



**STEVENS FOREST ELEMENTARY
PTA**

6045 Stevens Forest Rd,
Columbia, MD 21045

<http://sfespta.weebly.com/>



PTA Board Meeting 12/7/2021

Maya Green called the meeting to order at 7:04p.m. Meeting took place in a hybrid format.

Board Members Present:

President - Maya Green

*Vice President of Fundraising – J’Ne St Cyr

Vice President for Membership – Andre Neuland

*Recording Secretary – Sylvia Hennesie

Corresponding Secretary - Mary Amponsah

*PTACHC Delegate – Nina York

*PTACHC Delegate – Rikki McCoy

*denotes that board member was present virtually

Other Members Present:

Dr. Joy Smith

Mrs. Katie Carter

Elizabeth Lakey

Samuel Pearson-Moore

Derson Desie

Megan Williams

Board Members Absent:

Vice President for Programs – Nadia Herron

Treasurer - Mike Elser

We do have a quorum. It is established that we have a quorum for this meeting.

Agenda

Motion to approve meeting agenda at 7:06pm by Sylvia Hennesie

Seconded by – Andre Neuland

Call to vote; motion passed unanimously.

Approval of past meeting minutes

Motion to approve past meeting minutes at 7:11pm by Mary Amponsah

Seconded by – Nina Lombardo

Call to vote; motion passed unanimously.

Membership Report – Andre Neuland

- Membership is up to 65 members
- recruitment efforts - tie in memberships and Raise Right sign-up to a raffle for spirit wear
- Dr. Smith shared that staff sign-up would increase with paper enrollment options

Action Item(s): Andre will create and forms will be in staff lounge and workroom/mailboxes

Administrative Report: Dr. Smith

- 2nd graders are excited for extra recess earned from Turkey Trot
- Students are moving right along, doing a nice job throughout different areas of building, showing ROAR behavior
- School Improvement Plan update - updates on MAP and discipline data, DIBELS screener reports
- Goals are set by county
 - ELA - By end of year, goal is to increase percentage of students meeting benchmark scores on MCAP from 43.9% to 46.4%; goal over time is to have 50% of students meet benchmark
 - Targeted group of students (FARMS) - from 34% to 37%
 - Fall ELA MAP performance for grades 1 through 5
 - Slight improvement overall from the spring testing window, moving in right direction
 - Targeted groups of students (FARMS) is 53% of population; 16% of group met goal
 - DIBELS - school-wide screener, was completed for all students to identify students who need intervention
 - Math - By end of year, goal is to increase percentage of all students meeting benchmark from 43.8% to 50.6%; 38.6 to 41.4% (FARMS targeted group)
 - Fall Math MAP performance for grades 1 through 5
 - 29% of students met goal which is the same as in the Spring
 - Targeted group of students (FARMS) only 7% met benchmark, very concerning, however this is one data point and helps staff to see what intervention and enrichment is needed
- Other goal is to support students with presumed competence, giving opportunities for productive struggle
- Title 1 survey goes home next week - students will earn dojo points for it getting completed
- Question about Family Involvement Team (FIT) versus Title 1 - Title 1 survey is for feedback on schoolwide activities; parents invited to participate in FIT
- PPT of administrative presentation will be shared with community

Action Item(s): Complete Title 1 survey when it goes home

Administrative Report: Mrs. Carter

- Student Improvement Plan update - updates on Belonging goal (formerly behavior)
 - goal set by county, goal is to reduce overall number of out of school suspensions - for all students: 3 or fewer suspensions; for target group (special education): 2 suspensions or fewer
- Staff is teaching and reteaching community agreements in all content areas
- Quarter 1 discipline data - shows students are overall making great progress re: Belonging goal
- Student voice groups starting in January
- Restorative Justice book study group - 11 participants (parents/guardians), will support parents in how they can be partners
 - Asking for PTA support with purchasing books for participants (~\$90 - \$100); will need to research info about shipping

Treasurer report: Mike Elser

- As of now, no money to add to budget, currently over budget by ~\$700 (went over about \$650 with staff boxed lunches during conferences)
- Does not include check received from OMCA (received today)
- Added the following items since previous meeting:
 - \$2500 - field trip support
 - \$500 - hats and gloves for students
 - \$100 - MD Book Bank
 - \$250 - PTA membership dues
 - We did discuss adding money for raffle, but will not at this time due to budget, instead will raffle off existing items

Committees

VP of Programs - Nadia Herron

- Turkey Trot - 66 participants
 - Ms. Howell and Mr. Kortick (PE teachers) supported
 - Community involvement: Howard County Parks and Recreation, Christen Haylett (parent and owner of BelieveItOrPop - balloon arch) and Sharnise Hendrick (parent and owner of Lotus Embodied Counseling - mini yoga exercises)
 - 2nd grade earned extra recess, will be December 13 - J'Ne and Maya to support Nadia with supervising
 - Will be 2:50pm - 3:20pm
 - **Action Item(s):** Anyone else able to help on the 13th with extra recess, let PTA know
- Movie Night is December 17, outdoors (possibly on blacktop)
 - there will be water and snacks, PTA has screen and projector but needs sound system to borrow - Maya will email Mr. Stabile and CC Nadia
- PTA Reflections Night is January 22 - details TBD

- Family Library Night in March (2?) - Howard County Library System will host Stevens Forest families; there will be a tour and information of resources, story time
- STEM Night - looking at Mar 30; J'Ne working with IdeaLab for on site STEM demonstration and stations; reserved cafeteria, gym, hallway
 - STEM LAB IdeaLab - station rotation, cost is \$525;
 - **Action Item(s):** Sam Pearson-Moore to get together flyers for volunteers
 - J'Ne proposed budget to be raised from \$300 to \$1300 (OMCA money is specific to use for STEM project)
 - *Motion made to increase STEM Night budget from \$300 to \$1000, and will discuss if it needs to be increased to \$1300 at next meeting*
Sylvia Hennesie made motion at 8:42pm, Maya Green seconded
Called to vote; motion passes unanimously
- Question came up about adding inflatable screen to budget; we do have a screen already and given budget constraints will need to consider this at later time
 - **Action Item(s):** PTA will follow up and ensure information is accurate about what materials we have for Movie Night

VP of Fundraising - J'Ne St Cyr

- Spirit Wear - made \$295, met goal of selling at least 50 items; would like to include more options for shirt styles, other ideas: headbands, tank tops, sweat pants
- Next sale will be around February/March; any input or feedback would be appreciated
 - Dr. Smith suggested that we try to get back to beginning of year spirit wear shirt; it's been difficult to have spirit wear days with many new students who don't have shirts yet, so doing color days
- Restaurant Night - best one was Sonoma's, participation has trickled down since then; trying out different restaurants to see what works; Red Robin suggested (will be coming up in February), next is IHOP on December 22
- Scrip (RaiseRight) - J'Ne shared concerns she's been made aware of re: Scrip - linking bank accounts, privacy, etc.
 - Earnings are increasing every month, about same number of participants
 - Is there anything that can be done for increasing staff involvement? J'Ne will attend staff meeting in January to give description
 - Suggestion: target people who may be buying gift cards for holidays, Nina suggested option of purchasing gift cards for people who are uncomfortable with using app and having them Venmo cost

PTACHC Rep – Nina York & Rikki McCoy

- Discussion of proposed legislation - due process proceedings for children with disabilities; goal is to shift burden of proof to county BOE and off the parents; PTACHC voted to support bill
- Can see proposed legislation at ptachc.org: https://www.ptachc.org/?page_id=4472
- Discussion of fraudulent charge that has been appearing on PTA accounts, but has not appeared on our account - Mike is monitoring

Other Updates

- **SECAC Rep - we are still looking for a representative, please contact Maya if you are able to fill this role!**
- January 4 PTA meeting to start at 6:30pm for Title 1 presentation
- Book Mobile
 - Jenny is working on gathering more books
 - Planned “stops”
 - apartments
 - Farewell Road
 - Dawn Day Drive
- Next teacher treat - potential ice cream social before winter break, Jenny could do for \$50 budget
 - **Action Item(s):** Maya/Jenny to come up with a name for the event and share with Dr. Smith

New Business:

- Author Visit (Sylvia)
 - Visit with Kevin Sherry confirmed with administration for Friday, January 14
 - **Action Item(s):** Sylvia looking into options for bulk purchase of books
- Grade Level Ambassadors
 - J'Ne created description of role, Maya created a google form for people to sign-up, if interested - looking for parents other than those on the board in efforts to bring in more families and build community connection
 - Megan Williams has volunteered for Gr 2 and 4, Jenny Flores has volunteered for Gr 5
- Funding for PebbleGo subscription
 - PTA received an email about funding for PebbleGo, Maya looked at minutes over past year and didn't find info about this, there is no budgetary availability at this time
 - Ms. Lakey said that the school has access to PebbleGo through MackinVia, Dr. Smith said that the school can fund it if needed

Meeting Closure

Motion to adjourn by Maya Green at 8:46pm

Seconded by Sylvia Hennesie

Call to vote; motion passed unanimously.

Adjourn

Meeting Adjourned at 8:46pm.