



April PTA Meeting
Monday, April 13, 2015

In attendance: Holly Jankowski, Annie Karp, Amy Hoffacker, Anita Young, Michele Tregoning, Lee Derby, Spencer Delisle, Lauren Birrer, Jen Coakley, Shobha Rajan, Farrah Khan, Laurie Wgitney, Lisa Winstel, Jeff Winstel, Rona Han, Praveen Pabba, Alicia Ghaznavi, Tammy Frankauski, Kristie Scott

Holly Jankowski welcomed everyone.

Treasurer's Report: Anita shared the profit and loss for April. Went over expenditures for the last two months as well as income. We are still expecting a check from the last 2 Spirit Nights.

Correspondence- Michele shared a letter from the first grade team thanking us for having the Holiday Shop, the cultural arts assemblies, & spirit nights to raise money for our school. Another note from the first grade team was shared thanking us for the dinner provided at Reading Night.

Staff Liaison Report: Mrs. Hirschhorn was not able to attend, so Holly read a note from her thanking Jen Coakley for all of her efforts in getting volunteers for Earth Day. Parking on Friday will be at a premium so she is encouraging volunteers to carpool.

Principal's Report:

- March had many snow days which meant changes in scheduling. We missed our last PTA meeting, and PARCC testing had to be rescheduled a few times.
- CG was allocated their staffing for next year. We are losing a classroom teacher position, but no one needs to be on the involuntary transfer list since Ms. Cromwell is retiring at the end of the school year. There will be cuts in Media Center and other support staff positions. Mr. Delisle will be the Principal Intern at Diamond Elementary so CG will be looking for a new Assistant Principal.
- Last Cultural Arts Assembly was popular and had everyone moving!
- Kindergarten Orientation is coming up at the end of the month. Currently have 81 kids registered so far.
- Jansson's Park is next week in PE classes.
- Thursday is our next Spirit Day- red, white & blue is the theme

- Landscaping Committee has been sprucing up the courtyard for the spring.

Committee Reports:

- **Around the World Night-** Shobha shared that the evening went well despite the freezing cold temperatures. That hurt the attendance so it was asked if the event could be moved to a warmer time of the year. 13 countries were represented. Another thing that keeps coming up is having a talent show as part of the evening. If people are interested in that, they can sign up to help with it or to chair a separate talent show for the school.
- **Read-a-Thon-** We made \$9,0001.94 as a school. We budgeted to make \$14,000 so we are short of our goal. Mrs. Davis' class raised the most funds and is having a donut party and Ms. Cromwell's class read the most minutes and is having a popcorn party. It started off with the unfortunate situation of having to miss the assembly due to testing and the snow days so packets went home on Wednesday without the kids having the assembly. This was Michele's last year doing the Read-a-Thon so if anyone would like to step up and take that on they can contact her.

New Business/Upcoming Events:

- Meeting minutes from February were approved.
- Bingo: coming up on Friday, April 17th at Rocky Hill. There will be food sold as well as a special game for those that pre-registered.
- Spring Dance is coming up on Friday, May 1st at Rocky Hill MS. The DJ is lined up and the theme is Candy Land. Kristie Scott is chairing that once again. She is concerned that there are a few field trips that day, including a 4th grade field trip to St. Mary's which will be returning home late so that may hurt attendance.
- A Nominating Committee is being formed to find people interested in running for a Board position for next year. At a minimum, a new Secretary will be needed. Contact Jen Coakley if you are interested in running for a Board position.
- Scholarships- Laurie Whitney is getting the Steven Turner Scholarship out to Damascus and Clarksburg High School. Holly asked Laurie if she would be willing to do the Rodell Lee Scholarship as well.
- 5th grade t-shirts are going to cost more than we budgeted for due to the large number of students. Laurie Whitney will be looking into Spirit Wear from RHMS to see if we can get a good deal like we did last year. Even if so, we could be \$500 or \$600 short of our budget. A motion was made to use money from the Rodell Lee Scholarship Fund (assuming Healthtrax is once again donating the swim lessons) in addition to what was already budgeted for a total of \$850.
The motion was second by Jen Coakley. Everyone was in favor.

Boundary Study:

- The new Damascus/Clarksburg Middle School is opening in August of 2016 and the options have been presented to the communities for feedback. All 7 options have all of Cedar Grove attending the new school.
- We looked at the differences between each option and which were the best ones for Cedar Grove. Options 1 & 2 are very similar with the exception of one community from Stedwick ES going from Neelsville MS to Montgomery Village MS in option 2.
- Cedar Grove would like for the BOE to select option 1 after considering all the options in terms of criteria created by the committee, and to keep the new middle school from quickly being overpopulated.
- Anita will check with Little Bennett ES & Wims ES to see which option they would like to see chosen. The decision is ultimately up to the Board of Education and will be made in November.
- Everyone is concerned with the high school boundary as well, but that won't be looked at until the Seneca Valley revitalization is complete in 2018 when there will be another boundary study for the high schools.
- Anita will now be taking the feedback she received and submitting a PTA position paper and analyzing each option according to the criteria developed by the committee. The complete boundary study can be found at
<http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departmens/planning/boundary.asp>
[x](#)

Meeting was adjourned at 8:07.