

CGS PTO Meeting – February 10, 2020

The meeting was called to order at 7:07.

Members present: Maria Arner, Lynda Francis, Vanessa Sekinger, Marisha Lecea, Denise Wallace, Diane O’Hara, Selina Bautista, Janet Spencer, Jeanie VanDevender, Minnette Reid, Elizabeth Utschig, Michael Hart

Secretary’s report: Maria Arner – Janet Spencer made a motion to approve the January 13, 2020 minutes as written. Michael Hart seconded the motion and they were **unanimously approved**.

Treasurer’s report: Marisha Lecea

- Bank balances as of January 31, 2020:
 - Checking: \$8,499.81
 - Money Market: \$10,401.32
- There were a lot of deposits for new memberships in January. There were a few donations, one merchandise order, and ~\$6 in fees for Square purchases.
- Marisha is still waiting on information on membership and merchandise to fill out the budget tracking form.
- Request was made, and approved, to purchase a book of stamps so that Marisha can mail checks.

Membership report: Denise Wallace

- There are currently 207 members.

Director’s report: presented by Michael Hart

- **Enrollment**
 - 586 students as of 02/10/2020 (Same enrollment as last month).
 - Letters of Intent went out to students last month. If parents not receive one from students, please ask them about it and what their plan is for returning next year. Students who are contemplating not returning will need to have a meeting with their teacher team to discuss any plan moving forward. These letters are not binding, but they help give us an idea of seats available for upperclassmen applicants. Thanks!
- **Field Experiences**
 - Upcoming Trips
 - Dr. Atalay Presentation – 2/26 – Grade 10
 - Film Workshop – 2/26 – Grade 11
 - Embassy Trip – 2/26 – Grade 12
 - Holocaust Museum – 3/4 - Grade 9
 - Poetry Workshop – 3/4 – Grade 12

- **Dates**
 - **Application Process**
 - Caroline County – 13 applicants for 5 seats
 - Stafford County – 190+ applicants for 90 seats
 - King George County – 30 applicants for 20 seats
 - Spotsylvania County – 190+ applicants for 60 seats
 - All applicants are in the midst of the process, and all counties should be informing candidates of their selection status by the end of March at the latest.
 - **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. Mrs. Grigsby has completed observations of all teachers at Stafford HS, Riverbend HS, and Colonial Forge HS. Her next group observed will be King George HS starting at the end of this week. Every teacher is observed annually, and she meets 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.
- Mrs. Grigsby sent out emails regarding PTO membership, which did bring in some new members as she has been picking up checks, which were delivered to Denise Wallace last week.
- Mrs. Grigsby sent out the Sign-Up Geniuses for the Gum Ball dance to all parents as well, and a number of families responded that they were planning to donate. Special shout-out to Mrs. Wynes and the King George HS theatre department for allowing CGS to borrow some of their props from their Willy Wonka show to use as decorations for the Gum Ball dance!
- Mrs. Grigsby had bronchitis and sent her sincerest apologies for not being able to attend the meeting.

Old Business:

- **Membership Email list**
 - Mrs. Grigsby sent an email to all the CGS parents she has an email address for, and Maria Arner reached out to the Google email group encouraging people to join the PTO. There seems to be a decent response of parents joining the PTO.
- **SnowBall – February 21, 2020 at the Eagle’s Lodge in Stafford 7:00-11:00PM**
 - Set-up slots are 5-7 and 7-9PM on Thursday (2/20), and 1-3 and 3-5PM on Friday (2/21).
 - Tickets have been delivered to all the sites for immediate sales.
 - Dance starts at 7:00PM and a cash box is needed at 6:00PM Friday night.
 - Designated people will pick up cash/left-over tickets at the sites and meet at Barnes & Noble in Fredericksburg at 11:00AM on Thursday, February 20th.

New Business:

- **SnowBall Date 2021**
 - Need to schedule a date for next year ASAP. Need to look at all counties' school calendars.
- **Prepaid Envelopes for mail from sites**
 - Michael Hart made the suggestion of purchasing prepaid envelopes (flat-rate envelopes are \$6.95) for all of the sites to get mail from the sites to the office at Riverbend. After discussion, it was decided that this would be too costly.
- **2020-2021 Board Members**
 - Michael Hart will create a document advertising for board members for next year.
 - Maria Arner will work on "position descriptions" for review so that potential board members and committee chairpersons will know what they're getting in to before they "sign up".

Committee and/or VP Reports:

- **Merchandise Chairperson: Diane O'Hara**
 - She is looking at a potential new vendor; looking to get the best value for the best products.
 - The t-shirt design contest has been advertised and submissions are due on March 9th.
 - Discussion about letting the artist choose the shirt and ink color (one color of ink allowed).
 - She is looking at the price-point of the items and merchandise sales may become a "fundraiser".
 - Considering two sales periods: starting with the picnic until second week of school; and in November for Christmas.
 - She will present a business plan at the March or April meeting.
- **Teacher Appreciation:**
 - Spotsy: will be providing dinner for the CGS teachers for conferences tomorrow night.
 - King George: gave Amazon gift cards for Christmas; provided a subway feast when school resumed after the holidays.
 - Stafford: "stocked the shelves" after the holidays.

Kudos & Good News:

- None presented.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20.

Next PTO meeting – March 9, 2020 at 7 p.m. - Central Rappahannock Library – Headquarters/
Downtown Branch

Prepared by:

Maria Elena Arner, 2019-2020 CGS PTO Secretary