



# STEVENS FOREST ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PTA

6045 Stevens Forest Rd. Columbia, MD 21045  
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## PTA General Meeting- 2/1/17

**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 – Jessica Mahajan  
Vice President for Programs – Krista Threefoot  
Recording Secretary - Daphne Harrington  
Corresponding Secretary - Jonathan Edelson  
PTACHC Delegate – Reg Avery

### **Administrators and Teachers:**

Principal – Ernesto Diaz  
Assistant Principal – Tracey Albright

### **Board Members absent:**

PTACHC Delegate – Jacqueline Jacobs  
Treasurer – Jessie Patterson

### **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: 1/3/17**

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

### **Monthly Highlights:** Quiana Holmes

- Art Night was a big success, Thank you Krista, Mrs. Malihom and the committee!
- Thank you Jon and Glenda for working on several projects and getting them out so quickly

- International Night Committee: about 20 families are participating so far, Ms. Wilborn and Ms. Dillah are working hard to sign families up, the next meeting is Friday at 3:45 in the Media Center.

### **Treasurer's Report** – Jessie Patterson

Current budget is \$16,402.58.

Deposit: Box Tops, OMCA Donation, Art Grant and for the Author.

Jessie wrote a check for the artist in residence program and a few reimbursements from the board.

### **VP of Membership** – Lena Kennedy

Gloves for recess: There was a brief discussion of how the gloves were used in the past, and what and if we should do anything for this year. A decision is made to buy 100 pair of gloves, and leftover can be used in the future if they aren't used this season.

Nominating Committee: Currently there are 4 volunteers for the nominating committee, it would be optimal to have 1 more person so we'll advertise another time before the committee needs to be approved in the March meeting.

Budget – discussion about HCPSS budget and ESM funding and world language program

Board of Education public forums are where you should go to voice opinions on anything, but good time for ESM advocacy – give an oral testimony along with written testimony you provide them. They don't respond then, but will eventually respond

Kindergarten assessment results to evaluate ESM vs non-ESM schools – Mr. Diaz will provide information shown on the screen.

MMSR (Maryland Model for School Readiness)

now do KRA – actual hands on individual and based on criteria

A Citizen's Guide to Budget 2017-2018 – issue to discuss is staffing – biggest issue is paraeducators. – right now we have paraeducators with specific titles, and what they are going to do is give paras with non-specific titles

Will decrease paras overall (probably not at SFES) but also create new positions

### **VP of Fundraising** – Jessica Mahajan

Dinner and Auction – Diane Imbach has been doing a great job getting donations.

Jessica contacted Bertucci's to make sure that we can still count on their donation for dinner.

Sidewalk safety – The school is looking into the program "Walking School Bus." This is a program where there would be an adult volunteer who would walk a group of kids either to or from school. There are not a lot of details yet about the program so the school is still looking into it.

### **Principal's Report** – Mr. Diaz

If anyone is interested in subbing, you can go online and fill out an application or contact Mr. Diaz or Mrs. Albright and they can help move the process along. There is a brief description of types of positions and qualifications for applicants.

There is a question about how dire the situation is about the ESM program to gauge how quickly people need to act to voice opinions on the ESM.

The Hispanic Liaison position is moving slowly through, hopefully the process will be complete for the March conferences and kindergarten registration.

**VP of Programs** – Krista Threefoot

Bingo – on Friday at 6:30

Jon will get a computer and projector to do a computerized Bingo calling program.

Valentine's Dance – So far, the DJ is set up, the decorations are done, so for now a flier is needed.

**Corresponding Secretary** – Jonathan Edelson

School Directory - Richard Smallwood offered to print it for us again. He has the directory and cover letter and everything is approved for Friday folders.

Email & text - Jon tested using the email system to send text messages to members of our board. Like many mass-mail systems, ours needs to know the recipient's mobile provider to send a text successfully. So, the good news is we have a bunch of cell numbers in the system from the Family File upload. The bad news is we can't send texts from the system unless subscribers also voluntarily tell us who their provider is.

**PTACHC Delegate's Report** – Reg Avery

The State PTA Convention is going to be at the Sheraton in Columbia on July 27-29<sup>th</sup>. They are going to need volunteers to help at the convention, and they are looking for an older elementary school or young teen to sing the national anthem. This is the /first time Howard County is hosting the state convention.

Feb 9<sup>th</sup> – Legislative Night – 6-8 pm – House of Delegates Building in Annapolis

Feb 22<sup>nd</sup> – conference call on PTA insurance activities – they will be answering callers' questions about insurance

**New Business/Member comments** –

Language assessment – The world language teachers do evaluations through the year even though there isn't an evaluation on the report card. They are working on an assessment form. The teachers do an in-coming assessment and outgoing assessment for language each year.

**Closing Remarks** – Quiana Holmes

**The meeting is adjourned at 7:36 p.m.**

Upcoming Meetings and Events:

Feb 3<sup>rd</sup> - Report Cards Issued

- International Night Committee Meeting; 3:45pm

- PTA BINGO Night @ the Other Barn; 6:30-8:30pm

Feb 6<sup>th</sup> – PTA Council of Howard County Meeting, 7:30-9:30pm

Feb 7<sup>th</sup> – Public Hearing on School Start and Dismissal Time; 7-9pm

Feb 13<sup>th</sup> – Community Advisory Council Meeting; 7:30-9:30pm

Feb 14<sup>th</sup> – Family Valentine’s Day Dance; 6-8pm

**Feb 20<sup>th</sup> - Schools and Offices Closed**

**Feb 21<sup>st</sup> – Schools Closed for students**

Feb 23<sup>rd</sup> – Board of Education Meeting; 4pm

Feb 27<sup>th</sup> – Burger King Night