

CGS PTO Meeting – October 9th, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 7:05pm.

Members present: Maria Arner, Denise Wallace, Michele Cuba, Lisa Bruer, Cam Nguyen, Vanessa Dover, Vanessa Sekinger, Lori Smith, Jacqueline Beazley, Tyler Fisher, Tracy Ramos, Gwen Mingo-Jones

Secretary's report: **Maria Arner** – Vanessa Dover made a motion to approve the September 11th, 2017 minutes as written. Lisa Bruer seconded the motion and they were **unanimously approved**.

Treasurer's report: **Denise Wallace**

- Income to date: \$7,911.86
- Expenses to date: \$2,010.85
- Net for year to date: +\$5,901.01
- There were no expenses in the past month.
- There is ~\$1,200 on hand to be deposited.

Director's report: **Merri Kae VanderPloeg (not present; given by Michele Cuba)**

- CGS will host a **college day trip** on November 7th (Election Day) to Richard Bland College and VCU. The trip is open to 10th and 11th graders. Registration begins on October 16th by calling the CGS office. Trip departs from Riverbend at 8 am and returns at 4:30 pm.
- **Toolkit for Success/Scholarship workshop** - Thanks to those who attended our event last week, there was a great turnout. Special thanks to Sabrina Gladney (CGS Counselor) and Mr. Mulreany (Forge English teacher) who helped with the Toolkit portion and to the Rinko family for helping with the scholarship portion.

Old Business:

- **Membership Update:**
 - 222 memberships to date. There were 234 at this time last year.
 - Winners for highest percentage of memberships:
 - Underclassman site (will receive ice cream/popsicles) is Stafford with 68% of the freshman joining the PTO.
 - Upperclassman site (will receive donuts) is Riverbend with 62% of the senior class joining the PTO.
 - There is still time to join. Maintenance on the email list will be happening soon; PTO members from the 2016-2017 school year that haven't joined this year will be deleted (we will give alum opportunity to stay on list).
- **Spirit Wear sales** – Spirit wear sales have ended. The order was placed last week and we hope to be distributing items to the sites in about two weeks. Magnets, lanyards, and string backpacks are still available.

New Business:

- **Fall Social @ Belvedere –October 28th 6-10 p.m.**
 - Ticket price – \$20 + one hungry tummy donation (pre-packaged snack items for school staff to hand out to hungry students. We donate to elementary schools in the counties in which we have sites and we rotate which schools receive them).
 - If there are weather issues, an email will be sent and we'll post an update on the CGS website.
 - Chaperones are needed for this fun event. Please let Michele Cuba know if you can help. Unfortunately, Chaperones have to pay.
 - Belvedere will not give a discount for teachers so we ask families if they want to make a donation to sponsor a teacher (it doesn't have to be a full \$20 donation; any amount helps).
 - We will also be asking for snacks for the students for the event - smore fixings (graham crackers, marshmallows, chocolate bars), canned sodas, bottled water, and chips. Please send to site with your student or bring to the event that night.
 - Tickets will be on sale October 16th - October 26th at all of the sites. Tickets will also be available at the event for the same price.
- **Teacher Grants** – Our PTO Teacher grant application went out to teachers last Wednesday. They're due on October 18th. If you indicated that you were interested in helping evaluate grants on your membership form, Lisa Earnesty will be contacting you to meet later this month to review applications. We will be voting on the committee's recommendations at the November meeting. This year we have up to \$1,000 set aside for grants.
- **Snow Ball** will be held on March 10th, 2018. Theme is still TBD. Can't do masquerade because it's counties' policies that everyone's face must be able to be seen (no masks).
- **Email update:** Vanessa McOsker's email is incorrect on the paperwork that went out at the beginning of the school year. It should be: vmcosker@hotmail.com. She is our VP for Stafford County and the Teacher Appreciation chair for the Stafford site.

Committee and/or VP Reports:

- **None**

Kudos & Good News:

- **None**

Open Floor:

- A question was asked if there is any way that the PTO can help pay for AP tests for students that can't afford them. The response was that the PTO doesn't have a budget line for that, but individual schools typically know about students that need financial assistance and may be able to help.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:54pm.

Next PTO meeting – November 13th, 2017 at 7 p.m. at the Central Rappahannock Library – Headquarters/
Downtown Branch

Prepared by:
Maria Elena Arner
2017-2018 CGS PTO Secretary