

PTA General Membership Meeting, 1 Dec 2011

Attendance:

- Mary Randolph, Principal
- Megan Brooks, President
- Marti Porter, Vice President
- Linda Thompson, Treasurer
- Don Kaynor, Secretary
- Carmen Andres
- Cindy Arendt
- Branka Bowman
- Dawn Brittingham
- Wang Chanping
- Julie Childers
- Paula Davis
- Lien Do
- Lucy Huang
- Anand Karunakaran
- Wendy Kaynor
- Nancy Kerman
- Dora Lopez
- Carrie Lorenger
- Indu Panikkar
- Margie Remmers
- Cissy Saulsgiver
- Lisa Sohn

The President called the meeting to order at 6:37 pm.

Introductions

Reading and Approval of Minutes – The minutes from the 18 Nov 2011 meeting were approved as submitted.

Financial Reports - Treasurer's Report – The Treasurer presented the current report. As of 30 Nov 2011, the PTA account totaled \$25,256.87. The account is currently balanced.

Report from the Executive Committee

- Our taxes have been paid.
- Our membership dues have been paid.
- We are in the process of renewing our 501(c)3 status. The current letter is valid through 31 Dec 11.
- Dates for PTA meetings the remainder of the year are 2 Feb, 1 Mar, 29 Mar (being held early due to Spring Break the following week), and 3 May.
- Elections for next year: A Nomination Committee (comprised of 3 members) will be elected at the 1 Mar meeting. The slate of officers will be presented on 29 Mar, and the election will be held on 3 May.

Report from the Principal –

- A teacher has proposed creating a club called Girls in Electronics and Math (GEMS). It has proven quite popular in other schools and will probably be added as an extra-curricular activity in the near future. There is no fee to join, but membership may be limited based upon space and parental support. It will probably run for ten weeks, and a flier announcing it will go out in tomorrow's Friday Folders.
- Last night's Game Night was a big success. Approximately 61 people attended, Channel 21 filmed the event (an announcement will go out when there is air date and time), and at least \$175.00 or games have been ordered to date.
- There will not be a Strings Concert this winter because the strings teacher has been ill. There will be a Strings Concert in the spring. The Band and Chorus Concerts will be held on 13 Dec—there will actually be two concerts, one during the day (primarily for students) and one in the evening (open to anyone).
- The second term is almost over. Report cards will not be mailed out this term.
- 22 Dec is a full day of school, and Winter Break begins Friday, 23 Dec.

- The Book Fair runs from Monday, 5 Dec through Friday, 9 Dec. Family Night is Wednesday, 7 Dec.

Reports from Committees

- Turkey Bingo and Game Night were very successful. The Talent Show will be 28 Mar, and auditions will start sometime in mid-Feb.
- Given the success of the Girl's Run Club, a parent asked about starting a similar club for boys. The Principal said such a club has been discussed, and several options are under consideration. The Principal will look for a teacher to sponsor the effort, but we will need parent volunteers, as well.
- The Vice President asked everyone to regularly look through the Lost and Found—the collection is starting to grow. She also asked parents to please write their child's name on coats, hats, etc.
- The Vice President announced a program, sponsored by Ellen Degeneres and Target, which will award 50 prizes of \$100,000 each to individual schools. The idea is to describe what is good about your school and what is working successfully at your school. Anyone can apply, and all are encouraged to apply. Anyone over the age of 18 can complete and submit the application online at the Target website.

Unfinished Business – We now have volunteers to coordinate the Spirit Wear and the Foreign Language Experience (FLEX) Programs.

New Business

- The Executive Board proposed changing the bylaws to allow elections in either May or June (currently they can only be held in June). This will give the new officers more time to get together and prepare for the coming school year. An announcement will go out on the Just Between Friends network, and the proposal will be put to a vote at the 2 Feb.
- The President announced that the Executive Board and Volunteer Coordinator are working on a PTA Handbook for volunteers with job and event descriptions, timelines for events, and similar useful information.

Next Meeting – 6:30 pm on 2 Feb.

The President adjourned the meeting at 7:11 pm. It was followed by a presentation on Using FCPS Online Resources to Assist Your Child at Home.