

Cedar Grove PTA Meeting Minutes Tuesday, October 3, 2017

7:00 President Nicole Shulman called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.

President's Report- Nicole Shulman:

- Cluster Meeting Report- each school in our cluster shared the activities they have planned for the year. All schools are having some version of Around the World Night, a Spring Dance & most are having Book Fairs.
- 2019 the new Clarksburg elementary school will open. There will be a boundary study in April.
- Seneca Valley High School will re-open in 2020-2021. The boundary study will be in 2019.

Vice President's Report- Annie Karp:

- Our PTA drive is going on now. Please join to support the PTA. Membership cards will go out with the directory by Thanksgiving. The directory is once again being done by AtoZ, which also has an online app for members.
- Our Feed The Bears campaign is also going on now. So far, we have \$3,100 towards that, but a number of envelopes came in today and need to be counted.
- 100% of the campaign goes directly to the school to support teachers and kids.
- Last year we bought a mobile Promethean board with the Feed the Bear money. This is used primarily in Art & PE classes; so all students get to utilize it.

Vice President's Report- Lori Andrus:

- Shared what the Feed the Bear monthly contest prizes are and that currently Mrs. Stevenson & Mrs. Woo's classes are tied for September. The winning class will be based on the highest percentage of participating students. Every month a new winner will be chosen (through December).

Treasurer's Report- Lori Marshall:

- The budget was shared- what money has been spent and the income we have received.
- Thank you to Jen Loznak, Beverly Hazen, and Ava Guo for auditing the books this summer.
- The budget was approved at our last meeting, so money can be spent.

Secretary's Report- Michele Tregoning:

- Shared the 4 thank you notes the PTA has received from last year's events.

Committee Reports:

Volunteer Coordinator- Jen Coakley:

- Things are going well so far. The Book Fair is coming up next week and a [sign up genius](#) went out. We are in need of a chair for the Spring Dance. Please contact [Jen Coakley](#) if interested.

Around the World Night- Goldie Izadshenas

- Will be on October 13th in the APR from 6:30-8:30.
- 40 students are currently signed up, which is more than last year.
- Currently working on details for the kids in the fashion show.
- Hopes everyone will join us that night and have fun!

Spirit Nights- Kelly Liu:

- We earned \$170 from our Papa Johns spirit night
- Tuesday, October 17th there is a spirit night at the Chipotle in Milestone (they donate 50%) & Sweet frog (12-9)
- November 14th- Agrodolce all day

Book Fair

- Set up is Friday 10/6. It will be running all next week. Will be open during Open House and Around the World Night
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Staff Liaison Report- Karina Hirschhorn

- Thank you to the parents for supporting the summer reading & math challenges
- TV News is up and running. We have a YouTube channel you can subscribe to and see the morning news shows.

Principal's Report- Lee Derby

- The Color Run was a fantastic addition to the Welcome Picnic.
- Thank you for the staff appreciation lunch and other treats during pre-service week.
- Thank you to the PTA for your support of the summer reading and math programs.
- The last four weeks have been spent getting to know all the students.
- The county has added new assessments this year so those are being implemented.
- Our enrollment is at 619, which is slightly higher than projected.
- ¼ of the students are new to Cedar Grove (either K students or new to the CG area).
- There was a good turnout for the 3 back-to-school nights.
- The teachers are working on the new county initiatives.

- There is a new grading & reporting system, which will be discussed in detail at our November PTA meeting on 11/7.
- We are continuing to focus on small group instruction in reading and math.
- The mobile Promethean board was put together yesterday and is currently in the Art Room.
- We have conducted fire drills and there will be a lock down and shelter drill on Wednesday. A bus evacuation drill will be next month.
- All classroom volunteers and field trip chaperones need to complete the [online MCPS training](#). It is good for 3 years.
- For longer field trips, you need to get a background check with fingerprinting, which is good for life.
- Pink Out is every Wednesday in October in support of breast cancer awareness month.
- Friday is a half-day with dismissal at 1:20.
- Monday is Open House from 9:30-11:30.
- Picture Day is October 19th.

Parent Portal Presentation- Karina Hirschhorn

- There is access to the MyMCPS parent portal on the web, as well as an app you can get for your phone.
- Letters were mailed home today. If you haven't received a letter by Friday contact the school.
- Every child has their own access code.
- There are 2 navigational tool bars which gives you access to grades (report card grades for the elementary school), historical report card grade data, daily attendance report, student schedule (not accurate as far as time of day each subject occurs), school contact info, change password, add students, manage notifications & student emergency information.
- If student emergency information is incorrect or has changed, please contact Mrs. Fair. If you go in and change on your end, the school will have no record of the change.
- Parents can access the MCPS homepage, 504 plan (if applicable), student emergency info, library management system (online library card catalog), school lunch menus (My School Bucks, which in the future will be available for you to pay online for field trips as well).
- The presentation is available on the school webpage:
[http://montgomeryschoolsmd.org/uploadedFiles/schools/cedargroves/parents/CGES%20Elementary%20myMCPS%20Parent%20Portal%20Presentation%20\[2017-2018\].pdf](http://montgomeryschoolsmd.org/uploadedFiles/schools/cedargroves/parents/CGES%20Elementary%20myMCPS%20Parent%20Portal%20Presentation%20[2017-2018].pdf)

Cultural Arts- Lori Andrus

- Dr. Recess will be our first assembly. The program is about physical fitness and leading a healthy lifestyle. After the program he stays and participates in recess and has activities.
- There will be an author visit in November.

Nicole thanked everyone for helping with the Picnic and Color Run. Everyone enjoyed themselves!

Thank you for coming out tonight. Our next meeting is on Tuesday, November 7th at 7pm. Staff will be discussing the new grading and reporting system.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:15pm.