

CGS PTO Meeting – November 14th, 2016 - APPROVED

The meeting was called to order at 7:10pm.

Members present: Michele Cuba, Maria Arner, Denise Wallace, Merri Kae VanderPloeg, Lisa Bruer, Stephanie Smith, Mary Becelia, Jodi Redman, Clarissa Price (student), Jennifer Price, Doug Price, Susan Sprow, Lisa Earnesty

Secretary's report: **Maria Arner** – Lisa Bruer made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Lisa Earnesty seconded the motion and they were **unanimously approved**.

Treasurer's report: **Denise Wallace**

- Checking account balance: \$10,406.
- We made \$3,424 on Fall Social ticket sales and the cost of the event was \$3,695.
 - Denise suggested making ticket price end in 5 or 0...it's much easier to make change.

Director's report: **Merri Kae VanderPloeg**

- **Hungry Tummy donations**
 - Students were VERY generous with their donations. Many Title I schools received donations: Stafford County: 3, King George: 1, Spotsylvania County: 4, and Caroline County: 1 school.
- **Advisory Committee**
 - There were 26 very enthusiastic students at the first meeting (plus several more couldn't make it).
 - There will be a work session on November 16th at 6:30pm at Stafford High School.
 - "Committees" include: Sunshine Committee, staff/student relations, advocacy, marketing/PR.
- **Parent Information Nights** – for parents and students of rising freshmen.
 - Merri Kae has visited all middle schools.
 - Caroline County had their info night last week.
 - Stafford County schools will be this Thursday 6:30-8:30 at the Stafford and North Stafford sites.
 - King George will be on December 7th at 6:00.
 - Spotsylvania County will be on December 8th at 6:30.
 - Tours will start after Thanksgiving. Students in private schools and those homeschooled can tour Riverbend on December 8th.
- **Information dissemination:** possible avenues are: Spotsy Alert and Fredericksburg Parent site.
- **Alumni Breakfast** – will be in December on the Friday before the holiday break starts. Alumni return and talk to juniors and seniors about their college experience.
- Extra s'more fixings from Fall Social were given to the seniors at the end of their orienteering field trip.
- **Senior Symposium** will be April 26th 6:00-8:30.

Old Business:

- **Spirit Wear sales** – Order was picked up last Friday. Items are sorted and Merri Kae will be delivering to individual schools when she visits them. We got a late batch of orders from Stafford High School but we will be able to fill all orders.
- **Toolkit for Success/Merit Based Scholarship information night** – There was good attendance. Only received 10 surveys back.

New Business:

- **Teacher Grants** – We only received one grant application from Trent Garrison at Riverbend for DE Chemistry. Using a rubric of 30 points the committee average was 26 points. They recommend funding the grant. Maria Arner made a motion to purchase two Vernier Drop Counters for a total cost of \$209. Doug Price seconded the motion and it **passed unanimously**.
- **No December meeting.**

Committee and/or VP Reports:

- Spotsy High Site – Held a pie and cider day in October.

Kudos & Good News:

- Clarissa Price coordinated “Hounds at Hazelwild Farm”, a culminating project/Girl Scout Gold Award project. 120 patrons attended and she had 70 volunteers. There were many reenactments from the Egyptian, Medieval, and Colonial times. It was a lot of work and coordination but a huge success.
- A Stafford High girl has committed to Dartmouth to play field hockey.
- Two CGS students from Stafford High placed 7th and 12th in the state cross country meet.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:02pm.

Next PTO meeting – January 9th, 2017 at 7 p.m. - Central Rappahannock Library – Headquarters/
Downtown Branch

Prepared by:

Maria Elena Arner
2016-2017 CGS PTO Secretary