



STEVENS FOREST
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PTA

Where Everyone Fits!

6045 Stevens Forest Rd. Columbia, MD 21045

sfespta.weebly.com



PTA General Meeting- 4/8/15

Jill Edelson called meeting to order at 6:38 p.m. in Media Center.

Board Members present:

President - Jill Edelson
Vice President for Membership - Quiana Holmes
Vice President for Programs – Krista Threefoot
Treasurer – Meghan Skaggs
Recording Secretary - Daphne Harrington
Corresponding Secretary - Jonathan Edelson
Principal – Ernesto Diaz

Board Members absent:

PTA Council of Howard County Representative - Reginald Avery

General Membership Present:

See attached sheet.

It is established we have a quorum

Reading and approval of the meeting agenda: Jill Edelson

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

Reading and approval of the meeting minutes: Daphne Harrington

1. Motion to approve the March 4, 2015 meeting minutes
2. Vote: approved the March 4, 2015 meeting minutes

Treasurer update: Meghan Skaggs

The ledger is passed around for everyone to take a look at all of the expenses and revenue

Filed the personal property return - \$23,155.47

W9 – need to fill out for free Kindles

Current balance on the ledger is \$14,968.63

Discussion about what's come in with dinner and auction and learn to earn

Vice President of Membership report: Quiana Holmes

About Military Children and Families

- There are currently 1.2 million military children of active duty members worldwide.
- The average military family moves three times more often than their civilian counterpart.
- One-third of school-age military children show psychosocial behaviors such as being anxious, worrying often, crying more frequently.
- A positive school environment, built upon caring relationships among all participants—students, teachers, staff, administrators, parents and community members—has been shown to impact not only academic performance but also positively influence emotions and behaviors of students.

Nomination Committee: Lena Kennedy

All nominees have been contacted by email

Nominations read and presented:

President: Quiana Holmes

VP Membership: Lena Kennedy

VP Fundraising: Vacant

VP Programs: Krista Threefoot

Treasurer: Jill Edelson

Corresponding Secretary: Jonathan Edelson

Recording Secretary: Daphne Harrington

PTACHC delegate: Reginald Avery

PTACHC delegate: Vacant

Discussion about what a PTACHC delegate responsibilities are – discussed the importance of having these positions filled because of having full voting power at PTACHC meetings

Vice President of Programs Report: Krista Threefoot

- Bingo: April 17th at the Other Barn – 5 bingo cards for \$1, proceeds of raffle will go to Girls on the Run

Food at Vennari's Pizza will be 15% off that night, so you can get food from Vennari's and bring it to the Other Barn for a night of Bingo.

Girls on the Run fee per girl is \$150, if you qualify for free lunches, it's \$5, for reduced lunches it's more (maybe \$50), for those who don't qualify it's the full \$150

- Spring Fling – do we need any help? Krista is offering to help

- Teacher Appreciation week – flower sale again, about 1,000 stems for \$400 (we'll make some of it back)
- Bucks for Books – 3rd week in May (14th and 15th)– possibly do a little differently – teachers tag certain books appropriate for respective grade and students will chose from these “tagged” books; this will limit the selection for better direction for students – also consider offering older students slightly more expensive books because some of the more appropriate books for older students are more expensive – received outside community funds for specific program so we want to do thank you cards again for those who did donate

During the Oakland Mills Village Election Day and Carnival, we will be selling Hot Dogs and other food and beverages – the children’s fair will be 1-3 – need help selling food

A suggestion is made to make this opportunity a way to get ourselves out into the community, possibly looking for more membership/support from community. Idea to ask/offer community to donate money to PTA, for instance, ask community to buy one of our students a book during bucks for books deal; for instance, offer a special deal of buy a hot dog and drink and an extra \$5 for a book for a student.

- Butterfly garden

\$180 for plants – the school system will give us soil and mulch. They will also till the soil for us. The master gardener will provide some plants and seeds to help reduce the cost. So just need money for the plants the gardeners need to buy

If we want to buy benches we could discuss for future, treasurer said we could discuss doing it now

Vote to approve \$200 for Butterfly Garden project

A motion is made to approve \$200 for the Butterfly Garden project

Vote is approved

Meghan will add this as a line item as a program in the budget

Hospitality: Tawania Williams

Cupcake day – shoot for April 24th

Corresponding Secretary: Jonathan Edelson:

Wrote April newsletter

Sent notice of school/community events (auction, international night, bingo) to Tribune

Updated "News You Can Use" on website

Built membership e-mail distribution list for sfesbobcatspta@gmail.com account and distributed member-only election material

Built statement of interest form for Board of Directors candidates

Discussion of cutting back or eliminating paper distribution of newsletter.

PTACHC – meeting next Monday – 4/13/15

Principal's Update: Mr. Diaz

Thank you for all of your hard work as a PTA – lots of enthusiasm from PTA families – first year as an elementary school principal and it's been fun – neat to see board and community involvement

Back parking lot – 2 new lights

Drawings for front awning – architect and others out to the school to look at it saying it's going to be built this summer, they will need to consider things like issues with sprinklers etc depending on size of the structure

Extend deadline for the yearbook – information will be out in the newsletter on Friday

School Improvement meeting next Thursday, April 16th, at 3 in Media Center – last meeting of the year – target area is getting kids to be reading at grade level by grade 3, so focusing on K, 1, and 2

Will we keep all of our Para educators? Staffing ratios have been adjusted a bit – will be trimming staffing a bit because in comparison to other areas we have a lot of resources - for us, at this point, we have a surplus of 0.5 position in the Kindergarten area – surplus of 0.2 in PE teachers, so next year we will probably have 1 full time and 1 part time PE teacher who will probably split time at another school

Kindergarten para – will depend on Kindergarten registration

Grade teachers – with departmentalization it is tricky to have odd numbers of classes

Surplus in ESOL – surplus in world languages

Grounds – painting lines for traffic in parking lot and getting rid of underbrush in front of the school

Master Gardeners – willing to walk around and label trees on grounds when come in to do butterfly gardens

Discussion about snow issues on that center island of parking lot and discussion about parking on the curb, discussion about continued parking/traffic problems

Save the date:

April 13, 7:30 pm – PTACHC

April 17, 6:30 pm - Bingo Night at The Other Barn

April 21 – Red Robin Night

April 25 – OMV Elections and Carnival

April 29, 7 pm, Other Barn, Education town hall meeting with HCPSS

May 4 – 7:30 pm PTACHC Meeting

May 4-8 – Staff Appreciation Week, lunch 5/8

May 6 – 6:30 pm PTA Meeting (Elections)

May 23 – Spring Fling

May 29 – Simulated Congressional Hearings

June 3 – 6:30 pm PTA Meeting

Meeting Adjourned: 8:07 pm