



STEVENS FOREST
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PTA
6045 Stevens Forest Rd. Columbia, MD 21045
sfespta.weebly.com



PTA General Meeting- 12/2/15

Quiana Holmes called meeting to order at 6:34 p.m. in the media center.

Board Members present:

President - Quiana Holmes
Vice President for Membership – Lena Kennedy
Vice President for Fundraising – Vacant
Vice President for Programs – Krista Threefoot
Recording Secretary - Daphne Harrington
Corresponding Secretary - Jonathan Edelson
Treasurer – Jessie Patterson

PTACHC delegate – Reg Avery

Administrators and Teachers:

Principal – Ernesto Diaz

Board Members absent:

General Membership Present:

See attached sheet.

It is established we have a quorum

Reading and approval of the meeting agenda:

1. Motion to approve the agenda
2. Vote: approved the agenda

Reading and approval of the Meeting Minutes: 11/4/15

General Introductions

Highlights:

Turkey trot - fundraiser of the fall - very nice event
\$1500 raised so far
Thanks to Tracy for fruit donations and Daphne for being Bobby Bobcat

Author/Illustrator visit on 12/1 - Jennifer O'Connell - nice presentation with discussion, reading of a book, and some painting demonstrations

Oakland Mills Village Board Presentation: Ginny Thomas, Bill McCormack, and Bill Woodcock Presentation of check from the Oakland Mills Village Board to the SFES PTA – with thank you from the board to the school, the families and PTA for working hard in the school and in the community

PTACHC Update: Reg Avery

School district is reporting outbreak of pneumonia Mount View Middle School – just a reminder of good handwashing and keep kids home if they are sick

Monday is PTACHC meeting at Homewood school, in the cafeteria - Homewood school doesn't have a PTA so asking if all PTAs could supply something to their faculty and staff for appreciation

Backpack supply drive coming up - prepare for success drive make checks to Community Action Council for direct donations

Questions of PTACHC issues that are going on - people taking over on Facebook - need to know how easy it is for PTA to be sued

Check what National PTA stance is before making any statements – PTACHC was close to losing its charter based on positions that were being held previously

Closed Facebook page for PTAs - people posting things on their Facebook page who shouldn't be posting - not PTA members; SFES PTA page should remain closed

Can an individual PTA have a different stance than PTACHC or National PTA? - No, but you can take action to make changes, or if PTACHC or National PTA has not taken a stance, you can advocate for one

Treasurer's Report: Jessie Patterson
\$13,337.72 as of right now, - nothing major coming out right now

VP of Membership Report: Lena Kennedy

Membership raffle

Currently we have 130 members, we've had 5 additional staff and 12 family community members join Mrs. Albright corresponding about staff incentive - incentive will involve food - raffle for 1 teacher member for lunch plus 3 friends

Compliments to the sign outside school for the join the PTA message, looks nice and had lots of comments/compliments

Silvia Bravo's name was pulled for raffle as winner- won a \$25 gift card to Target

Programs Update: Krista Threefoot

Reflections:

The following students will advance to the Howard County Reflections Competition:

Primary Grades

Visual Arts: Lauryn Barr (Three Pigeons of Imagination), Luke Downard (The Triple Jewel Airplane), Michele Threefoot (Water City)

Film: Thomas Anderson (An Adventure Starring This Guy)

Music: Penelope Kennedy (I Believe I Can Fly)

Photography: Jordan Harrington (The Fairy Garden), Ronin Holmes (Dinosaur Eggs in a Tornado), Michele Threefoot (Imagination Clouds)

Writing: Isabella McDonald (The Mysterious Flower), Michele Threefoot (The Trip to Fairy Land.)

Intermediate Grades

Visual Arts: Eddie Searles (Anything is Possible), Romy Delpo (Underwater Zentangle), Charlize Lee (Dark Castle)

Film: Shayla Herron (Fly High History Riddles)

Music: Braydon Harrington (Hot Cross Buns Variation), Charlize Lee (Dark Moon)

Photography: Malia Edelson (World of Facts), Madeline Skaggs (Photography)

Art Night

Planning meeting for art night went well. A second meeting will be held on January 4 to finalize last minute details. We have a good amount of help with planning, but will need people to help during the event.

Event is January 7th - 6:30 pm maybe setup around 5-5:30pm - Mr. Diaz will be available to start the event

Judging - some community judging which was great, and inviting some community members to come

Committee Chair Report:

Hospitality Chair Report – Tawania Williams (Provided by Quiana Holmes)

Dinner during conferences went well - need more volunteers that night - lots of food donations

Feedback indicated a preference for sign-up-genius versus googledocs for future sign ups

Dinner and Auction – Daphne Harrington and Jonathan Edelson

Discussion about trying to advertise the auction and designating where some of the funds will be going towards. Ideas are discussed where money can go to. A couple of ideas are supplies for the classroom, after school activities, books for the classrooms/school. Additionally Mr. Diaz was asked for input of what the school or teachers may need, he's going to go to team leads to ask for ideas.

A general description of the auction is given, and an idea of bringing school supplies to the auction as donations was brought up

Principal's Update – Mr. Diaz

Canopy update - thanks for the patience - hoping by end of month it will finishing up, and at the end of winter break hopefully it'll be more back to using the front of the building

Telehealth program - people visited the school to evaluate the telehealth system - people including Congressman Sarbanes, Councilman Ball, and County Executive Kittleman

Congressman Sarbanes is interested because only Howard County schools are using this program - telehealth is used in medicine in more remote areas - now can be done in school and diagnosed in school - keep kids in classroom, and possibly prevent multiple days out of school etc. when kids are sick

PARCC - scores will be released to the public next week

Howard County Public School System website has a section for it right now

State accountability test - aligned with MD college and career-ready standards

SFES will be having a breakout info meeting night on Dec 14th

Assessment will assess your child's status as far as college readiness

Final comments and Questions: Quiana Holmes

great schools.org - Parents can log in and rate the school as well as make statements about the school.

Jessica Mahajan offered to be a liaison between new families and school

Upcoming Meetings and Events:

Dec 3 – Board of Education Meeting – 4:00 and 7:30 pm

Dec 7 – Family Science Night – 6:00 – 8:00 pm

Dec 8 – Fuddrucker's Restaurant Night – 5:00 – 9:00 pm

Dec 10 – Interim Progress Reports Issued

Dec 14 – Assessment Night - 6:00 – 9:00 pm

Dec 17 – Board of Education Meeting – 4:00 – 7:30 pm

Dec 24 – Jan 1: Schools Closed for Winter Break

MEETING ADJOURNED at 7:54 p.m.