

CGS PTO Meeting – June 8, 2015 - APPROVED

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 pm.

Members present: Cathy Lowery, Maria Elena Arner, Bob McNichols, Reenie Peppers, Tinker Brace, Annette Richards, Terri Rinko, Caroline Scanlon, Sarah Chase and Michele Cuba

Secretary's report: Michele Cuba presented the minutes from the 5/11/15 meeting. Maria pointed out that 544 lbs of food were collected at Snow Ball instead of 455. Bob made a motion that the minutes be accepted with this correction. It was seconded by Caroline and passed unanimously.

President's report:

- Family Picnic- Great turnout. Good time was had despite rain.
- Thanks for a great year!

Treasurer's report: Bob McNichols presented the Treasurer's reports dated 6/8/15. Motion to accept the report as presented was made by Reenie. It was seconded by Maria and passed unanimously.

Director's report: Merri Kae could not attend so Cathy reported in her place.

- Culminating – Merri Kae has been very impressed as she has listened in on many of the culminating presentations!

Old Business:

- Kilroy robotics - Amy Kneipp mentioned to Cathy that they are starting to raise some funds using the gift card fundraiser.
- Senior Recognition – Format really changed due to growing size of CGS and budget for event. Few comments/suggestions were made:
 - Reception space too small.
 - No tickets were issued for reception and since it was paid for separately, folks could have potentially slipped in without paying. Announcement should be made at end of ceremony.
 - Maybe next year just do cake and drinks (need more drink stations). This year, cake was ordered for 300 and had at least 1 cake left.
 - 100 RSVP's came in after the date which is very stressful. Perhaps RSVP date should be set earlier next year.
 - If food is served again and we have it at UMW, they need to provide more staff to work the reception. We only had two folks and at times it seems that they were not getting food out fast enough.

New Business:

- T-shirt design contest – Michele passed around a flyer. Suggestions made to clarify acceptable formats for entries (jpeg or pdf) and that designs can only be one color. Winner will receive \$25 and a free t-shirt with their design. Deadline for submissions is June 30th. Entries will be sent out to CGS board for voting (without names of designers to keep it impartial).

- The following board positions were voted on during the meeting. Motion to accept the nominations was made by Caroline and was seconded by Bob and passed unanimously (see attachment for list of 2015/16 board members and committee chairs).
 - Please note that there are still a few positions available:
 - VP Caroline County
 - VP King George
 - Membership chair
 - Toolkit for Success chair
- New Student Orientation/Membership – August 19-20 (19th is @ the student’s CGS site and the 20th is @ Riverbend).
 - Maria mentioned that Colonial Forge’s new student orientation is on the 20th but it’s in the morning and the CGS is in the afternoon.
 - Need folks to help serve pizza, cake and to answer PTO questions for new families on the 20th at Riverbend. Reenie, Bob, Maria, and Michele have volunteered thus far. Could use a few folks from Caroline/King George as well.
 - Group discussed whether or not we should have laptops available and have parents sign up on-line for memberships that night.
 - Decided to have only paper available as on-line really slowed things down last year. Bob will have credit card reader available to process payments should folks want to pay that way.
 - After the orientation, families will be encouraged to sign up on-line.
 - Bob is checking into whether we can collect all of the information that we need in Square so that folks don’t have to go to two places to sign up.
 - Need to make sure that we have PTO reps at all of the orientations/back to school nights. This is a great place for Teacher Appreciation chairs to get names/emails for their committees.
 - Membership packets – will hand out at CGS new student orientation, send home with each student the first week of school, and may follow up with a post card to the homes sometime near the end of October. Be sure to include information about Amazon smile in packets.
- Senior Scholarship – In the past, we have established that seniors who apply for CGS scholarship must be a PTO member (their families). Someone asked if we should set a deadline by which they should join as some folks waited until late spring to join so that their student would be eligible. Need to decide on this before orientation so that deadline can be added to membership forms. Michele will send out an email to board about this soon.
- 2015/2016 budget - Bob went over a draft budget which he put together based on our spending from this year (and past budget trends). Goal for 15/16 is to not lose money on big events such as Fall social and Snow Ball. Everyone agreed that full price would need to be charged for Fall Social (last year PTO subsidized by \$5 per student). Motion to approve budget was made by Terri, was seconded by Maria and passed unanimously.

Committee and/or VP Reports:

Teacher Appreciation Committees:

- King George/Caroline – Terri reported that their teachers were given a \$10 gift card to Eileen’s Bakery.
- Riverbend – Caroline reported that their teachers were treated to breakfast, lunch (Panera), and a basket of goodies catered to a theme that each one chose.

Kudos & Good News:

- Johnathan Arner- Received 3rd place in the American Mathematics Competition 10 (AMC 10).
- Audrey Arner – Received the Colonial Forge CGS Junior Interdisciplinary award.
- Anna Rinko – Invited to be the keynote speaker for a panel of college professors (topic was a direct result of her culminating project).
- Franklin Rinko – Article in the FLS about his participation in a clinical trial for diabetics. It also mentioned that the subject of his culminating is diabetes technologies.

Next CGS PTO meeting will be on August 10 at 7:00 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:44 pm.