



**Cedar Grove ES PTA Meeting
Tuesday, December 6, 2016**

In Attendance: Nicole Shulman, Annie Karp, Jodi Wilbanks, Lori Andrus, Lori Marshall, Michele Tregoning, Jen Coakley, Lee Derby, Courtney Jones, Karina Hirschhorn, Mini Varughese, Katya Shterenberg, Heather & Mark Rutz, Lauren Birrer, Heather Zigmund

Presidents Report (Nicole Shulman):

- Nicole Shulman called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone
- We talked last month about a Fun Run group event, but unfortunately we are not able to make this happen. I will talk to the cluster schools about trying to do it next year.
- Spirit Wear orders will be delivered on Thursday and distributed to the teachers, so they will be coming home toward the end of this week.
- A huge shout out to Jodi Wilbanks and Erica Molnar for their amazing job on the Holiday Shop – they have worked so hard and have really done a great job!

Vice Presidents Report (Annie Karp / Jodi Wilbanks):

- Feed the Bears is doing extremely well and we are now at \$10,600. We are also at 198 PTA members which is higher than in previous years. We had a 3 way tie for the class winners in November, so we will keep this going in December to determine one winner. Thank you to everyone who has donated so far, we are thrilled with these results!! Thank you for supporting CG and our children!

Secretary's Report (Lori Andrus):

- We received the following thank you cards:
 - From the Third Grade Team we received a thank you card for the "Survival Kits" (full of snacks & goodies) for the P/T Conferences.
 - From the First Grade Team we received a thank you card for the NED Show Assembly. They said they really loved the positive messages from the show regarding persistence, which correlates with their lesson plans.
 - From the First Grade Team we also received a thank you card for the P/T Conference "Survival Kits."

Treasurer's Report (Lori Marshall):

- Lori gave us copies of the 2016-17 Budget, along with the Profit & Loss statement from August 29 – December 7, 2016.

Principal's Report (Lee Derby):

- I spent the day today as an acting Principal at Hallie Wells. The school is amazing – they have such a wonderful team working for the school and I saw some wonderful interactions between the students and staff.
- As many of you are aware, I will be leaving after the winter break to go assist at Clarksburg High school. This is the opportunity for Mrs. Jones to complete her training and be fully in charge of Cedar Grove as acting Principal. She will be charge of the school for 7 weeks. As part of this I will not be attending the January or February PTA meetings, as Mrs. Jones will be in charge. To get her ready, she will be giving the Principal's report for tonight....

Assistant Principal's Report (Courtney Jones):

- Thank you for the wonderful job that Jodi & Erica, and all of the volunteers, have done for the Holiday Shop!
- The SGA has gotten underway with their responsibilities and events. The SGA is sponsoring the Toys for Tots drive, and the bins are up front for donations. There is also an SGA sponsored Pajama day coming up on December 13th.
- Hour of Code is going on for the next 2 weeks – receiving a lot of support from the classroom teachers and support from the County. There are a lot of resources in regards to this available on Code.org website.
- Our staff is looking at finalizing the details for the Science Expo which will be on January 9th. This event will be held at Cedar Grove. We will also be hosting a STEM Night in conjunction with the Science Expo on the same night. We have a decent amount of parents that have expressed interest in helping with this event, but if you are interested, please let us know.
- Mr. Jansson will be transporting the gym into his Winter Wonderland, with beautiful winter decorations & fun activities for the kids! This event will run from December 16th – 22nd.
- December 14th will be the CG Winter Instrumental Music & Choral Concert. This event will be at Clarksburg HS and will begin at 7pm.
- On December 23rd the Clarksburg HS Marching Band will be performing for our students.
- Giving tree -- We have several families in need within our own community. For the past several years, Cedar Grove staff has worked to provide holiday gift items for families that can use the support. If you are interested in participating and would like to contribute, please contact the main office.

Staff Liaison's Report (Karina Hirschhorn):

- Ms Zimmerman wanted to thank everyone for the PTA sponsored Survival Kits
- Mrs. Carroll wanted to say thank you for all of our hard work with the Holiday Shop
- As of Monday afternoon the SGA had collected 55 toys for the Toys for Tots drive. The goal is to collect 150 toys and it will run through December 16th. The toys must be new and unwrapped.
- The CG YouTube site is up and running and it's been going well. There is a new column on the TV news called the Kindness Corner, where we will try to catch kids doing kind things for each other.
- The Reading Challenge will be on March 7th. More information about this event will be available soon.

Committee Reports:

Volunteer Coordinator (Jen Coakley):

- If anyone can help out with Holiday Shop, it would be greatly appreciated.
- If anyone could take pictures at the Winter Choral Concert, for the yearbook, that would also be greatly appreciated.

Spirit Night (Tashina Singh – read by Nicole Shulman):

- Unfortunately the Spirit Night at Jersey Mike's did not go as well as in the past, but we are going to try and do it again at the end of January.
- Also looking to have a Spirit Night at Chick fil'A in the future.

Holiday Shop (Jodi Wilbanks & Erica Molnar):

- The Holiday Shop has been amazing – the kids are really enjoying it and they have been buying us out. If anyone can help out with the Holiday Shop in these next few days, it would be greatly appreciated.

Old Business / New Business:

- Lori Andrus – Cultural Arts – We have the following Cultural Arts Assemblies coming up:
 - I hope your children enjoyed the NED Show and the positive messages that came out of that show (and also enjoyed the yo-yo's!)
 - Bowen McCauley Dance – will be held on December 15th in the morning. A high energy dance troupe that will be performing dance hits through the decades.
 - Smithsonian Associates Discovery Theater will be performing "How Old is a Hero" on February 8th, which is conjunction with Black History Month. A fantastic performance with positive/powerful messages for our students.

- On April 6th we will be having a surprise Author visit – this will be an incredible opportunity, which I am keeping under wraps for now, but will let everyone know details as we get closer.

- Mrs. Birrer - The applications for the Science Expo will be coming back to students on Monday, December 12th, to let them know if their project has been approved, or if there are changes/additions that need to be made to their applications.

Nicole adjourned the PTA meeting at 7:45pm and wished everyone very Happy Holidays!