. This is the final box top check for the year.

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

Secretary

Sarah Meadows sent a thank you note to the PTA for providing luncheons and for donating books to her. She congratulated the PTA on a successful book fair.

Mrs. Moore sent an e-mail indicating that she viewed the PTA website and appreciated the ease at which she could find information.

Richard Montgomery sent a thank you e-mail for the after prom donation. The parent indicated that she was a past CGES PTA President and that she felt proud to be associated with the current CGES PTA board.

MCCPTA Reps

MCCPTA elections – RM cluster coordinator was elected after meeting. A high schooler was elected as recording secretary as there were no other nominees.

Burden of Proof – motion to support the reallocation of the burden of proof in special education hearings passed with overwhelming support.

Board of Education meeting on April 30th addressed the revision of nonprofit flyer distribution. The revised policy will be out for public comments but the Board is seeking to restrict flyers for high schoolers and middle schoolers based on community outrage for

some flyers. PTAs will not be affected. Nonprofits will still be able to pass out flyers four times per year for elementary school students.

Principal's Report

Thank you kindergarten parents for providing staff lunch today.

Volunteer appreciation luncheon provided by the school will be held on Wednesday, May 9th

Frick fund – CGES is seeking to provide a decision making framework. Mr. Ewald is thinking about holding a retreat for both the outgoing and incoming boards together. The framework would be public for everyone to see and posted on school and PTA websites.

Kindergarten orientation will be held on May 24th and 25th. There is no school for the current kindergarten students

Superintendent Spring Forum

- Fourth of Four Superintendent's Spring Forums
- Social & Emotional Learning
- Thursday, May 10, 2012
- Whitman HS
- 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Backpack policy – policy CNA – open the backpacks r close the backpacks – no censorship or regulation if backpacks are open. Revised policy will be open – qualified nonprofits at elementary school 4 times a year. MCPS government agencies and PTAs at anytime.

Chinese Language Instructors – CGES has the opportunity to obtain 2 additional Chinese language teachers. However, to obtain these teachers MCPS must guarantee through written contract that the teachers will have guarantee housing. If MCPS can't guarantee housing through host families then CGES cannot get them. Therefore, CGES host families must be found for the next school year August 2012-August 2013. CGES will definitely have 1 teacher. Families can volunteer to provide host housing in either 3, 6 or 12 month increments. These two additional Chinese language teachers are contingent on housing not transportation. E-mail Molly Murray if interested in providing host housing.

Staff Liaison

School-wide

- June 8th is Field Day!

Mrs. Meadows:

- Tuesday, May 22nd, 7pm: 4th grade chorus concert

- Wednesday, May 23rd, 7pm: 5th grade play

Kindergarten:

- May 4th: End of Our Community Unit
- Presentations for Our Community are the week of May 11th. Please contact your teacher if you need details.
- May 7th: Start of Oh the Places We Will Go!
- May 24th and 25th: NO SCHOOL FOR KINDERGARTEN STUDENTS!!!
- Kindergarten Orientation is May 24th and May 25th
 - We are looking for Parent Volunteers to help out on those days
 - Please contact Ms. Gilbert (teacher rep) @ Erin_Gilbert@mcpsmd.org and Mrs. Green (PTA rep) @ hahleewude@verizon.net as soon as possible!
- June 8th: Field Day We need parent volunteers!! Please contact your teacher if you are able to help out on this day.
- June 12th: Moving Up day... Final times have not been determined yet but you will be updated through your classroom teacher.

First Grade:

- The last PYP unit 1st grade will be working on is **GLOBAL COMMUNITIES: PRODUCERS AND CONSUMERS**. The theme is resources, service and good influence the way communities interact. The summative project will include creating a business. We will learn about what human, natural, and capital resources are needed to produce a good or service.
- We have been working on composing 2-digit numbers and adding a 1 digit number. We will begin to focus on 2-D and 3-D shape attributes. We will find out which 2-D shapes are used to compose a 3-D shapes. We will then be decomposing 2-D shapes into equal parts of halves, fourths and quarters. This will be used to start telling time to the hour and half hour on digital and analog clocks.
- In science we will explore how to conserve resources to protect the environment. We will also explore human actions that help the environment as we conclude our current PYP unit: Heal the World.

Second Grade:

- Second grade is finishing up our “As the World Turns” unit. Most of our butterflies have now gone into a chrysalis and we will soon be able to release the butterflies.
- We will begin our next unit titled, “One person can make a difference” where we will be learning about leaders that had an impact on the world.
- On June 4th we will be going to the Brookside Gardens to the butterfly exhibit.
- All of our GT and Terra Nova testing is complete and we will begin Mclass testing in a few weeks.

Third Grade:

- Math: Multiplication and division – students are encouraged to continue to practice their basic facts
- PYP: wrapping up “order of the classes,” moving on to “Beyond roses are red” where students will analyze and write poems.

Fourth Grade:

- We have been exploring the customary and metric measurement system (measuring attributes, converting between units, etc.) and will be moving into perimeter, area, and volume.
- Day one of our famous Wax Museum took place today, with three more classes presenting tomorrow. This was our summative assessment for our “Wind beneath my Wings” unit on influential people.
- In our next unit, Old Crusty, we will be examining the different layers of the Earth.
- Friday, May 4th is our field trip with Mr. Cousin to the National Gallery of Art.
- Thursday and Friday, May 17-18 is our in-school Mad Science field trip.
- Wednesday, May 23, we will be traveling to the Johns Hopkins University Shady Grove Campus for a bread-making science field trip.

Fifth Grade:

- Science MSA – Tuesday and Wednesday, May 1st and 2nd
 - Please ensure a good night’s rest, breakfast, and on time school arrival
- Field Trip to JW – Friday, May 11th 9:30 a.m.
- Exhibition Night – Thursday, May 31st, 7:00 p.m.
- Portfolio Picnic – Monday, June 4th
- Moving On – Monday, June 11th (Ceremony will be at CGES) 9:30 a.m.

Old Business

Elections: Elizabeth Namugenyi was nominated from the floor for treasurer. Motion to add Elizabeth to ballot approved by voice vote. Motion to approve slate by acclamation – approved by voice vote. Slate elected unanimously by voice vote.

Playground Shade: The estimate only includes the umbrellas not the picnic tables. Store inside during winter. There is a concern about whether the shade umbrellas could be stolen from property. Mrs. Rogovoy is clarifying issue with the provider. Lag time is 4 to 6 weeks to purchase and then 4 to 6 week for installation for a total of about 3 months. Mr. Ewald asserts that there is room in three areas of the school to store the umbrellas during the winter season and when there are storms. Mr Ewald assured the PTA that staff including building services will not be surprised by upkeep of the shade. Headstart and Autism requested shade on the upper playground. These programs ask very little, if anything of the PTA. Current estimate comes with a 3 and 6 year warranty on normal wear and tear. PTA would not purchase items but would reimburse the school. It would be considered a one-time gift to the school. School retains liability.

A motion to amend the budget to \$20,000 budget for one time gift line to pay for three playground shades up to \$15,000 from one time gifts to the school with the caveat that principal and current president have all questions answered including assurances that shade is theft protected. Motion 2nd. Motion to amend the Amendment to \$23, 000. Motion seconded. Voice vote with one opposing. There was a discussion about the size of the shade umbrellas. There is concern they may be too small. Mr. Ewald indicated the size 10x10 was chosen because it is more manageable practically speaking. Members

were interested in getting pricing on larger shade. Members were also interested about how much more to add the third shade umbrella.

A motion to table the motion until June for next meeting passed. President notes that issue will be resolved before the end of her term.

Note to go out in the flash – encourage questions before the meeting. One time gift ideas survey too.

FRICK Fund: Scheduling a meeting with both the incoming and outgoing board members.

Field Day – Ms. Moore needs volunteers. T-shirts for grades. President followed up. Pre-orders will be done. Youth sizes. Charge \$6 then PTA makes \$0.40. The shirt can then be passed it down. May 24th deadline for preorders and will be ready by field day. Possible adult sizes may be needed. Not money maker about spirit. Why not provide the shirts for free.

Motion to ensure that every child receives a field day t-shirt regardless of cost. Motion 2nd. Logisitically could be a nightmare. Either give out the shirts to everyone or only those to who order. 847 kids

Motion to use the current proposed pricing scheme and then the Frick process for those who cannot afford to purchase passed.

End of the Year Picnic – June 7th – no chair right now. Carmen’s booked. Back to school picnic.

Book Fair

How to take profits? Cash money or scholastic dollars. \$3200 in cash or \$7000 in scholastic dollars. Or split between the 2. Motion to take as scholastic dollars passed.

5th Grade Moving On Ceremony: Jeanne Fuchs is chairing the committee. The committee booked Woodley Gardens Park. June 11th rain venue for ceremony is gym. Current cost up to \$12 per student. The committee may ask for \$300 more. No transportation necessary, if enough chaperones available to walk the students to the park. The committee is trying to stay within budget.

New Business

Troop 1450 always does mulch. Request that the PTA pay for the mulch this year. No one present at the meeting. Tabled for next month.

Parent's Forum

Flexacademies.com new professional service coordinates afterschool activities within the school. May want to bring in for a briefing for the PTA. Currently, the service exists at Westland. Mr. Ewald will talk with the principal from Westland tomorrow.

Announcements

- 5/2 Connect ED Test Message
- 5/4 4th Grade Field Trip; National Gallery of Art
- 5/9 Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon
- 5/10 Superintendent's Spring Forum; Social & Emotional Learning, Whitman HS, 7-8:30pm
- 5/11 Student & Staff Art Fair and Open Mic Night; 6:30 pm

Next Meeting

June 5, 2012 at 7:00 p.m., APR

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:30 pm was approved by voice vote.