



**Cedar Grove ES PTA Meeting
Tuesday, March 7, 2017**

In Attendance: Nicole Shulman, Jodi Wilbanks, Lori Andrus, Lori Marshall, Michele Tregoning, Jen Coakley, Courtney Jones, Karina Hirschhorn, Heather & Mark Rutz, Mini Varughese, Tashina Singh, Beverley Hazen, Amy McDermott, Golriz (Goldie) Izadskenas, Jennifer Loznak, and Danielle Harwood

Presidents Report (Nicole Shulman):

- Nicole Shulman called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.
- The new Elementary School in Clarksburg Village will open in August 2019. Construction will begin in April of 2018. The design of the building will be a bit different from Wims ES, but will have the same capacity of 740 people. The entrance to the building will be on Sweetspire Dr. The boundary study will begin 8 months before the school opens. An additional elementary school has been approved for the future, but sites have not been selected yet – site selection will begin this fall.
- Mom’s & Muffins will be on April 25th for the entire school. More information will be coming soon.
- The Smile Program will no longer be our after-school program. We have a new program called FLEX, which will kick off next month, and registration will begin next week. Mini will talk more about this during her report.

Vice Presidents Report (Jodi Wilbanks):

- Nothing new to report.

Secretary’s Report (Lori Andrus):

- We received a thank you note from the First Grade team – “Thank you for providing such a great opportunity for our students! The “Hero” Assembly was perfect for our first graders. We really appreciate everything you do for Cedar Grove!”

Treasurer’s Report (Lori Marshall):

- Lori gave us copies of the 2016-17 Budget, along with the Profit & Loss statement from August 29 – March 6, 2017.

Principal's Report (Courtney Jones):

- Last week we had our Read-a-Loud day. We had many wonderful people from the community who came in and read to the students. It was an amazing event – thank you so much to all of the parents who came out to help with this event!
- Progress Reports came out this week, along with the MAP reports. If you have any questions on these reports, please reach out to your classroom teachers or to the front office.
- Read-a-Loud Night will be this Thursday, March 9th. This event will also be in conjunction with a Parent Curriculum night. Please be sure to sign up for these events – the staff and the PTA have worked really hard to bring you these events.
- There will be a Spirit Day next week on the 14th – Mustache day!
- Earth Day events are coming up in April – details to come. We will kick the week off with a special Earth Day Assembly on Monday, April 24th.
- WTOP is running a Click for Kids event – please encourage your friends, neighbors, relatives, and anyone in the community to vote for Cedar Grove. You can vote once per day for CG. There is a grand prize of \$15,000 for the winning school. If you share the link to friends and family outside the county/state, please be sure to specify that Cedar Grove is in Montgomery County. The deadline is March 17th.

Staff Liaison's Report (Karina Hirschhorn):

- Looking for pictures of your kids reading – please send in pictures of your kids reading so that we can post them around the Readathon Bulletin Board in the front hallway to get the kids excited about reading.
- In June, we're excited to host Hena Khan, an author who has visited us before years ago. She is an amazing author who focuses on her Islamic culture. Her latest book, *Amina's Voice*, has received rave reviews. Please be on the lookout for more information regarding book presales.
- Bev Hazen has been the only parent volunteer to come every Tuesday, like clockwork, to help out in the Library. So a huge thank you to her, and everyone else who volunteers in the Media Center. We are, however, in desperate need of more help. If you are able to help out, please sign up for a time slot. [The sign-up genius](#) can be accessed from the homepage of the CG website.
- Mr. Jansson wanted to pass along that we are still collecting money for Jump Rope for Hearts – the deadline will be this Friday.
- Received an email from Mr. Derby in regards to a video contest from Montgomery Parks. Kids are supposed to make a short video about why they like trees – submissions are due by March 30th. This can be a single student, a full classroom, a group of students, etc. Mrs. Hirschhorn will be meeting with the Green School Committee and advertising this further on the morning show.
- Received a lot of positive feedback from both the staff & students about the How Old is a Hero Assembly – thank you so much for putting that together.

Committee Reports:

Volunteer Coordinator (Jen Coakley):

- We are completely staffed and set for the remainder of the events this year - Around the World Night, Moms & Muffins, Spring Dance, and Spring Picnic. Thank you to everyone for stepping up.
- Will send out a plug for help with the Media Center.

Spirit Night (Tashina Singh):

- Raised about \$168 with Panera last week, so that was great.
- There will be two more Spirit Nights that we need to find restaurants for – thinking possibly Chipotle for one. If anyone has suggestions for the other one, please let us know.
- Also, due to a family emergency, Tashina will be resigning from this position, effective immediately. If anyone has an interest in taking over this position or has questions about this position, please email Jen Coakley or anyone on the PTA Board.

Read-a-Thon (Michele Tregoning):

- Read-a-thon is in full swing. Have 87% of the school participating. 4 classes have 100% participation. Thursday night, which includes double points for the Read-a-Loud night, is the half way mark, so they can turn in their half-way sheets on Friday. Thursday night is our Read-a-Loud night, in conjunction with the Curriculum night.
- We are also trying to have child care available for any younger children, so that parents can still attend the curriculum night. If we are able to secure this, an email & message will go out.

Bingo (Amy McDermott)

- Bingo is all set for Friday, March 24th at Rocky Hill Middle School. Flyers should be going home in the next day or two. \$3.00 per set of cards. Have all the prizes ready and already have plenty of SSL help and parent volunteers. This is a fun event with Teacher's calling Bingo. Unfortunately Chick-fil-A is closed, so we won't have their Chicken nuggets this year, but trying to find other alternatives – we will still have pizza, nachos, snacks, and drinks.

Around the World Night (Goldie):

- This is my first time chairing this event, but really looking forward to chairing it. Working with Shobha (the Chair from previous years) on planning the details. This event will be on April 28th at Cedar Grove.

After-School Clubs (Mini Varughese):

- P.O.M. is up and running and will start tomorrow. They have 9 students, which was the minimum they needed to have this club. The registration will continue, if additional students would like to join.
- The Flex Academies website is now live so you can look at what classes they will be offering. They have such classes as: Hip Hop, Minecraft, Yoga, Sports, Cartooning, etc. More detailed information is available on their website including descriptions of the classes, pricing, etc. These classes do cost a bit more than SMILE, however the caliber of classes & service we are receiving from FLEX vs. SMILE is quite a bit better. This is a trial run for FLEX this spring to see how it goes. If we are happy with the program, we will move forward and continue this in the fall.

Old Business / New Business:

- Amy McDermott wanted to give props in regards to the Pay it Forward Kindness Day – she said her kids really enjoyed it and thought it was a great event.
- Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, April 4th

Nicole adjourned the PTA meeting at 8:20pm