

CGS PTO Meeting – March 9, 2020

The meeting was called to order at 7:00.

Members present: Michael Hart, Jennifer Grigsby, Maria Arner, Lynda Francis, Vanessa Sekinger, Marisha Lecea, Selina Bautista, Janet Spencer, Jeanie VanDevender, Elizabeth Utschig, Lori Smith

Secretary's report: Maria Arner – Michael Hart made a motion to approve the February 10, 2020 minutes as written. Lynda Francis seconded the motion and they were **unanimously approved**.

Treasurer's report: Marisha Lecea

- Bank balances as of February 29, 2020
 - Checking: \$15,092.66
 - Money Market: \$10,401.48
- We received \$87.88 from Amazon Smile this quarter.
- Marisha reached out to the Commonwealth of Virginia State Corporation Commission. We have to pay \$25 for our annual registration fee assessment and change from Merri Kae VanDerploeg's name to Michael Hart's name.
- Marisha is still waiting on information on membership and merchandise to fill out the budget tracking form.

Membership report: Maria Arner for Denise Wallace

- There are currently 209 members. Have received 5 more via Square and 2 via paper.

Director's report: Jennifer Grigsby

- **Enrollment**
 - 586 students as of 03/09/2020 (Same enrollment as last month).
 - Letters of Intent are past due. 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
 - Marine Corps Museum – Grade 9 – 3/25
 - Washington, DC – Grade 11 – 3/25
 - Pi Day – Grade 12 – 3/25
 - Indirect Measurement Workshop – Grade 10 – 4/1
 - Public Utilities – Grade 9 – 4/1
 - National Gallery of Art – Grade 9 – 4/24
 - USA Science & Engineering Festival – Grades 11 & 12 – 4/24
 - CoVid-19 Update
 - All trips are still scheduled. If the risk level increases from the CDC and/or VDH, we may cancel or postpone some of these trips. If trips are changed, Mrs. Grigsby will email all students and parents with the information.

- **Dates**
 - Application Process
 - All counties have sent letters to applicants, and King George County & Spotsylvania County have submitted their finalized rosters to the CGS Office.
 - 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 all 48 teachers will be complete this week. Every teacher is observed annually, and Mrs. Grigsby 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.
- Summer field experiences are being organized. We are submitting paperwork and awaiting approval from Spotsylvania and Stafford counties on our selected trips. We have received approval from King George and Caroline counties.
- Thank you to Elizabeth, Lori, and all of our parent volunteers for their contributions to make the Gum Ball event amazing for our students!
- Shout out to Zane Darden for being invited to compete in the American Invitational Math Exam. He is our first CGS qualifier since 2013, and he will test on March 11 from 8-11am. The American Mathematics Competitions are a series of examinations and curriculum materials that build problem-solving skills and mathematical knowledge in middle and high school students. The first level of competition is the AMC 10 and AMC12. The AMC 10 and AMC 12 are both 25-question, 75-minute, multiple choice examinations in high school mathematics designed to promote the development and enhancement of problem-solving skills. The AMC 10 is for students in 10th grade and below, and covers the high school curriculum up to 10th grade. The AMC 12 covers the entire high school curriculum including trigonometry, advanced algebra, and advanced geometry, but excluding calculus.

The American Invitational Mathematics Examination (AIME) is a challenging competition offered for those who excelled on the AMC 10 and/or AMC 12. The AIME is a 15 question, 3-hour examination, each answer is an integer number between 0 to 999. The questions on the AIME are much more difficult than those on the AMC 10 and AMC 12. Top scoring participants on the AIME are invited to take the USAMO or USAJMO.

Qualification parameters for AIME vary with the results of the AMC 10/12 competitions. For AMC 10, invitations are issued to at least the top 2.5% of all scorers. For AMC 12, invitations are issued to at least the top 5% of all scorers.

- **College Information Night**
 - UMW has reached out to Mrs. Grigsby about this event. Are we wanting to participate this year? It was decided yes and Michael Hart will take the lead.
- **Super FAFSA night**
 - Mrs. Grigsby would like to host a night in the fall where families can come in and actually fill out their FAFSA form.
 - Would invite the Rinkos to talk about scholarships on the same night.

Old Business:

- **Membership/Email list**
 - Has been taken care of. We're now using the current Membership spreadsheet for the email distribution list.
- **SnowBall Feedback**
 - Was a very successful event and everyone seemed to have a good time.
 - We sold ~467 tickets.
 - 220 pounds of peanut butter and jelly were delivered to the Fredericksburg Food Bank.
 - Food, especially the candy bar, was a big hit.
 - Students felt that it was a good value for the ticket price.
 - We received excellent customer service from the Eagles Lodge; after the fact we couldn't get in on Thursday night to decorate.
 - We need a separate station for students to fill out raffle tickets because there was a big backup.
 - Is there really a need for students with tickets to sign in? If not, can get them in the dance quicker and alleviate a line out front.
 - There are decorations in storage for four rotating themes: Snow Ball, Masquerade Ball, Gum Ball, and Starry Night.
- **Prepaid Envelopes for mail from sites**
 - Discussed last month. Will not be providing them. Will suggest Teacher Appreciation chair people pick up money/tickets from sites before big events (Fall Social and Snow Ball).

New Business:

- **SnowBall Date 2021**
 - We discussed a date for next year. Date decided upon is: Saturday, February 27th with March 6th as a snow date.
- **T-Shirt Design Contest**
 - Five submissions have been received so far.
 - Diane suggested that we extend the deadline to March 23rd so that students have a chance to work on the designs over spring break. It was agreed upon to extend the deadline.
- **Senior Scholarship**
 - The deadline is March 29th. Mrs. Grigsby will send a reminder to all seniors.
- **Senior Symposium**
 - Wednesday, April 22, 2020 6:00-8:30PM at UMW Stafford, University Hall.
- **Senior Recognition**
 - Expo Center has been reserved for Sunday, May 17th.
 - Questions on food, ticket cost, gift, invitations, how families RSVP. Have these issues been addressed? Typically, they're discussed at a membership meeting where everyone has input and decisions are made.
- **Family Picnic**
 - Have requested Friday, May 8th from Pratt Park (have reached out twice) but no return so far and haven't made a down payment yet.

Committee and/or VP Reports:

- **Merchandise Chairperson: Diane O'Hara (via email)**
 - Draft with options is being worked and will be presented at April's meeting for consideration. Refer to minutes from Feb PTO meeting for some of the possible changes, including a vendor-run online store that will allow for more product variety without added cost to the PTO.
- **Teacher Appreciation:**
 - Stafford: Ms. Siegmund shattered her ankle and they're setting up meals for her.

Kudos & Good News:

- Montgomery Cox from the Spotsy Site was recognized at the Courtland Winter Athletics Awards ceremony with the presentation of his varsity letter in wrestling.
- At the UMW Coding Competition CGS was well represented (Riverbend had 3 students). Jadzia Lecea was involved.
- Michael Arner from the Forge site got 5th place in the 3,200 meter race at the Indoor Track State meet.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20.

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

Prepared by:

Maria Elena Arner, 2019-2020 CGS PTO Secretary