



Cedar Grove ES PTA Meeting Tuesday, January 5, 2016

In Attendance: Michele Tregoning, Annie Karp, Anita Young, Lori Andrus, Jen Coakley, Lee Derby, Karina Hirschhorn, Lori Marshall, Nicole Shulman, Meaghen Alexander.

Presidents Report (Michele Tregoning):

- Michele Tregoning called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.
- Dr. Barbara Woodward, the Principal for the new Clarksburg-Damascus Middle School, will be coming to our February 2nd PTA meeting to introduce herself and meet everyone. Please come to the next PTA meeting and meet our new Middle School Principal! (7pm in the Media Center - Childcare is provided).

Treasurer's Report (Anita Young):

- Anita reviewed the Profit & Loss statement for December 2015. She then also reviewed the working Budget for this current year, from July 1, 2015-December 31, 2015.

Secretary's Report (Lori Andrus):

- There was no correspondence this month.

Staff Liaison's Report (Karina Hirschhorn):

- The piano was tuned in December
- We received 120 toys for our Toys for Tots drive – thank you to all who donated!
- Group & Class pictures will be on Tuesday, January 12th
- The Science Expo will be on Wednesday, January 13th at Rocky Hill MS. We will have quite a few visiting scientists asking questions of the students. Even if your child is not participating, please come out to see all of the wonderful exhibits, support your fellow classmates, and get your kids excited to possibly participate next year!
- There will be a Vision & Hearing screening on Thursday, January 21st Friday, January 22nd for grades K and 1.
- The Bear Way Assembly will be on Wednesday, January 27th.
- Chris Jansson was not able to attend the meeting tonight, but I wanted to pass along that Jump Rope for Heart will run from February 8th – 12th, during PE classes. More information will be coming home about this event soon.
- The Library had to close today because there were no volunteers. PLEASE help out & volunteer if you are able – even Grandparents, Aunts, Uncles, etc. are welcome to help out. The sign-up genius is on the [CGES website](#), to sign up & volunteer. Tuesdays, Fridays & Mondays are the critical days. PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE help out – we hate to turn your children away from being able to check out books!

Principal's Report (Lee Derby):

- This is the first year that we are doing the Science Expo as a Teacher/PTA event, and it is really going well. It has enabled more kids to participate and has just been a great collaboration between the Teachers & Parents to run this event. Thank you to all who volunteer & make this event a success.
- The Clarksburg cluster principals got to meet with Dr. Woodward (the new Principal for the new Clarksburg-Damascus Middle School), to talk with her, get to know her, and find out about all the exciting plans she has for the new school. The Middle School is starting out with small numbers. Most of the time schools are not allotted Elective classes (ie: Art, Band, Chorus, Drama, etc) if you do not have enough students. She is really looking ahead as to how she can lobby to make sure that our students do get these electives offered to them. Parent support will also be needed in these efforts.
- The Montgomery County school system budget was presented to the Board of Education on December 8th. It was a pretty aggressive budget this year (a 4.5% increase in new spending), so we will be looking for people to greatly advocate for this budget. The Clarksburg Community testimony for this will be held on Thursday, January 14th.
- There has been a lot of buzz & news about Radon testing. We were last tested for Radon in 1988. They came back to re-test the school over the Winter break. As soon as we receive the results, Mr. Derby will let us know.
- January is a big testing month, so look for more information on which types of tests your students will be taking in this next month.
- We now have a Chinese Immersion Program here at the school. 8 students have enrolled. Unfortunately all of this has been done through word of mouth, so we have not received any flyers about the program, but if you are interested, please contact the school and Mr. Derby will try and see if they can give us some information about their program.

Committee Reports:

Feed the Bear's Campaign (Annie Karp):

- Officially finished with the Feed the Bear Campaign and we raised a total of \$12,040. Though we were a bit shy of our goal (\$15,000), we are very enthusiastic about the results, especially being that this was our first year trying this type of fundraiser. Annie will be putting together a Survey, to try and get feedback on whether people liked this type of fundraiser, anything we should change, and if we should continue to implement it each year. We had 203 students participate. Mrs. Gardner's class won the Beta Fish for December.

Reading Night (Michele Tregoning):

- Reading Night was a lot of fun and the kids & parents seemed to have a great time. We had more readers this year, which made it nice to have smaller groups. It also worked well to have it coordinated with the Holiday Shop – it helped make the Holiday Shop very successful.

Holiday Shop (Anita Young):

- We made \$2,284.05 over the budget for the Holiday Shop. It went extremely well and was a huge success. Our only wish for next year would be to have an extra cash register. We had a good amount of volunteers – thank you for volunteering!

Old Business / New Business:

- Sometimes kids go on Field Trips and it is all or partially PTA sponsored. It would be great if the flyers from the teachers mention that is partially funded by the PTA (saving the parents a lot of money).
- Jen Coakley - We do not have a Chair for the Book Fair – we absolutely MUST have a Chair for this event, if it is going to happen. This is a HUGE fundraiser for our school + a great event – the kids love getting new books, and what a better event than to encourage our children to love to read. PLEASE contact Jen Coakley if you would be interested in Chairing or Co-chairing this event. We have changed the dates to now start on Thursday, June 2nd – Wednesday, June 8th (with the Family Picnic being on Friday, June 3rd). Again, we need your help – please volunteer!
- Lori Marshall - After School Clubs - Winter session starts next week. Two of the clubs had to be canceled due to lack of kids signing up. If anyone has suggestions for Spring, please let Lori Marshall know.
- Moms & Muffins is on February 23rd for 2nd Grade
- Dads & Donuts is on February 24th for 3rd Grade

Michele adjourned the PTA meeting at 7:50pm.