

CGS PTO Meeting – September 11th, 2017

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

Members present: Maria Arner, Denise Wallace, Merri Kae VanderPloeg, Michele Cuba, Vanessa McOsker, Mary Millburn, Courtney Millburn, Lisa Bruer, Becky Cuba, Cam Nguyen, Meghan Meadows, Vanessa Dover, Vanessa Sekinger, Kelly Crowder, Cherice Taylor, Jeanie VanDevender, Melissa Rice, Lori Smith

Secretary's report: **Maria Arner** – Vanessa McOsker made a motion to approve the August 14th, 2017 minutes with a few changes: change “Milburs” to “Milburn”; Under Director’s Report/2017-2018 enrollment change to “Most” sites are over capacity. Vanessa Dover seconded the motion and they were **unanimously approved.**

Treasurer's report: **Denise Wallace**

- Income to date: \$4,895.09
- Expenses to date: \$2,010.85
- Net for year to date: +\$2,884.24
- We have 99 memberships to date
- The deposit for Belvedere has been made.

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

- **All sites have now started school.**
- **Remind 101**
 - Information went home with students the first week of school.
 - Instant messaging text with important CGS information; program-wide announcements.
- **Richard Bland Junior College**
 - The new partner for DE Chemistry (junior year).
 - 40 colleges in VA will accept the DE Chemistry credit.
 - Looking at the possibility of touring Richard Bland and possibly VCU on election day.
- **Toolkit for Success/Merit based Scholarship information night – October 4th 7:00-8:30pm at Riverbend site.**
 - Merri Kae VanderPloeg, the CGS counselor, and Mr. Mulraney will do the toolkit portion.
 - Mr. & Mrs. Rinko will do the scholarship portion.
 - There will be time to attend both sessions.
- **Stafford County program review**
 - Wednesday, September 13th. At 6:00 the evaluation will be presented to the school board during their work session
 - At 7:00 a summary will be provided during the public meeting.
 - One recommendation was to give class credit for culminating. Stafford County is the only county where culminating isn't a separate grade.

Old Business:

- **None**

New Business:

• Membership

- New memberships are encouraged by September 29th.
- People can join/pay with check, cash, or with credit card online.
- We encourage people to become PTO members because that's how we communicate with parents. Every fall the list is purged of people no longer PTO members or requesting to stay on the list (alumni students and parents).
- Site with the largest percentage of memberships for underclassmen (9th and 10th graders) will get an ice cream/popsicle party.
- Site with the largest percentage of memberships for upperclassmen (11th and 12th graders) will get donuts.

• Spirit Wear Sales

- Will be placing an order on September 29th to fill orders. We only place one order/year. Items will be distributed to the sites the end of October.

• Parent Information Night

- Spotsylvania site is September 20th at 7:00pm.
- Riverbend date TBD.
- Stafford County doesn't have them.

• Fall Social – Belvedere on October 28th from 6-10pm

- Cost will be \$20 + 1 “hungry tummy” donation. Hungry tummy donations are individually wrapped snacks that Merri Kae VanderPloeg delivers to schools in all counties for children that need food.

• Teacher Grants

- The application will be online later this month.
- The plan is for the committee to review the applications in October.

Committee and/or VP Reports:

- **Snow Ball** – Michele Cuba met with the committee chairs at the storage site to look at the decorations we have. We're waiting for the robotics schedule to set the date. Event will be held at the Eagles Lodge in Stafford.

Kudos & Good News:

- Clarissa Price from Chancellor High School (Riverbend site) earned her Girl Scout Gold Award.

Open Floor:

- All Juniors should look into taking the PSAT; junior year scores are used for the National Merit scholarship finalists. Scholarships can be up to a full ride at some schools.
- No matter your financial status, ALWAYS fill out the FAFSA form; it's used to “recruit” students for specific scholarships.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20pm.

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

Prepared by:

Maria Elena Arner

2017-2018 CGS PTO Secretary