



**STEVENS FOREST ELEMENTARY
PTA**

6045 Stevens Forest Rd,
Columbia, MD 21045

<http://sfespta.weebly.com/>



PTA Board Meeting 11/2/2021

****Meeting was recorded and minutes were taken from the recording****

Maya Green called the meeting to order; meeting took place in a hybrid format.

Board Members Present:

President - Maya Green

*Vice President of Fundraising – J'Ne St Cyr

Vice President for Membership – Andre Neuland

Treasurer - Mike Elser

Corresponding Secretary - Mary Amponsah

*PTACHC Delegate – Nina York

*PTACHC Delegate – Rikki McCoy

*denotes that board member was present virtually

Other Members Present:

Dr. Joy Smith

Mrs. Katie Carter

Kimberly Arndt

Nathan BrownEagle

Rose BrownEagle

Megan Williams

James Kulikowski

Gillian Jimenez

Amanda Kulikowski

Marcus Jackson

Patricia Tolson

Elizabeth Lakey

Jenny Flores

Tangie Chen

David Blagg

Board Members Absent:

Sylvia Hennesie - Recording Secretary

Vice President for Programs – Nadia Herron

Agenda

Motion to approve meeting agenda by Mike Elser

Seconded by – Mary Amponsah

Call to vote; motion passed unanimously.

Approval of past meeting minutes

Motion to approve past meeting minutes by Mary Amponsah

Seconded by – Mike Elser

Call to vote; motion passed unanimously.

Membership Report – Andre Neuland

- Currently 61 members (up 4 from last meeting)
- Efforts to increase membership will target teachers - potentially raffle, and flyers for student folders

Administrative Report: Dr. Smith

- Vaccine requirement for volunteers, cannot have visitors in school
- Need volunteers for outdoor eating, can confirm vaccination status on PinPoint, can also sign up for multiple schools
- Tune-In Tuesday, next one is 11/9, guest reader
- Q1 report cards available 11/10, on HCPSS Connect, steps will be sent out on how to access through Family File
- Fall Conferences offered virtually, sign up 11/8 through 11/18, conferences are 11/22 - 11/24; information will be sent out on how to sign up
- Next month administration will have School Improvement Plan updates, will need extra time in agenda for next meeting
- Reach out to administration with any questions or concerns at any time

Administrative Report: Mrs. Carter

- Outdoor dining update: Beginning 10/11 expanded to parent volunteers using the sign-up system, now able to invite additional students outside. Volunteers must be with badged staff members and help with transitioning students to and from cafeteria, helping staff and students during lunch
- On 10/18 tent delivered; on a few occasions were able to have entire cafeteria outside for lunch between tent and front canopy (due to extra staff and parent volunteers); students are able to stay inside if they prefer, typically 3-5 students chose to remain inside with a staff member during instances when a whole grade level went out at once
- SFES has been allotted 4 additional L/R monitors, however have only been able to hire 2 because there are not many interested candidates, potential 3rd coming on board
- If you know anyone who wants a PT job, let Mrs. Carter know; scheduled work times are 10:30am - 2pm, but can be flexible with time if needed

- Mrs. Carter will continue to send out sign-up for outdoor lunch shifts, need help from volunteers

Treasurer report: Mike Elser

- paid \$170 for PTACHC dues
- paid \$250.75 for National PTA membership dues (for 59 members)
- Restaurant Night was successful (J'Ne to give more information on this)
- received donation from Sarah Hayden Foundation for author visit (\$450, also received additional \$450 prior)

Action Item(s): Mike to contact Sarah Hayden Foundation to confirm amount received was accurate, will not add second donation check into account/budget until confirmed

Committees

VP of Programs - Nadia Herron (report given by Maya Green & Mary Amponsah)

- Trunk or Treat - had to be canceled due to rain, Board met on Thursday, 10/29 to create treat bags for students, and bags went home with students on Friday
- Turkey Trot is next event, 11/20 - partnering with PE teachers who will create the course and have students practice during PE class; grade-level competition, each lap will earn a point and prize for winning grade, parents can run with students; HC Parks & Rec will be there, Wegmans donated gift card for fruit for students after run, DJ, fitness activities, balloon arch

VP of Fundraising - J'Ne St Cyr

- Spirit Wear sale begins this week, sweatshirt and long-sleeved option, will be another sale in the Spring
- Restaurant Nights
 - (Sonoma's) - \$200
 - (Pizza Man) - still waiting on numbers, may have by tomorrow
 - Panera Break for this month
 - Merchants are on Scrip RaiseRight when possible
- Scrip Program - 8 people signed up (2 teachers) and actively using, earned \$200 this past month; so many vendors available and ways to be used, email J'Ne at SFESFundraisers@gmail.com so she can track who is signed up and have oversight of participants

PTACHC Rep – Nina York & Rikki McCoy

- Describing new legislative bills that county is hoping for in the near future
 - School redistricting - provide analytics from state so that redistricting is data driven, will save a lot of money for county down the line
 - Affordable housing trust fund
 - Tax commercial buildings, to use for deferred maintenance with buildings
 - Council Meeting, to discuss commercial builder exemptions
 - County wants schools to be considered overcrowded at 100% capacity vs current 110% capacity
 - Safe Streets - sidewalks and walkability
 - Renaming commission - every school will be reviewed to see if they need to be renamed,

if decided yes, there will be a committee formed

Other Updates

- **SECAC Rep - we are still looking for a representative, please contact Maya sfesbobcatspta@gmail.com if you are able to fill this role!**
 - Dr. Smith reached out to some families but has not received a response
- BOE meeting for PTA Presidents - Maya attended
 - substitute shortage, about half of subs are not taking jobs, HCPSS is providing incentives increasing pay rate, bonus for working extra days, PD funds
 - also shortages in bus drivers and cafeteria staff
 - more supports for students in quarantine
 - supports for LGBTQAI+ students and families, Rainbow Representative is Mrs. Carlson (School Counselor)
 - Digital Education Center will continue and may be expanded
 - Question about mask requirements within schools once vaccine is available for children ages 5-12; currently state mandated

New Business:

- (Jenny Flores) Books for Bobcats, Bookmobile - TSES used Title 1 money to do activities around neighborhood
 - SFES Bookmobile could be created to distribute books gathered from MD Book Bank
 - Could also include resources for families
 - Question about cost required for PTA - no cost for gas, Jenny would use her van to transport books
 - Jenny to talk with Nadia and Maya about details, Jenny will chair whole program
 - Vote tabled until next meeting
- General question about SFES Title 1 funding, schools have to submit proposals to Title 1 Office for approval to use funds, school needs family participation (completing surveys of interest, attending events) - Dr. Smith will check with Title 1 Office about funding specific to our school; can ask Title 1 Point of Contact to speak to PTA
- Educational and Cultural Arts funding ideas
 - Mobile Stem Lab (after school hours)
 - Maryland Science Center - eight staff members and eight centers/stations, \$1500
 - Idea Lab - Family Night of stations, \$525, but not as many stations and staff members, would be supporting a local business
 - Mike to connect with other schools to find out feedback, and will decide at next board meeting
 - Idea Lab aftercare program - optional as either supplemental for students enrolled in CA aftercare, or bring in additional students who are not currently in CA aftercare
 - Science Fair/STEM Night - set money aside to provide supplies if needed
 - Reflections - set money aside to provide supplies if needed *would need to be added as a program/line item

- Items above tabled - will discuss and vote at next meeting
- Field Trips - set money aside to supplement funding for costs of field trips, 5th grade has asked for help; want to include line item for PTA support (enrollment is 330 students, would budget \$2500 overall); will create way to
- *Motion to add \$2500 line item for Field Trip Enhancements/Educational Spending, motioned by Mike Elser, seconded by Maya Green, called to vote - motion passes*
- New breakdown of budget: 37% for educational, 10% administrative, 20% staff support, 32% community building
- Hats and Gloves - PTA would like to provide for students who may forget or not have with weather changing and getting colder, can give to grade-level paras to give out as needed and PTA will replenish as needed
 - Motion - Budget \$500 for hats and gloves, buy in bulk quantity, and handout as needed
 - Motioned by Maya Green, seconded by Mary Amponsah, called to vote - motion passes
- Vision and Hearing Screening volunteers 12/1 and 12/8, if interested email Cordelia Lamb: cordelia_lamb@hcpss.org
- (Gillian Sussman) Cub Scouts - Pack 371 (divided into dens for each grade), meets at Christ Memorial Presbyterian Church most Thursday nights at 7pm; open to K-5, boys and girls; do a lot of community service, camping/hiking, use tools, etc. Wanting to increase enrollment from Stevens Forest Community, flyer went home; www.pack371.com
- Grade Level Ambassadors - extra layer of support to help parents connect and navigate school year, preference is that is not a Board member to get more families involved, grade-level representative
 - will discuss in more detail next meeting, can ask teachers to suggest parents
 - Maya and J'Ne will create description to share with community
 - Jenny Flores will be ambassador for 5th grade

Meeting Closure

Motion to adjourn by Maya Green

Seconded by Mike Elser

Call to vote; motion passed unanimously.

Adjourn

Meeting Adjourned