**MINUTES**

**Shady Grove Elementary PTA Board Meeting**

**December 10, 2015**

**Fifth Meeting of 2015-2016 School Year**

**Present:** Sally Raderer, Gwen Jahangiri, Erin Reed, Tabetha Swertfeger, Meghan Gemmill, Renee Kreiser, Colleen Bohlman, Kim Berselli, Alexandra Bula, Kevin Dodson, Natalie Nelson, Regina Schwab, Debbie Taylor, Crissy Lynn, Zachary Young, Joanne Rosel, Shannon Koshy.

**Absent:** Stephanie Estey, Kirsten Hanson, Diana Tittermary, Irina Libon, Anna Gibellato, Sarika Malani, Leslie Baker, April Kim, Mary Wilson, Janet Sullivan, Kelly Bartlett, Brigitte Sicat, Emma Gaccione, Natasha Gamboa, Sejla Hoareau, Amy Foy, Mary Wilson, Katherine King, Kelly Griffith, Stacey McLeod, Heather Prather, Deana Collier, Ani Revilla, Radha Joshi.

**Call to Order (Time: 6:05 pm) – Sally Raderer**

**Correspondence-Stephanie Estey**

\*No report submitted.

**President’s Action Items/ Announcements-Sally Raderer**

\*PTA nominating committee will be formed in January. It’s a good time to get the word out to friends and parents of classmates about PTA opportunities. Historically we have had 5 people on the nominating committee; we need an odd number of people.

\*Member Planet Interest Survey was completed by 18 people as of 12/10/2015.

\*PTA job descriptions need to be submitted to Alexandra Bulla as soon as possible.

**Principal’s Update-Dr. Regina Schwab**

\*Several exciting events took place over the last few weeks; Reader’s Theater and Spelling Bee being just two of the events.

\*Interim’s will be coming home Friday 12/18.

\*Jingle Bell Jam will be Friday 12/18.

\*Joy Siegel was awarded the REB Award.

**Treasurer’s Report-** **Gwen Jahangir**

\*Financial report circulated.

\*Went over highlights. (Net Income is $14, 196.99, and the cash in the account is $31, 506.71.)

 **Executive Committees:**

**1st VP Programs-Tabetha Swertfeger/Erin Reed**

\*Working on determining roles for Program Coordinators next year!

**2nd VP Finance-** **Renee Kreiser/Meghan Gemmill**

**Box Tops for Education-**

\*No report submitted.

**Finance report-**

\* No report submitted.

**3rd VP Volunteers- Diana Tittermary/Kirsten Hanson**

\*No report.

**4th VP Communications – Colleen Bohlman/Irina Libon**

**Publicity Report**

\*No report.

**Lay Advisory- Alexandra Bulla/Kim Borelli**

\*Lay Advisory Meeting was 11/17/2015. Kim Borelli and Alexandra Bulla both attended.

\*Skip Taylor - Secondary Math Specialist/Ms. Victoria Bolivar - Elementary Math Specialist

\*Presentation on the county math statistics.

-The VDOE Math Curriculum will be re-written for 2016. There will be a public comment period in March 2016.

Elementary Math program - "Hands on Equations" being offered as enrichment. Parents felt that it should be offered as part of the curriculum rather than just an enrichment.

-Discussions on the importance of keeping computational skills sharp throughout middle and high school. Students in Algebra I seem to struggle due to the loss of these skills.

-REFLEX MATH - This program was offered county wide to the middle schools. The county did not renew their license with Reflex Math due to very low usage.

Some schools are still pooled into a license with Reflex Math - Shady Grove may want to consider joining into this county pool for licensing. It may result in a significant cost savings.

Some low performing and low income schools are now offering after school math enrichment for approx 100 students. This program is from 3:30- until 5:30pm. Fairfield and Wilder Middle School's are among them.

**County Council- Kevin Dodson/Natalie Nelson**

\*County council: I, Natalie Nelson, attended the county council meeting on November 24, 2015 which discussed tips on PTA nominations and elections and advocacy training. For those that want to attend PTA day at the general assembly registration is due January 15, 2016. Advocacy Training is at the Comfort Suites: 10601 Telegraph Rd. in Glen Allen on January 31 from 3-5 pm. PTA day at the general assembly is Feb.1, 2016.

**Standing Committees:**

**After School Programs- Anna Gibellato/Zak Young/Goutam Gandhi**

\*No report.

**Cultural Arts/Educational Enhancements – Janet Sullivan/Mary Wilson**

\*After some not so positive feedback --computer system and a robot not working, lag time while trying to repair -- regarding the 5th grade "Robotics" lesson last week.. The vendor, Bureau of Lectures, has been contacted and will be getting back in touch with us regarding compensation.

Do to scheduling, we tried a new vendor for the Robotics presentation this year and unfortunately it was not as good as we had hoped.

**Destination Imagination Committee Report-Colleen Bohlman/Irina Libon**

\*We have added a few more children and one additional team manager to our 6 teams and are beginning the process of registering those teams for the Central Region DI Tournament.

**Grounds – Sejla Hoareau**

\*No report submitted.

**Hospitality-Brigitte Sicat/Kelly Bartlett**

\* The Hospitality committee has been hard at work.  A big thank you to the Hospitality Committee members who prepared a delicious Thanksgiving Feast for the teachers and staff on November 18th.  Over 43 members participated!

\*We hosted the December Treats event yesterday with over 27 members participating.  Our next event will be a luncheon (theme TBD) on January 27th.

\*A big thank you to the Welcome Desk for all their hard work in receiving and transporting Hospitality event food items to the Teacher's Lounge each month. We couldn't do it without you!

**Legislative-Emma Gaccione**

\*No report.

**Membership-** **Natasha Gamboa**

\*No report.

**Parliamentarian-Amy Foy**

\* Digital directory will be released to MP this week for member viewing.  Hard copies will likely be delivered next week.  We went from 550 families in the directory to 277.   We need to brainstorm on ways to increase MP enrollment next year, perhaps we should have several people at open house with laptops and tablets assisting with sign up??? I anticipate some negative feedback regarding an "incomplete" directory but we sent out several blast reminders.

**Reflections- Joanne Rosel/Mary Wilson**

\*We have posted all the winners and the reception for the County level will be February 22nd, 6:30 at the Pocahontas Middle School.  We don’t have any news about those winners yet.

 **Room Parents-Katherine King**

\*No report submitted.

**Scholarship Fundraiser- Leslie Baker/April Kim**

*\** April and I are extremely excited about our opportunity to serve the school and PTA through organizing and planning the Rock A Thon this year.  We have had been meeting once a month since October and have established sub-committees to divide the tasks so that we can maximize our time on logistics and coordinating volunteers to making sure Rock A Thon is a safe, memorable, and fun event for everyone that participates, especially the students at SGES this year.

**\***The Date is Thursday, 3/17/15

-Where we are so far in our planning:

1)  Sub Committees established for the following:

       Decorations- (colors, theme, etc. TBD)

       Vendors- (photo booth already booked) (Nutzy already booked)

                       (DJ already booked)

        Monitors for students during event

        Own the Stage- (Shannon Johnson has agreed to continue to oversee the communication and logistics of the                                      Own the Stage during Rock A Thon)

2) We are still deciding on Spirit Wear and other party favors by getting quotes for t-shirts and looking at other options like glow in the dark bracelets, etc.

3)  We have reached out and secured some sponsors and are still working to secure others for the event to raise money.

4)  We have begun deciding on contests hosted by DJ (hula Hoop, etc) because many kids have given the feedback that they want "more to do than dance?"  We are exploring those options.

5)  Our next meeting with the Co- Chairs (me and April) and committees is scheduled for Wednesday, January 6th.

**School Store- Kelly Rapp**

\*No report.

**Spirit Wear-Stacy Mcleod**

\*No report submitted.

**STEM Lab/Outdoor Classroom-Heather Prather**

\*What an exciting year so far! With the help of our teachers, the PTA and many volunteers in our community, we are bringing STEM to Cardinals inside and outside the classroom!

 \*We now have critters back in the STEM lab with third grade’s frogs swimming around in the aquarium. Thanks to Mr. Prettyman and a Kindergarten parent volunteer for setting up the aquarium. Third grade will take turns feeding the frogs to help with their survival.

 \*We also recently installed a variety of bird feeders centrally located in the outdoor garden. Kids can see the birds feeding while in the library or when doing an outdoor STEM lesson. Many thanks to Mrs. Bass, the owner of Wild Birds Unlimited, for donating the feeders and her time helping setup the feeders. Again, classes can sign up to restock the feeders.

 \*With the help of the HCPS IT Department, we will have webcams in the STEM lab and near the feeders for kids to see from their classrooms as they learn about habitats, feeding, migration and more! Feathered animals offer many learning opportunities related to the K-5 curriculum, based on teacher’s feedback.

 \*Also, December 9 and 10 we will have Wyndham Garden Club back at Shady Grove to teach second grade a lesson on milkweed and monarch butterflies and plant milkweed seeds for the arrival of the monarchs in the Spring. Shady Grove will be one of the “rest stops” as the monarchs migrate north. We are fortunate to have Mrs. Evy Roberts and Mrs. June Hiller volunteer their time and expertise to help our garden and STEM program grow!

 \*With the generosity and partnering with community businesses, parents and grandparents, we are seeing our STEM program expand. Efficiencies have also been gained by creating 1) a STEM Lesson Form for teachers to fill out thereby standardizing communication, 2) a STEM Pics folder to load those incredible, memorable pictures of kids “doing STEM” and 3) a STEM Lessons folder for teachers to upload and pull lessons. The file cabinet in the STEM lab will also store hard copies of these lessons. These are all essential parts of building a sustainable program and a program that can grow as STEM changes over time. We will continue to look for other STEM opportunities and efficiencies in 2016!

**Welcome Committee-Deana Collier**

\*No report submitted.

**Yearbook- Radha Joshi/Shannon Koshy/Ani Revilla**

\*No report.

**Teacher Reps- Ms. Lynn/ Ms. Taylor**

\*No report submitted.

**Time ended: 6:30 pm**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Stephanie Estey, Secretary**

**Next Meeting:**

**PTA Board Meeting**

**Thursday, January 14, 2015**

**6:30pm**

**PTA Program**

**January 21st**

**Time/Event TBD**

**PTA Board Meeting**

**Thursday, December 10, 2015**

**6:00-6:45p (library)**

**5th Grade Holiday Concert 7:00pm**