

CGS-PTO Meeting Minutes

9 September 2019, 1900 hrs
Fredericksburg Library Room LL2

Attendees: (see sign-in sheet)

Secretary's Report: Draft minutes from the August 12th, 2019 meeting were distributed. After review, they were unanimously approved.

Membership and Treasurer's Report: There have been no major expenses incurred since the August meeting. The CGS PTO memberships to date total approximately 66 signed up online and/or were previously processed. An additional 60 to 70 memberships and check payments were submitted immediately prior to this evening's meeting.

Director's Report (Mrs. Grigsby):

- Enrollment
 - 600 students as of 9/9/19
 - Caroline County – 20 out of 20 seats
 - King George County – 82 out of 80 seats
 - Spotsylvania County – 235 out of 240 seats
 - Riverbend Site – 123 out of 120 seats
 - Spotsylvania Site – 112 out of 120 seats
 - Stafford County – 263 out of 360 seats
 - Colonial Forge Site – 93 out of 120 seats
 - North Stafford Site – 82 out of 120 seats
 - Stafford Site – 88 out of 120 seats
 - It is now past the cut-off for at-will program disenrollment; only option remaining at this time is for extenuating circumstances.
- Toolkit for Success
 - Mrs. Grigsby taught a session to the freshmen class via Broadcast on study techniques and tools to be successful in both CGS and high school (and beyond). She received feedback from two of the six sites that they felt it was beneficial, they left with some new skills to try, and some suggestions on how to improve the session for the future.
- Field Experiences
 - Trips began this week
 - Canoe Trip on Motts Run Reservoir – 9/9-9/13 (Grade 9)
 - Theatre – *A Midsummer Night's Dream* – 9/12/19 (Grade 10)
 - Williamsburg Trip – 9/12/19 (Grade 11)
 - Theatre – *As You Like It* – 9/23/19 (Grade 12)

- Chesapeake Bay Field Station Overnight Trip (Grade 10)
 - 9/29/19-9/30/19
 - Rescheduled due to Hurricane Dorian
 - 10/7/19-10/8/19
 - Problem-Solving Workshop – 10/2/19 (Grade 9)
 - National Archives & The Newseum – 10/2/19 (Grade 10)
 - Theatre – *The Crucible* – 10/2/19 (Grade 11)
 - AP Testing
 - Deposits will be due soon to the home-based high school.
 - Students will sign up through their AP course account (probably in class).
 - Letter should be going home with your child within the next week.
 - Upcoming Dates
 - Middle School Recruitment Visits – October 2019
 - Middle School Site Visits – November 2019
 - Information Nights – November & December 2019
 - All application and notification of acceptance deadlines for Stafford County programs will match this school year.
 - Senior Symposium – Wednesday, April 22, 2020 at UMW Stafford University Hall 6-8:30pm
 - Culminating
 - The culminating course counts as a for credit course in all counties.
 - The mid-year grade will appear on all mid-year senior transcripts and final senior transcripts.
 - Culminating is a requirement of Virginia Department of Education (VDOE). Students in Stafford County (only) who are 10 – 12th grade may elect this to be a Pass-Fail course rather than a numeric grade. At this time, culminating is not a weighted course and parents are strongly urged to speak with their school systems if they wish for this to be weighted.
 - There has been no progress to report on the effort during this past year to obtain an agreement with Germanna Community College for Dual Enrollment (DE) credits.

Old Business: The online form for PTO membership enrollment and payment is up and working. Hardcopies of the membership form will go to sites later this week. Merchandise being sold via paper forms is occurring at a good rate, but PTO wishes to be mindful of order quantities to keep inventory minimized.

New Business: Three choices for the *Fall Social* were presented to membership by Vanessa Sekinger and Lynda Francis: Belvedere Farms, Kings Dominion, and FunLand in Central Park. The fourth option mentioned at the August meeting, Sky Zone, was discarded due to lack of ability to hold enough students. The per-student rates for an event, available amenities, and proximity to the student population were discussed, along with feasible dates and times.

Members present unanimously voted to pursue an event at FunLand for four hours on Sunday afternoon, October 13th, 2019. This requires a signed contract and deposit. Walk-Ins the day of the event can attend at the group rate. An optional \$3 add-on amenity per student for two slices of pizza and unlimited drinks is good only for those who pay in advance. Depending upon where the per-person price break falls, Ms.

Sekinger and Ms. Francis will pursue the contract at a 125 or 150 attendee commitment, and push the information out to the student body as soon as possible.

At the prompting from an attendee in the meeting, there has been no progress in discussion with Fredericksburg City Schools, regarding joining the surrounding localities in the CGS program. As now conceived, any students from Fredericksburg City admitted to the CGS program would join students at Stafford High School.

Committee and/or VP Reports:

Teacher Appreciation: President Hart reported for an absent Jack O'Brien that the Riverbend site teachers received a breakfast and snack pack in August, and would be receiving a Panera box lunch during September. Michael Hart reported that King George teachers received a delivery of brownies in August. There was no report from any of the Stafford sites.

Senior Ceremony: Mary Alice Adams has been pursuing a location for the May 17, 2020 Senior Ceremony. She was able to negotiate with the University of Mary Washington for a sponsored rate of \$4,997, but it doesn't preclude the CGS event being bumped to an alternate location on campus, the parking situation is less than desirable, and the experiences with catering staff at the site have fallen far short of expectations during prior years' events. She is meeting with the team at the Fredericksburg EXPO Center, who although hosting Marines earlier in the day for the Historic Half Marathon, is offering use of two ballrooms beginning at 4 pm for \$4,859 (editorial note, please verify this). Their catering service is provided by Sodexo, and several members present indicated their favorable experiences when attending events at the Fredericksburg EXPO Center. Members present were of consensus to pursue a contract with Fredericksburg EXPO Center, and inform Director Grigsby as soon as possible, because parents of Seniors are already inquiring of the date and timing for the event.

Snow Ball: No member was present to report on status of a potential agreement to utilize the Eagles Lodge for the Snow Ball, with a potential date of March 7, 2020. This needs to be locked into the scheduling of the venue soon.

Kudos/Good News: President Hart read a note from student Wendy Poe, thanking the CGS PTO for her scholarship.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:22 pm.

The next meeting is October 14, 2019 (Columbus Day), at the Central Rappahannock Regional Library – Headquarters/Downtown Branch, in room LL2, at 7 pm.