



**Cedar Grove ES PTA Meeting
Tuesday, May 2, 2017**

In Attendance: Nicole Shulman, Jodi Wilbanks, Lori Andrus, Lori Marshall, Michele Tregoning, Jen Coakley, Lee Derby, Karina Hirschhorn, Mark Rutz, Goldie Izadskenas, Katya Shterenberg, and Christy & Frank Occipinti

Presidents Report (Nicole Shulman):

- Nicole Shulman called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.
- Thank you to Mark & Heather Rutz, Macie & Danny Mogot, Eric Marshall, and everyone else that jumped in to help with the Moms & Muffins event – what an incredible turnout!
- Thank you to Goldie for a great job with the Around the World Night – it was a fantastic event!
- We need nominations for the PTA Board, as well as there are quite a few Chair positions available for next year. If anyone is interested in either of these, please let Jen Coakley know. You can nominate yourself or someone else. An email will also be going out about this.

Vice Presidents Report (Annie Karp / Jodi Wilbanks):

- Nothing new to report.

Secretary's Report (Lori Andrus):

- We received a thank you note from the Damascus HS PTSA – “Thank you for your generous donation to the DHS PTSA Post Prom. We truly appreciate your support as it will make for a great Post Prom to help keep our students safe on Prom night.”

Treasurer's Report (Lori Marshall):

- Lori gave us copies of the 2016-17 Budget, along with the Profit & Loss statement from August 29 – May 2, 2017.

Principal's Report (Lee Derby):

- Welcome the Occhipinti family to Maryland and Cedar Grove!! They have 4 children that have just started here at Cedar Grove.
- A lot has been going since our last meeting. Our yearbook will be ready for press by tomorrow morning. Thank you so much to Katya Schterenberg for all of your hard work and countless hours getting the yearbook together!
- Thank you so much for the Read-a-Thon and the Nick Bruel author visit. Thank you to Mrs. Hirschhorn, Michele Tregoning, and Lori Andrus for all of those incredible events!
- We had an amazing Earth Week. We had another assembly to kick off Earth Week, which was a fantastic show and gave a very different spin on Earth Week.
- Thank you to Mrs Tregoning for everything for Staff Appreciation week.
- PARCC Testing started yesterday and so far, it is going well.
- We had Janson's Park a few weeks ago and as always, the kids thoroughly enjoyed it!
- SGA has a spirit day coming up on Tuesday, which will be camo day.
- The Chorus & Instrumental Concert will be on Tuesday, May 16th. Unfortunately, Mrs. Eschelman is still out recovering, and we haven't been able to find a substitute that can teach Instrumental Music, but she is planning on coming back next week, and we still plan on having this concert.
- We will have a "Hygiene Supply" drive for the homeless. More information will be coming home about this, but it will be starting on May 8th. This is being brought to us by the same CG student, Ishani, that started the Toy Drive last year, in conjunction with Wider Circle. Ishani is actually now a 1st grade student at Wims ES, but she is willing to still facilitate this charitable drive at Cedar Grove.
- May 18th & 19th is Kindergarten orientation.
- Summer school is going to be from July 10-28th. Information is on the school website. There will also now be a bus from Sally Ride for those that need it.
- We discussed that our fields are now being used for sports activities in the evenings and on weekends, so we need to figure out how best to handle parking for future PTA events.
- Field Day 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):

- Read-a-Thon – wrote a grant to get Chipotle gift cards. They do expire on May 31st, so please be sure to use your gift card.
- Thank you so much for the Bad Kitty, Nick Bruel author visit – it was such an amazing day!!! The Bad Kitty drawing contest and the Story Book dress up day video is now on the CG website.
- Thank you to everyone for wearing blue for Autistic awareness month.

- The K and 1st grade Field day is now in the afternoon on Wednesday, May 3rd. Mr. Jansson is still looking for volunteers, but you can just show up if you're able to help out.
- The Gaithersburg Book Festival is coming up on May 20th at the Gaithersburg City Hall Grounds. This is an amazing event that just keeps getting bigger and bigger every year. This event features award winning authors, poets, and songwriters from across the country, and is truly an incredible event that everyone should try to check out!
- We are starting to discuss the Summer Reading Program. Along with our Kick-off to Summer Reading Assembly, we will be joined by associates from the public library. The Library's theme this year is "Build a Better World Now".
- We need to start to think about planning a date for the summer PTA Board meeting, where we plan the 2017-18 events calendar, and plan the budget for next year.
- The Hena Kahn author visit is coming on June 7th for grades 3, 4, and 5. She is the sister of one of our former CG Mom's and has visited us in previous years. She is amazing author who focuses on her Islamic culture. Her latest book, Amina's Voice, has received rave reviews. Book sales will run from May 4th – June.

Committee Reports:

Volunteer Coordinator (Jen Coakley):

- All positions for the Board are available. If you would like to nominate someone, or yourself, please email Jen Coakley. Information is also posted on the CG website.
- So far, we definitely need a Chair person for next year for: Bingo, Spring Picnic, Spring Dance, and the Holiday Shop. There "may" be a few other positions, but just waiting on next year's plans from the current Chairs.
- Thank you to Michele for everything she is doing for Teacher Appreciation Week, thank you to Goldie for Around the World Night, thank you to Katya for all her hard work on the Yearbook, and thank you to everyone who helped with Moms & Muffins.
- Mr. Jansson still needs help with Field Day, so please come help out if you are available. With the change of time to the afternoon, we don't have as many volunteers, so please help out if you can.

Around the World Night (Goldie):

- The Around the World Night went very well. Thank you to Mr. Derby, Mrs. Jones, Mrs. Hirschhorn & Mrs. Coakley for all of your help & support with the event. We had many countries represented, but definitely want to have the USA also represented next year. Had a lot of kids sign up that didn't end up coming to the event. Thinking that maybe because it was a nice night + so many sports activities have started, so thinking that maybe we can look

at doing this event at a different time of the year when it's cooler out and maybe more people will attend. Something we can also discuss at our planning meeting in the summer.

Moms & Muffins (Mark Rutz):

- The Mom's & Muffins event went well. We had a few extra plates and napkins so they were stored in the PTA closet. For future events, we need to think about the parking as it continues to be a problem. We discussed the possibility of having these events in the evening and/or possibly reducing back down to just a single grade or half the grades one day and the other half the next day. Again, something we will discuss further at our planning meeting in the summer.

Spring Dance (Dawn Frazier – read by Nicole Schulman):

- The Spring Dance will be on Friday, May 12th at 6:30pm at CG. It is a Mardi Gras theme this year, so come wearing colorful beads and your favorite Mardi Gras mask! We will have a DJ, dancing, tons of games, a photo booth, and Pizza, snacks & drinks for sale. The cost is \$5.00 per family and flyers will be coming home in the next few days.

Book Fair (Yamini Kamalahasan – read by Nicole Shulman):

- The Book Fair will run from June 5th-June 9th. Set up for the Book Fair will be on June 2nd. The Book Fair will close every day at 4pm, but it will be open throughout the entire PTA Spring Picnic, which is on Friday, June 9th. We will also be having an "Online Book Fair" this year which will run from May 22nd-June 6th. June 6th will be the last date for Online shipping and all Online purchases come with free shipping. This is also a great way to preview the available books before coming to the Book Fair.

End of Year Picnic (PTA Board):

- It will be a Carnival theme and will be on Friday, June 9th in the evening at CG.
- We will have Face Painting, Carnival style Games, Maggi's Food truck, Kona Ice, Popcorn, a Moon bounce, and a special Photo Booth where the kids can pick their backdrop! Transportation will be provided by KidsCo. More information & flyers will be coming home as we get closer to the event.

Old Business / New Business:

- **FLEX – Mini Varughese (read by Nicole Shulman)** – FLEX will be reducing their rates for the Fall of 2017. Working on coming up with the class list for the Fall. Mini & Nicole have a conference call scheduled for tomorrow with them, so more details will come after that call, and we'll discuss more at the next meeting

- **Spirit Night – PTA Board** – Looking into Jimmy Cone, which gives back 10% and Sweet Frog which gives back 25%. Both Spirit Nights will be held in June.
- **Katya Shterenberg – Yearbook** - The Yearbook is designed and ready to go to print. Right now, we have over 302 pre-orders, but thinking about ordering some extras to be sold on a first come first serve basis. The Media Center usually gets 10 books and the office gets 2 books. We discussed ordering 350 total copies (or 50 extra copies).
- **Michele Tregoning** – Had a request for the budget meeting for this summer. The 4th graders make up the “Recycling Team” and there’s an event in May called The Maryland Green Schools Youth Summit that the kids who participate can get to go to. There seems to be more and more kids that are volunteering to help with these recycling tasks, so they have outgrown the one bus load that typically goes to this event. Wondering if we could budget in for the PTA to rent a bus so that a lot of these 4th graders could go to this event. The amount needed is approximately \$850.00 for an extra bus. We said that we would look into this during our summer Budget meeting.
- Our final meeting of the year will be on Tuesday, June 6th. We will have elections that night so please send in your nominations, and please come to the meeting so that we can have enough PTA members for a vote.

Nicole adjourned the PTA meeting at 8:30pm