

CGS PTO Meeting – November 11, 2019

The meeting was called to order at 7:00.

Members present: Maria Arner, Michael Hart, Jennifer Grigsby, Lynda Francis, Jack O'Brien, Vanessa Sekinger, Marisha Lecea, Lori Smith, Walter Hamm, Denise Wallace, Rudy Catahan, Susan Catahan

Secretary's report: Maria Arner – Jack O'Brien made a motion to approve the October 14, 2019 minutes with one change (Washington, DC trip is 12/4 not 11/4). Lynda Francis seconded the motion and they were **unanimously approved**.

Treasurer's report: Marisha Lecea

- Bank balances as of October 31, 2019
 - Checking: \$9,168.95
 - Money Market: \$10,400.79
- Requested information on Membership and Merchandise totals so she can fill out budget tracking.
- There was an attempt to pay the spirit wear invoice but not sure the payment has gone through.

Membership report: Denise Wallace

- As of September 10th we had 132 PTO members. Denise hasn't received membership forms/info since then.
- Next year we need to do the incentive "competition" again to encourage membership at the sites.

Director's report: Jennifer Grigsby

- **Enrollment**
 - 592 students as of 11/11/19
 - Colonial Forge Site – 93 students
 - North Stafford Site – 79 students
 - Stafford Site – 86 students
 - King George Site – 101 students
 - Riverbend Site – 123 students
 - Spotsylvania Site – 110 students
- **Field Experiences**
 - Trips continue to run smoothly!
 - Our Enrichment Day event was well received, and the students seemed to thoroughly enjoy themselves while learning new skills or content!
 - Upcoming Trips
 - Pamplin Park Trip – 11/20 – Grade 11
 - Theatre Trip – *A Christmas Carol* – 12/4 - Grade 9
 - Library of Congress Trip – 12/4 – Grade 10
 - Replacing Mock Congress Trip due to renovations of the Richmond House of Delegates (just this school year)
 - Dr. Atalay Presentation – 12/11 – Grade 10

- **Junior Pinning Ceremonies**
 - Riverbend Site – last spring 2019
 - Stafford Site – October 11th
 - North Stafford Site – October 17th
 - Spotsylvania Site – November 11th @ 8am
 - Colonial Forge Site – November 18th @ 2:30pm
 - King George Site – December 19th @ 8am

- **Dates**
 - Middle School Information Visits – October 2019
 - Visited all 17 middle schools across the four counties; 13 out of 17 schools provided all eligible students in the sessions.
 - Middle School Site Visits – November & December 2019
 - Information Nights
 - November 4th – Caroline Middle School – 6pm
 - November 14th – King George Middle School – 5:30pm
 - November 14th – Holy Cross Academy – 7pm
 - November 25th – Stafford HS & North Stafford HS – 6:30pm
 - December 4th – Spotsylvania HS & Riverbend HS – 6pm
 - Senior Symposium – Wednesday, April 22, 2020 at UMW Stafford University Hall 6-8:30pm
 - Senior Recognition Ceremony – Sunday, May 17, 2020 at Fredericksburg Expo Center 4:00pm

- Observations of teachers have begun. Every teacher is observed twice per school year, and Mrs. Grigsby meet with each teacher individually to provide them with feedback on their observation. Additionally, teachers are working on adding more engaging strategies to their lessons that are less frequently used in order to continue growing and improving their skill sets.

- CGS Kilroy Robotics is in need of three laptops computers that can efficiently run Windows 10. If you are able to donate a laptop or know of a community partner that might be willing to donate funds or a laptop, please contact Mrs. Grigsby.

Old Business:

- **Membership Email list**
 - Will discuss after the meeting.

New Business:

- **SnowBall – February 21, 2020 at the Eagle’s Lodge in Stafford 7:00-11:00PM**
 - Location, DJ, and photo booth deposits have all been made.
 - Vanessa Sekinger sent a survey to the students and received 286 responses (representing all grades at all locations) with the following results:
 - 58% of the respondents wanted gum ball for the theme; “A Sweet Winter Evening”.

- **Fall Social Responses**
 - 77% of the students want to return to Belvedere
 - Those that attended this year had fun.
 - Those that didn't attend provided the following reasons: 34% had other plans; 30% didn't like the location; 15% said it was too expensive.
 - Ticket Sales: 64.7% purchased in person, and 35% purchased tickets online.
 - A few students requested moving it back to Saturday. There were a few religious objections for a Sunday event.
 - For 2020 look at holding Fall Social on Sunday of Columbus Day Weekend.
- Maria Arner will contact the Senior Scholarship Chairperson. We need to vote on the writing prompt at the January meeting and get the application to all seniors in January.

Committee and/or VP Reports:

- **Teacher Appreciation:**
 - Jack O'Brien (Riverbend site) met all of the students and took 360 thank-you cards for the students to write thank-you notes to the teachers.
 - Michael Hart (King George site) hosted a pizza party for the teachers for Halloween.

Kudos & Good News:

- Michael Arner from the Colonial Forge site will run in the state cross country meet next weekend.

Michael Hart won't be able to attend the January meeting so Vanessa Sekinger will run the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned around 8:00.

Next PTO meeting – January 13, 2020 at 7 p.m. - Central Rappahannock Library – Headquarters/ Downtown Branch

Prepared by:

Maria Elena Arner, 2019-2020 CGS PTO Secretary