



STEVENS FOREST
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PTA

Where Everyone Fits!

6045 Stevens Forest Rd. Columbia, MD 21045

sfspta.weebly.com



PTA General Meeting- 6/17/15

Jill Edelson called meeting to order at 6:34 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
PTA Council of Howard County Representative - Reginald Avery
Principal – Ernesto Diaz

Special Guests Present:

Terry Street, HCPSS Emergency Management and Safety Specialist
Officer Luke Buchanan, Howard County Police Department/Oakland Mills Community Police
Officer Buchanan

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 May 6, 2015 meeting minutes
2. Vote: approved the May 6, 2015 meeting minutes

Treasurer update: Meghan Skaggs

- Verified cash amounts turned in
- Made deposits/filled out deposit slips

- Fulfilled disbursement requests
- Left message for previous auditor
- Spoke to potential auditor, Miriam Bell, tried to recruit to do this year's and next year's audit, plenty of time because due in the fall
- Tallied receipts thus far
- Tallied disbursements thus far - \$800 for now
- Updated spreadsheet with new disbursements/receipts
- Estimated outstanding obligations for the year, requested invoices from school
- Went through every check written to identify outstanding checks not yet cashed to reconcile the checkbook/spreadsheet
- Prepped annual financial report

Discussion items:

- Last proposed budget needs to be formally amended due to the adjustments made to account for spring fling, flower sale and butterfly garden discussed by the board
- Are we going to pay for an auditor next year, if so it needs to be written into next year's budget

Vote:

Motion: to reallocate funds between the spring fling budget, the flowers for teacher appreciation, and the butterfly garden.

Vote: approved the changes to the budget

Motion: to give funds as a thank you donation to Colorectal cancer in Mrs. Lannon's name

Vote: approved to add the donation

Corresponding Secretary: Jonathan Edelson:

Monthly:

- Updated website
- Mailed thank you letters to community donors
- Created Bucks for Books vouchers for each student
- Co-chaired Spring Fling
- Tested e-mail service for next year
- Wrote year-end summary newsletter

Annual Report:

- Website had 6,843 views from 4,103 unique visitors
- Facebook has 130 likes

Discussion Items:

- Greatschools.org profile – multiple emails to change the greatschools.org website – requires 10 reviews to change status – try to get some PTA members or school staff etc to write reviews on programs etc for the school – realtors often direct homebuyers to sites like this so could be helpful
- Need a PTA theme to overhaul website and create templates for start of 2015-2016 year

Other:

-HCPSS confirmed they are working on responses to Town Hall questions

-Deadline for request for OMCA donation will likely be October 15

Crossing guard at Kilimanjaro Rd, Oakland Mills Village Board is going to give a gift card and flowers to her at the board meeting next Tuesday at 7

MD PTA Convention – Jill Edelson

A handout of Proposed Amendments handed out for members to read through and ask questions or give input about voting.

Safety and Security - Terry Street Emergency Management and Safety Specialist for HCPSS

Presented at PTACHC – EMT, fire fighter, cyber security, worked for homeland security

Homeland security – Bring to HCPSS appropriate level of security without being onerous or scary to kids

Infectious disease plan – working on and submitted

Has a radio on him at all times for emergency reasons so he's reachable at all times to all schools

Initiatives – sharing info between administration and first responders = provide technical details to police in case of active incident

Detailed exercise program for students in emergency

Principals taking additional training courses for emergency plans - his position was created by a committee after the Sandy Hook events

Concern about portables was brought up – he said that currently the security of portables are being reviewed

No cell coverage through much of the school, is there way to communicate outside of school because of that? – radios within school can communicate in school, to OM middle or high school, or central office

Officer Buchanan - Bike patrols – to patrol walking paths by bikes – control loitering and other situations on trails – 6-8 hrs. shifts every day, 2 shifts per day, one evening and one day, staffed full time by 6 officers.

Parking issues – is there enough parking? Discussion about the traffic concerns and where it's legal and safe to park etc

Officer Buchanan suggested busing kids to OMvillage parking lot and have a pickup system there

Discussion about police officers in the elementary school – no more info about

Officer Buchanan will be at the Oakland Mills Village Community meeting to introduce himself on June 23rd

For record keeping, keep records of all serial numbers of all valuables so if they are stolen, you have the numbers for recovery or to track them

Safety issues – woods in front of the school – is having the dense wood in front of the school a safety/security issue? Brought up to Mr. Street, and he said they'd look into it.

Clearing/thinning of the woods/forests both in front of school (board of ed property) and also CA property.

Principal's Update: Mr. Diaz

Not many changes next year

Mrs. Lannon is transferred to Pointer's Run ES effective July 1

Summer school here, but she'll be running the summer plan

New AP is Tracy Albright, just finishing AP position at Hollifield Station Elementary AP coming in – been there 1 year but before that she was at Bellows Springs ES – background is reading specialist

She's helping at her school summer school

Thank you for staff food, 5th grade finishing up

Staff ready for end of the year – some sadness for teachers as students moving on

Staff changes – some changes over the summer, possibly some room changes as well depending on how many of each classes in each grade

Articulation starting – 1st, 4th and 5th – 2 main departmentalization teachers and 1 swing teacher teaching both

PARCC- shorter, some changes – feedback heard from teachers and community

Canopy – plans going out for bid shortly, should be more coverage, tear up blacktop and will be cement
This will change dismissal and arrival – start after summer school so might affect beginning of school year – might need to switch entrance to side of school temporarily

Mrs. Lannon has been here for 4 years – discussion about if anything can be done for her, like the ribbons

Back to school night- dates not known

Federal Food Program Summer Program– for schools with poverty rate over 40% - grant funding – food and nutrition employees to spearhead grants etc specific for food for all students at those schools –

Regional locations have hot meals through summer, and have a bigger building for this – for staffing and security – Mr. Diaz will contact the HCPSS Food and Nutrition director to learn more about both programs.

Save the date:

June 20 - 9-11:30 am Food Giveaway @ Forest Ridge Apartment School

June 19- Last Day of

July 17-18, MD PTA Convention

Meeting Adjourned: 8:17 pm