

PTA Meeting Minutes May 4, 2010

PTA President Jacque Carey called the meeting to order at 7:05pm.

There was a motion to approve the minutes from the April PTA meeting. The motion was seconded and the minutes were approved.

Principal's Report

Staff Appreciation Week – Daily announcements are made to students for them to select a staff member and to write them a “Thank You” note.

CSAC – Special Education Advisory Committee hosted a night of recognition. Twelve GCES staff members were nominated and received awards for their special education support.

Report cards will be issued on May 5th. A new system (ASPEN) is being used to generate report cards. If parents notice any discrepancies, please notify your child's teacher.

6th Annual TV Free Week – The Patrol team will be dropping off prizes during the week. Each neighborhood will be tapped. A tracker of prior awardees is kept to ensure the awards are distributed equitably.

Weather – The building has been warm. Facilities are working on getting the A/C up and running. Howard County dress code has been included in the newsletter and will be enforced. No halter tops, mid drifts. The school encourages no flip flops during PE days as they can cause safety issues. It is up to the discretion of the parents.

5/7 – 5th graders trip to Philadelphia, PA
5/14 – Full day of school. Snow make up day.
5/19 – Simulated Congressional Hearings for 5th graders
5/26 – Spring Concert
5/27 – Field Day

Principal O expressed her gratitude and appreciation to the PTA Executive Board for their generosity financially as well as with their time and cooperation.

President's Report

Yankee Candle fundraiser pick up is today, May 4th.

Nominating Committee – Voting for the new 2010/2011 Board will take place at the Spring Concert. There are several Chair positions open: Membership, 5k Run/Walk and Coupon Books, Reflections, PTA Membership, Citizen Advisory, Directory.

PTA and Staff partnership has been a blessing. It has been great working with the teachers. The PTA is looking forward to next year.

Last PTA activity will be the Teachers Appreciation lunch held at the end of the school year.

The Board thanked Amy Hargrett – Treasurer and Melodie Moore – Secretary for their two years of service to the PTA. PTA looks forward to working with them in another capacity for the upcoming school year.

1st VP Report

Carnival memo went out last Friday. A poster board for announcements has been made. The Carnival committee is still looking for volunteers. All vendors have been established.

Treasurer's Report

The cash balance at 4/30/2010 was \$15,710.24.

There are 2 events left (Carnival and Teachers Appreciation Lunch).

Committee Reports

Cultural Arts – Amazing Science will be held on May 10th and 11th for 4th graders. Special thanks to Ms. Sutcliff.

Other discussions

Math night was very successful. There were approximately 150 students in attendance for “Are You Smarter than a Fifth Grader”. There was great attendance for the Parent/Student Night.

Umbrella Safety – Principal O will encourage teachers to continue to look out for any unsafe umbrellas. It will be noted in the newsletter as well.

Photographer – The school does not have an official photographer. Typically, teachers and parents are sharing their resources. We must remain mindful of Howard County liability and the need to obtain parental approval. A private photo gallery is an option/discussion.

PTA Booklet – For next school year it would be helpful to have the list of forms and their due dates on the front page.

PTA website – It was a wonderful resource for the 1st year up and running. We need to add the upkeep to the budget for next year.

Old business – none

New business –

New PTA Board Members to be voted in on September 7, 2010 are Treasurer- Michael Carey and Secretary – Mary Weber.

The PTA meeting was adjourned at 7:55pm.