



## **Cedar Grove ES PTA Meeting Tuesday, April 4, 2017**

In Attendance: Nicole Shulman, Annie Karp, Jodi Wilbanks, Lori Andrus, Lori Marshall, Michele Tregoning, Jen Coakley, Lee Derby, Karina Hirschhorn, Mark Rutz, Mini Varughese, Goldie Izadskenas, Laurie Whitney, and Katya Shterenberg

### **Presidents Report (Nicole Shulman):**

- Nicole Shulman called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.
- Thank you to Michele and Mrs. Hirschhorn for the Read-a-Thon and the Read Aloud Night.
- Thank you as well to Amy McDermott for a fantastic Bingo night.
- The PTA Board is looking into having a Spirit Night in either May or June, and we are looking at having it at either Sweet Frog, Potbelly, or possibly Jimmie Cone.

### **Vice Presidents Report (Annie Karp / 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 sponsoring the Read-a-Thon once again! Our first graders were thrilled with the challenge and enjoyed seeing the minutes add up. We look forward to meeting Nick Bruel next week; thank you for providing that great follow-up to the Read-a-Thon!”
- We also received a thank you note from Mrs. Gardner, along with a huge stack of absolutely wonderful thank you notes from the 1<sup>st</sup> graders – these are absolutely adorable and we all loved reading them – thank you!! “Thank you for providing a Popcorn party for our class, it was a great way to celebrate the end of the week! The kids are so excited to meet Nick Bruel and they’ve enjoyed making the Bad Kitty posters too!”

### **Treasurer's Report (Lori Marshall):**

- Lori gave us copies of the 2016-17 Budget, along with the Profit & Loss statement from August 29 – April 4, 2017.
- Received a check from Panera for the Spirit Night, which brought in approximately \$160.00

### **Principal's Report (Lee Derby):**

- After 2 months away, it's great to be back at Cedar Grove!
- April is Autism Awareness month. Please have your children wear blue on Wednesdays in April. A parent brought up asking if we could have Autism awareness events or events that are geared, or have activities that are geared for autistic kids. We will find out more information on what that entails and discuss further.
- We are already beginning to plan for next year. We have 3 staff members that are retiring this year - Mrs. M&M, Mrs. Christy, and Mrs. Eschelman. Please be sure to wish these ladies well – they have spent many, many years working for the school system, and most of those years spent at Cedar Grove – they will all be greatly missed! We have hired an Art teacher but we are still looking for an Instrumental Music Teacher and a Secretary. We will also be having a third Autism Class next year, and we are looking for a teacher for that. Unfortunately, our teacher allocation for next year is a bit lower than this year, so it looks like two of our newest teachers, Mr. Douds and Mrs. Ramseth, will need to be moved to other schools.
- Also want to reiterate what a great job everyone did with the Read-a-Thon – thank you!!
- We had a Bear Ways Assembly today which went really well. There were a lot of prizes given away and the kids had a lot of fun.
- Looking forward to the Nick Bruel, Bad Kitty Assembly on Thursday!
- MISA testing was done for 5<sup>th</sup> grade this year.
- PARCC is coming up at the beginning of May for grades 3-5.
- Jansson's Park will be beginning after Spring Break
- Field Day for Grades K and 1 will be on May 3rd. Mr. Jansson needs volunteers for Field Day, so if you are interested, please email him.

### **Staff Liaison Report (Karina Hirschhorn):**

- The Arbor Day event went very well. Don't think we won, but it doesn't matter, the kids thoroughly enjoyed it.
- The Read-a-Thon went amazingly well – the kids really seemed to enjoy it, and we're all very pleased about how well everyone did.
- Thank you to Bev Hazen and Mrs. Coakley for helping to hang all of the Bad Kitty posters – it really looks fantastic!!
- The "Story Book" dress up day is on Thursday, April 6<sup>th</sup>. Please NO masks and NO scary costumes, but the kids can have face makeup on.
- Very excited for Nick Bruel, the Bad Kitty Author, who will be here on Thursday the 6<sup>th</sup>.

## **Committee Reports:**

### **Volunteer Coordinator (Jen Coakley):**

- It is that time of year again where we are looking to fill positions for next year. If you are interested in running for a Board position, or a Chair position, please email Jen Coakley.
- Looking forward to our upcoming events - Around the World Night, Moms & Muffins, Spring Dance, and Spring Picnic.

### **Read-a-Thon (Michele Tregoning):**

- Read-a-thon went really well!! We surpassed our goal of 275,000 minutes (we actually read 285,704 minutes), so the entire school won the "Dress like your Favorite Story Book Character", which will be this Thursday the 6<sup>th</sup>. The top readers from each grade level won a very special "Meet & Greet" dessert party with the author of Bad Kitty, Nick Bruel, which will also be on Thursday, before the assembly. The second place readers will also receive an autographed copy of Nick Bruel's latest Bad Kitty book. Congratulations to everyone that participated – you all did a great job!

### **Bingo (Amy McDermott – read by Jen Coakley)**

- Bingo went really well this year. The attendance was a bit down this year, but it was still a great turnout. This is Amy's last year doing Bingo, so if anyone is interested in Chairing Bingo, please let Jen Coakley know

### **Around the World Night (Goldie):**

- Around the World Night will be on April 28<sup>th</sup> at Cedar Grove. The flyers will be going home in the next few days. Posters will also be hung up soon to get the kids excited. The deadline for the fashion show will be on Tuesday, April 18<sup>th</sup> – details about the fashion show are listed on the flyer.

### **Moms & Muffins (Mark Rutz):**

- The Mom's & Muffins event is coming up on Tuesday, April 25<sup>th</sup> from 8:45-9:15am. The flyers for that event will also be coming home soon. He does need volunteers, so a sign-up genius will go out about that.

### **After-School Clubs (Mini Varughese):**

- P.O.M. is up and running and going well.
- Flex Academies is also up and running, but unfortunately there was not a big turnout for the Spring classes, so we ended up with just the Science class, with about 9 kids. They are keeping registration open for now in case there are any last minute people who want to sign up.

### **Old Business / New Business:**

- **Katya Shterenberg – Yearbook** - Working on the Yearbook. Planning to be here on Wednesday to take pictures + on Thursday for the Dress Up day, along with trying to get pictures of the Bad Kitty assembly. She will also try and get pictures from Mom's & Muffins. She will also try and get pictures of any students that were not able to be here for picture day.
- **Laurie Whitney – MS Parting Gifts** – Laurie asked about ideas for the 5<sup>th</sup> grade gifts. She wanted our feedback on what we want to purchase and give to the outgoing 5<sup>th</sup> grade class. We discussed Spirit Wear, Gym shirts, or water bottles. The budget for this is \$800. Most everyone seemed to be in favor of the Spirit Wear.
- **Laurie Whitney – Scholarships** - the scholarship information will be going home right after Spring Break
- **Lori Andrus – Cultural Arts** – I think everyone is quite aware, but our next Assembly is this Thursday, April 6<sup>th</sup>, with Nick Bruel, the Author of the Bad Kitty Series. The school is just buzzing with excitement and seeing the halls decorated with the Bad Kitty art work from the students looks amazing!! Our next Assembly after that will be on Monday, April 24<sup>th</sup>, entitled “Mother Earth & Me”, and this will be in conjunction with our Earth Week celebrations. The production is being put on by the Smithsonian Discovery Theater troupe, which is the same incredible group that brought us “How Old is a Hero”. We’re really looking forward to all the Earth Week festivities and that assembly!
- Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, May 2nd

**Nicole adjourned the PTA meeting at 8:15pm**