

STEVENS FOREST  
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PTA  
*Where Everyone Fits!*

6045 Stevens Forest Rd. Columbia, MD 21045  
sfespta.weebly.com



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2014-2016

**PTA General Meeting- 11/5/14**

**Jill Edelson called meeting to order at 6:36 p.m. in Media Center.**

**Board Members present:**

President - Jill Edelson

Vice President for Membership - Quiana Holmes

Vice President for Fundraising – Jennifer Sartor

Vice President for Programs – Krista Threefoot

Recording Secretary - Daphne Harrington

Corresponding Secretary - Jonathan Edelson

Principal – Ernesto Diaz

**Board Members absent:**

Treasurer – Meghan Skaggs

PTA Council of Howard County Representative - Reginald Avery

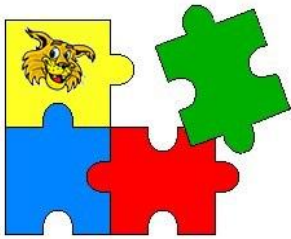
**Committee Chairs:**

Boxtops – Tracy Downard

Hospitality – Tawania Williams

**General Membership Present:**

See attached sheet.



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It is established we have a quorum

**Reading and approval of the meeting agenda: Jill Edelson**

- 1.
2. Motion to approve the agenda
- 3.
4. Vote: approved the agenda

**Reading and approval of the meeting minutes:**

- 1.
2. Motion to approve the October 1, 2014 meeting minutes
- 3.
4. Vote: approved the October 1, 2014 meeting minutes

**Treasurer update: Jonathan Edelson**

We got the audit back from Mr. Martin – covered the last fiscal year – everything balanced \$10,928 but we still had some outstanding checks

As of Oct. 23, balance \$10,564 (\$2,000 is Artist in Residence program so will go back out)

Community donations \$905

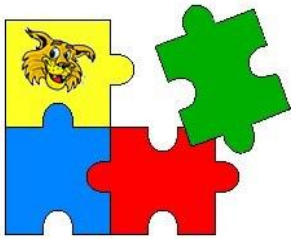
Turkey trot donations so far is \$550

Ice Cream Social - \$168.53 net profit.

Wolfgang Chocolates - \$1,497.55 net profit.

**Vice President of Membership report: Quiana Holmes**

179 members at this time – goal is 250 – trying to recruit more with raffles – Erin Miller won the first raffle - \$25 Food Lion gift certificates and 15 bobcat tickets



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Staff raffle – on Friday \$25 choice of restaurant gift cards

Probably have another raffle in the beginning of the New Year to try to recruit more members

A suggestion is made to have a table at conferences for PTA membership registration

To celebrate its 100 years of service, the Maryland PTA is asking its local PTAs to submit lists of 100 accomplishments each month – so we've accomplished our lists through November (SFES was chosen in October as a winner for our list. We have a few options for a reward.)

Every Child in Focus - Raise cultural awareness – each month they choose a different culture - read a few facts about a certain culture

**Vice President of Programs Report:** Krista Threefoot

Reflections program - Art extravaganza in January is the night to recognize participants in the Reflections program. If any students are interested in doing a project and need help or have questions, contact Krista.

Grants recently submitted:

Walmart – it's a basic grant for a flat fee

Target field trip grant

PTA take your family to school grant – get your family into school – if we get the grant we will have to have a couple of different ideas for getting the families into programs

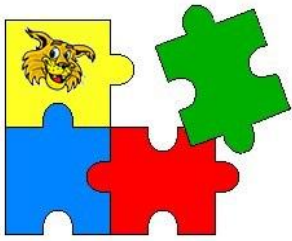
Internet Safety night – try for the Spring Fling – have a PTA table and have a presentation

Grant – Funding for a butterfly garden – many rules from grounds department– would like a teacher or administrator to be involved – Mrs. Lannon contacted grounds dept. (Greg) and he'll come out and look at site for approval – Mrs. Lannon is suggesting the area along the new wing of the school between the two exits at the ends of the hallways. Grounds department will provide preparatory materials, top soil, and mulch – they will not weed, water, or care for the garden – they will annually drop off mulch

Policy 6060 approval form – we might need to fill this out

There are lots of lists to consider: Top 10 list – plants that attract butterflies, birds, etc

School planting checklist – created with grounds department –



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Think about deer, think about students, light and soil, type of habitat, sustainability

Mr. Diaz contacted the grounds department about the wooded area in front of the building to take out the brush and small trees

**Vice President of Fundraising:** Jennifer Sartor

BJs fundraiser – offer it once a quarter – first 2 weeks of December – given posters to hang up to advertise – more details to follow

Learn to Earn – November 24 – end of February - Jennifer will be the point person for setting all of that up

Mr. Smith will be helping Mrs. Lannon with a song and video – project the video through the school for the kids to see as promotion for the learn to earn program

**Committee Updates:**

**Hospitality:** Tawania Williams – Monday, November 24<sup>th</sup> – staff dinner – pasta 5-6 p.m. – a sign up sheet will be made and sent out soon

**Turkey Trot:** Tracy Downard – 150 letters sent out from addresses given by students – currently \$550 has been sent in – need a volunteer for someone to dress up as Bobby the Bobcat – working on donations for food and water – follow up for ribbons for top 3 girls and top 3 boys – ask teachers to dress up as Bobby the Bobcat – one last email asking parents for volunteers for the Turkey Trot

**Discussion:** How can we make SFES Even Better?

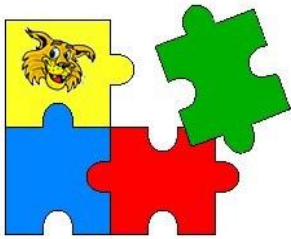
Positive feedback – so far very positive feedback in general – great new playground

Trailers/Portables – any way to fix up a little bit? – Mr. Diaz said that he would look into it

**Principal's Update:** Mr. Diaz

Discussed the overall general positive attitudes of the staff – trying as much as possible to make all of the changes work well – Mr. Diaz gave very flattering reviews of the teachers/staff and how hard they are working and with very positive attitudes.

Using classroom improvement planning – math and language arts teachers planning and communicating together. So they are working together as a team to track students' progress and planning



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Conferences – how will it work?

Can schedule conferences at any time, even if it's not at conference time or you need a conference with another teacher – fall conferences will focus on a.m. teachers; February conferences will be on p.m. teacher

–

Can parent request conference with World Language teachers? – yes, but won't be here for conference times necessarily, but contact them and schedule

Language arts specialist teacher and math specialist teacher for planning curriculum

Calendar committee – changes made to February conferences – fewer number of conference slots in February than in November – because number of attendees usually decline in February times vs November, mainly in high school – the staff will work through it

Departmentalization scheduling – discussed changes of schedules due to holiday party and half days and early dismissals. Mrs. Lannon worked on the schedule, and she has planned the different situations. Such as on 1 half day, certain students would have related arts and maybe math class. The next half day those students would then rotate and have World Language and language arts classes. There are also plans for late openings due to weather etc.

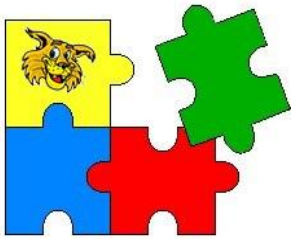
Halloween celebrations: ~15-20% of SFES students were either kept at home, sent to school and go to the alternate party, or were picked up early

School Improvement team – next Thursday, Nov. 13<sup>th</sup>, at 3 p.m. – meet to discuss focus – discuss grades K, 1, and 2 how many students are reading on grade level – talk about the plan – it was due to be turned in back in September – stress school improvement plan is supposed to align with teacher objectives (SLO student learning objectives)

Bridges Program just started – new staff member joined and is running the program – The program just started and is doing well so far

HCPSS news just released the information for pick a time via email but the information is also on the school website.

HCPSS is looking at other systems to replace Aspen for scheduling and recordkeeping.



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Conferences – 2015-2016 – already decided to have fewer spots available in February (mainly due to the high school schedules)

Lot of substitutes – training because of new curriculum

Spirit Wear – Mrs. Lannon will meet with Deb Miller to put together Spirit Wear merchandise

**Save the date:**

November 10 @7:30 pm PTACHC Meeting November @ BOE

November 6 & 20 BOE Meetings 4 & 7:30 pm

November 6- 6- 8 pm Count with Me

November 10- McDonald's Night 5-9 pm

November 12- Report Cards Issued Meeting

November 13- School Improvement Team

November 14- Turkey Trot Ridge 9-11 am

Nov. 15 & Dec. 20- Food Giveaway @ Forest

November 19- Hispanic Parent Meeting 6:30-7:30 pm

November 24- Staff Dinner, Learn2Earn Kickoff

December 3, January 7, February 4- 6:30-7:30 PTA Meetings

January 5- Penny Wars Begins

January 8- Art Extravaganza Night School

February 5- Author Patricia Cummings Comes to

February 12- Staff Dinner during conferences

February 26- 6-7:30 pm International Night