

CGS PTO Meeting – February 12th, 2018

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

Members present: Maria Arner, Michele Cuba, Vanessa Dover, Vanessa Sekinger, Lori Smith, Tracy Ramos, Susan Besdick, Susan Sprree, Merri Kae VanderPloeg, Jodi Redman, Mary Millburn, John Hoger, Melissa Rice, Lisa Bruer, Mary Becelia

Secretary's report: **Maria Arner** – Melissa Rice made a motion to approve the October 9th, 2017 minutes as written. Mary Millburn seconded the motion and they were **unanimously approved**.

Treasurer's report: **Denise Wallace (not present; given by Michele Cuba)**

- Income to date: \$14,615.10
- Expenses to date: \$8,214.09
- Net for year to date: +\$6,401.01

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

- **HB 1322: Dual Enrollment Agreements**
 - Contact Delegate Mark Cole supporting the bill to open up enrollment to any community college in Virginia.
 - DelMCole@house.virginia.gov or 804-698-1088.
- **20th Anniversary All-Class Reunion**
 - June 23rd at Riverbend HS, 2-4pm
 - Need volunteers to set up and clean up
- **Summer Trip Plans**
 - Caving at Grottos, VA on July 11th (will probably cost \$20). Initially will only be open to freshmen.
 - Need parent chaperones in order for CGS to offer the opportunity.
- **New Student Orientation for Summer**
 - August 7th at Stafford HS 1:00-8:00pm
- **Spirit Club Organization Meeting February 27th after school at the CGS sites**
 - Make-up meeting, March 1st at 6:30pm at Chick-Fil-A near Cosners Corner.
 - Plan to help with Snow Ball set up, organize field games at the picnic, and a 20th spirit day on March 20th.
 - Will need new officers to take over next year.
- **Applications for 2018-2019**
 - Deadline for Spotsy is tonight. 14 students already in high school have applied.
 - Deadline for all other counties is February 14th.
- **Rotary Speech Contest**
 - Open to all students 9th – 12th graders. There are monetary awards.
 - Theme is: “Rotary making a difference”
 - Putting service above self.
 - 5 minute speech.
 - March 8th 6:30 at the library

Old Business:

- **Teacher grant update** - We didn't have any teachers apply for our CGS PTO Teacher grant this year but we did have one CGS organization, Model United Nations, ask if our PTO could help with their transportation expenses to the Model UN conference in Baltimore in February. This program has 45 students participating representing all grades and sites. The board members and grant chair participated in an email vote on January 9th and voted unanimously to give \$1,000 to help pay for a charter bus for the students.
- A CGS family had a house fire in January. They have 2 students in our program at the Spotsy Site. The PTO gave the family a \$50 gift card to Sheetz.
- Riverbend HS hosted an alumni breakfast before the holidays. Great stories were shared about how their lives have been impacted by CGS.

New Business:

- **Snow Ball** - March 10th 7:00-11:00pm at the Eagle's Lodge in Stafford (Cool Spring Road). The theme is "Let it Snow".
 - We need a police officer/law enforcement person to donate their time that night.
 - Ticket sales at each site start on February 23rd.
 - As a service component to the dance, Hungry Tummy donations will be accepted at the sites and at the event.
 - DJ has an option on-line where students can request songs. We have requested that he edit out any inappropriate ones. Lori will let students know when they can begin requesting songs.
 - Volunteer sign up & Donations for drinks and snacks coming soon.
- **College Forum** - March 27th 7-8:30pm at UMW in the University center Chandler ballroom. Several major VA universities will have senior admission reps on site to give information on college search process, admission process, writing your best college essay, and financial aid & scholarship info. Following the information session, floor will be opened for a time of Q&A.
- **Senior Essay Scholarship** –April 9th is the deadline. Families must be PTO members at this point for students to be eligible for a scholarship. Information will soon be distributed to English teachers, to student's emails, and will be available on the CGS website. Sarah Chase is the POC and will contact anyone who volunteered to help with Senior Scholarships.
- **Senior Recognition** - May 20th 2:00-4:30 at UMW (Dodd Auditorium) with a reception to follow. Mary Alice & Jodi Redman co-chairing event.
 - Plan to get phone chargers engraved with "CGS" for all graduates.
- **Family Picnic** - June 1st at Pratt Park in Stafford 4:30-7pm Mary Millburn is chairing the event.

Committee and/or VP Reports:

- **Teacher Appreciation Committees:**
 - **Spotsy** – Dec – Container of baked Christmas cookies/goodies for each teacher, tomorrow a Valentine breakfast and each teacher got a goody bag with candy, snacks and a \$30 gift card for dinner.
 - **Stafford** - \$40 gift card to each teacher in December; chili lunch in January for exams and a \$120 gift card to Olive Garden for teachers to order lunch; Valentine's cold-cut lunch and desserts.
 - **Colonial Forge** – sponsored a Christmas luncheon.

Kudos & Good News:

- Vanessa's daughter, a sophomore at Stafford High School, got a principle role in the spring production, "James and the Giant Peach".
- The Model UN team participated with 1,800 other students from around the world and had an amazing experience. Three teachers chaperoned.
- A senior from Stafford High School will be attending Stanford.
- Cole Ramos received a SEAP apprenticeship with the Navy at Dahlgren for this summer.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30pm.

Next PTO meeting – March 12th, 2018 at 7 p.m. at the Central Rappahannock Library – Headquarters/
Downtown Branch

Prepared by:

Maria Elena Arner

2017-2018 CGS PTO Secretary