

CGS PTO Meeting – March 11th, 2019

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

Members present: Maria Arner, Denise Wallace, Michele Cuba, Tracy Ramos, Elizabeth Utschig, Jennifer Grigsby, Sarah Goldsmith, Kristen Garvie, Lori Smith, Anne Sailas, Sue Bestick, Vanessa Sekinger, Melissa Rice

Secretary's report: **Maria Arner** – Tracy Ramos made a motion to accept the February 11th, 2019 minutes as written. Sue Bestick seconded the motion and they were **unanimously approved**.

Treasurer's report: **Denise Wallace**

- Income to date: \$13,853.14 (memberships, merchandise sales, donations, Amazon Smile, Fall Social ticket sales)
- Expenses to date: \$8,997.67 (spirit wear order, new student orientation, storage unit, fall social, snowball deposit, teacher appreciation, Robotics, family picnic deposit)
- Net for year to date: +\$4,855.47
- We have 233 memberships to date

Director's report: **Jennifer Grigsby**

- **CGS Application Process Update**
 - Applications by County
 - Caroline County – filled all 5 seats
 - King George County – filled all 20 seats
 - Spotsylvania County – filled all 60 seats plus 1 open sophomore seat
 - Stafford County – still in process; applicants will receive notification by the first week of April
- **AYGS February Meeting**
 - Dr. Poland from the VDOE has secured funding for professional development in NAGC microcredentialing courses for interested AYGS teachers in gifted education. In the future, this could become a VDOE alternative to the traditional gifted endorsement training recommended by the state evaluation system for AYGS programs. Three CGS staff will be starting these microcredentialing courses this spring.
 - There was a review of the changes to the gifted endorsement requirements and approved programs starting in August 2019.
 - By August 2019, anyone who applies after that date will be held to the new requirements of endorsement (more specificity for course requirements).
 - There will be an upcoming professional development session on twice-exceptional students on July 18th in Richmond focused on the Understand me component for 2E students from NAGC (VDOE/UVA working in collaboration).
 - FY 2020 state budget had not been approved as of this meeting on February 12th, 2019.
 - AYGS Conference will be in the fall of 2019 at Blue Ridge Virtual Governor's School focusing on differentiation, STEAM based learning, social-emotional learning, technology components for engagement, project-based learning, experiential learning with real-world applications, and extracurricular competitions.

- The next AYGS meeting is April 11th, 2019 in Richmond at Maggie Walker GS.
- All teachers have had a student engagement observation and post-observation conference. Round two of observations has begun.
- If students or parents have any concerns regarding CGS, please contact the teacher or site team directly to discuss those concerns. If the concern is not rectified or continues, please contact the director to continue that conversation.
- Students from the CGS King George site led a group activity for K-8 students at the KGPS STEAM Night on March 7th where they helped students create glitter water bottle tornadoes and explained the science behind the process. They made 108 bottle tornadoes that night, and this project served as the CGS King George service project.
- **CGS Summer Enrichment Applications** have gone out to students and are available online. The deadline for submission is March 22nd, and it is first come, first serve for all programs.
 - STEM Engineering Management Workshop – June 17th-21st; Rising 10th-12th graders ONLY.
 - College Day Trip to Virginia Commonwealth University & The Virginia Museum of Fine Arts – July 17th; Rising 10th-12th graders ONLY.
 - Chesapeake Bay Watershed Experience – July 29th-August 2nd; Rising Juniors & Seniors ONLY.
- **Upcoming Events**
 - **CGS Governing Board meeting** – March 21st at 4pm at the Stafford County School Board Office
 - **Heart Healthy & Wellness Day** – March 30th from 10am-2pm at Dixon Smith MS
 - Organized and created by CGS senior Alison Yablonski
 - Will serve as the CGS Stafford site service project
 - **CGS Senior Symposium** – April 11th at 6pm at UMW, Stafford Campus
 - **Cookies with the Commonwealth** - TBD

Old Business:

- None

New Business:

- **Masquerade Ball** – March 23rd from 7-11 pm at the Eagles Lodge in Stafford.
 - Tickets are on sale now: \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door.
 - Will send signups out again tomorrow – need decorating items, snack items & volunteers.
 - Ticket packets and donations need to be picked up from each site on Friday, March 22nd.
 - Must be able to see the students' faces when they check in. If students have inappropriate masks they will be taken away at check in.
- **College Forum** - March 27th at 7-8:30 pm at UMW in the University Center. This event provides very valuable information for Freshmen, Juniors, and Seniors. Admission reps will be on site to give information on the college search process, admission process, writing college admission essays, and financial aid info. Floor open to Q&A after presentations.
- **Senior Essay Scholarship** – Deadline for submission is March 30th (before midnight).
- **CGS Senior Recognition Ceremony** - May 19th from 2:00-4:30pm at UMW (Dodd Auditorium). Invitations will be mailed to Senior families soon.
- **CGS Family Picnic** - May 31st from 4:30-7:00pm at Pratt Park in Stafford.

- **T-shirt design contest**
 - Flyer will be distributed to students by March 25th.
 - Submissions will be due by April 26th.
 - Voting will be April 29th – May 10th and the winning design will be announced by May 13th.
- **Budget for 2019-2020** school year will be discussed at the April meeting and voted on at the May meeting.
- **Board for 2019-2020:** if you are interested in a board or committee chair position, please let Michele know. The Board will be voted on at the May meeting.

Committee and/or VP Reports:

- **None**

Kudos & Good News:

- Jordan Rice made the varsity lacrosse team.
- Cole Ramos from the Colonial Forge site is a National Merit Scholarship finalist and received an appointment to West Point.
- Andrew Kolandjian from the Colonial Forge site received a nomination to the Air Force Academy.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:09.

Next PTO meeting – April 8th, 2019 at 7 p.m. - Central Rappahannock Library – Headquarters/ Downtown Branch

Prepared by:

Maria Elena Arner, 2018-2019 CGS PTO Secretary