



Cedar Grove ES PTA Meeting Tuesday, June 6, 2017

In Attendance: Nicole Shulman, Annie Karp, Jodi Wilbanks, Lori Andrus, Lori Marshall, Michele Tregoning, Jen Coakley, Courtney Jones, Karina Hirschhorn, Mark & Heather Rutz, Laurie Whitney, Katya Shterenberg, and Jennifer Loznak

Presidents Report (Nicole Shulman):

- Nicole Shulman called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.
- We had a very successful Spirit Night at Jimmie Cone – we made \$225.00!
- Our next Spirit Night is coming up on June 15th at Sweet Frog. 25% of the proceeds will be donated to CG. You will need to bring your flyer to this event for us to receive credit toward the CG PTA. We hope you'll come out to support the PTA and enjoy a fun night out with family & friends!

Vice Presidents Report (Annie Karp / Jodi Wilbanks):

- Nothing new to report.

Secretary's Report (Lori Andrus):

- We received about 8 different thank you notes thanking Michele Tregoning, her committee, and the PTA for everything that was done during Teacher Appreciation Week. The notes came from the First Grade, Second Grade, Third Grade, and Fourth Grade teams, along with notes from Diane Gordon, Courtney Jones, Claire Gardner, and Laura Davis. I won't write all of the notes since there were so many, however if you would like to see them, I am happy to share them. There was one that really summed up what was said in most of the notes, so I will write this one – "Thank you so much for the fun Teacher Appreciation Week! Everything was fabulous! From the treats, to the lunch, the decorated steps and the gift cards – everything showed how much you care for and value us. We certainly felt special and saw all the hard work and planning you put into it! Teachers who work at Cedar Grove are very blessed because we have you on our side. Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!"

Treasurer's Report (Lori Marshall):

- Lori gave us copies of the 2016-17 Budget, along with the Profit & Loss statement from August 29 – June 6, 2017. Lori has added a new column that shows the percentages for income & expenses.

Principal's Report (Courtney Jones):

- Working toward the end of the year and it's been very busy, but lots of fun events coming up.
- We had the Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast this morning. It was a beautiful day and we had a pretty good turnout for the event. Thank you so much to all of our volunteers, for all of their help & hard work over the year!
- We will be having the Hena Khan Author visit tomorrow for grades 3-5. We are all really looking forward to her visit!
- This Friday is the 3rd Grade field trip to the Baltimore Museum of Industry. This is always a very popular field trip and the kids & staff are really looking forward to it.
- Our graduating 5th graders will also have their End of Year Picnic on Wednesday, June 14th and their Promotion on Thursday, June 15th. Please join us in congratulating our 5th graders and wish them luck in MS.
- The PTA sponsored End of Year Picnic will be on Friday, June 9th at CG. The PTA will talk more about the details, but we are really looking forward to this event!
- For the week of June 12th-15th, the SGA is having their "Drive for Supplies" event. Students can donate their gently used school supplies, which will be distributed to needy families throughout Montgomery County. Collection boxes will be available at the front of the school.
- Next week we will have the SGA Spirit Week. Monday – wear Neon colors, Tuesday – Crazy Hair, Wednesday – Twin/Triplet/etc. Day, Thursday – Fancy Dress-up Day, Friday – CG Spirit Wear.
- This Monday, June 12th, we will have our PTA sponsored Kick-off to Summer Reading Assembly called "Books – The Magic is Real", by Joe Romano.
- On Wednesday, June 14th, we will be having our Instrumental Music Concert at 7pm in the APR at CG.
- Friday the 16th is an early release day.
- Looking forward to the Summer Reading & Math programs. Encouraging students to participate, and to continue to read and also complete some of the fun Math websites over the summer.
- For next year, grades 2-5 will be departmentalized. These students will all have two teachers, except in fifth grade where the students will rotate through all three of the fifth-grade teachers throughout the day. Second and fourth grade were departmentalized this year.
- Our new Assistant Principal will be coming to the school tomorrow to meet with me and tour the building. Her name is Penny German and she is a very experienced Assistant Principal. She has most recently been working at Clopper Mill ES. She will officially begin here July 1st.

Staff Liaison Report (Karina Hirschhorn):

- Received a very nice letter from Ishani's parents for the "Hygiene Supply" drive for the homeless. They delivered all of the donated items to Wider Circle on May 28th. They are hopeful to make a thank you video which they will share with us.
- The Kindergarten team wanted to especially thank Mrs Coakley for Kindergarten Orientation. She did a great job and helped make everything run very smoothly.
- We had our final Bear Ways Assembly of the year. Thank you to Mr. Velasquez for being an incredible emcee.
- Book Fair is going great and actually really like having it in the Media Center. For next year, I would prefer though to have it a bit later in the year – possibly having the Picnic be the Kick-off to the Book Fair and then have it run for that week after. This would give the kids more time to check out books at the end of the year. For the Fall Book Fair, I would like to have it run a bit earlier – sometime after the first 2 weeks of school.
- Hanna Kahn will be here tomorrow to speak individually and do a writer's workshop for grades 3, 4, and 5. She will be doing 3 separate assemblies, so these will be very small and personalized assemblies. She will have a few extra autographed copies of her book, "Amina's Voice", which you can purchase if you did not get a chance to pre-order.
- The Summer Reading & Math information is now on the CG website. There are math web pages for the kids to practice their math. The Reading list link will also be on the website – this will also include the links for 5th graders for their upcoming Middle School. A representative will be here from MC Public Library at our Kick-off to Reading Assembly on Monday, who will also talk to our kids about the importance of reading over the summer. Each child will receive a packet toward the end of the school year, with all of the information about this Summer Reading & Math program.

Committee Reports:**Volunteer Coordinator (Jen Coakley):**

- Thank you to everyone for volunteering this year – you have been a huge help to me and to the Board and we greatly appreciate all that you do!
- We've got the Spring Picnic coming up on Friday night. We have plenty of SSL students that will be volunteering, so we should be all set.
- We still need several Chair positions filled for next year: Bingo, Spring Picnic, Spring Dance, Holiday Shop, Spirit Night, etc. If you are interested in Chairing a position or learning more about these events, please contact me.

Scholarship (Laurie Whitney):

- The Rodell Lee Swim Scholarship went really well and we had 29 applicants this year! I am happy to announce that Broden Fried's essay was selected as the winner this year. His parents have been notified that he won, and they are very excited about it! Congratulations to Broden!

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

- Thank you to Dawn for all of her hard work on the Spring Dance.
- We had a better turnout this year for the Spring Dance – think it helped that we promoted it one afternoon during dismissal – Sarenee Hawkins, Jen Strouble, and myself all dressed up in Mardi Gras gear and passed out flyers & talked it up, to get the kids excited for the event. Unique Dreams did a great job DJ-ing the event for us. One thing that we did a bit differently this year, that a few people commented that they liked, was that we put the cafeteria tables on one side of the room (to allow people to sit and eat), and then we put folding chairs on the other side of the room, which allowed for a lot more seating for the parents.

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

- The Book Fair is going really well so far, and the kids are very excited about this event. It will continue to run every day this week and it will wrap up during our End of Year Picnic (by 7pm this Friday night). We still need volunteers for the Book Fair, so if you are available, please sign up.

End of Year Picnic (PTA Board):

- It will be on Friday, June 9th, from 5:30-7:30pm at CG, and it will be a carnival theme.
- We will have Face Painting, Carnival style Games, Prizes, a Moon bounce, a Photo Booth, Maggi's Pizza Food truck, Kona Ice, etc. KidsCo will be doing the buses again for us. You can park on the right side of Potomac Valley Church and then the KidsCo buses will drive people to the school. The buses will run continuously throughout the entire picnic. The Book Fair will also be open during the Picnic to purchase any last-minute books.

Old Business / New Business:

- **Elections – We now need to vote for our new 2017-18 PTA Board:**
 - There are 2 candidates running for President – Nicole Shulman and Gangesh Gundeti. We did a secret ballot to cast our votes. Jen Coakley and Karina Hirschhorn counted the votes. Nicole Shulman won the election and will be our President for next year.
 - The nominations for Co-Vice President are Annie Karp and Lori Andrus. All in favor of Annie Karp and Lori Andrus as Co-Vice Presidents? All voted in favor.
 - The nomination for Treasurer is Lori Marshall. All in favor of Lori Marshall as Treasurer? All voted in favor.
 - The nomination for Secretary is Michele Tregoning. All in favor of Michele Tregoning as Secretary? All voted in favor.
- Nicole Shulman - Our bylaws state that the VP can only serve for 3 consecutive years and our current Vice President, who has been in office for 3 years, would like to run for a fourth year. We would like to amend our bylaws to have our VP serve for 4 years. Jodi Wilbanks made a motion to amend the bylaws. Mark Rutz seconded the motion. We all voted in favor, so the motion was passed.
- Nicole Shulman - The PTA and the Board would like to thank our retirees, Mrs. Christy, Mrs. M&M, and Mrs. Eschelman, for their hard work and dedication over their many years in service to the school and to our children. We are so grateful and truly appreciate everything you have done over the years. We presented the gifts, which Mrs. Jones will give to them.
- Nicole Shulman - The PTA Board also gave a gift to Mrs. Jones. We would also like to congratulate Mrs. Jones on her new position as Principal of Cashell ES and to thank her for all of her hard work here at CG. Since starting here at CG 2 years ago she has made a huge impact on the school, the students, and the PTA. We are grateful to her for everything she has done, and she will be sorely missed!
- Lori Andrus – I would like to take a moment in these notes to personally thank the Board for their incredibly touching gift of a brick that will be added to the CG sidewalk, in honor and memory of my Parents, Jerry & Frankie Williamson (both of whom have passed away over the course of these past 2 years). My Father was an Architect and Developer here in Montgomery County and actually designed and built quite a few MC Schools – he would be so honored to know that his name will live on here at this school. I was touched beyond words over this gesture and am honored to work with such an amazing group of people – from the bottom of my heart, thank you!!!

Nicole adjourned the PTA meeting at 8:30pm