

MINUTES
Shady Grove Elementary PTA Board Meeting
January 12, 2012

Present: Kaje Stuckey, Stacey McKenna, Tracy Teal, Sally Raderer, Angela Roupe, Beth Clark, Branton Smith, Alison Crowder, Kelly Plageman, Laura Girard, Michelle Bone, Sarah Westmoreland, Penny Ohman, Justine Sherman, Andi Elliott, Amy Foy, Regina Schwab, Crissy Rhyne, Debbie Taylor

Absent: Julie Lang, Sue Manley, Melissa Taylor, Esther Black, Lucille Lindamood, Vicki Parlantieri, Brian Levitin, Stephannie Marcus, JoElle VanRoekel, Shannon Johnson, Penny Sellers, Deborah Vuturo, Jennifer Conklin, Deb Holden, Lisa Weisner, Colleen Bohlman, Mary Jordan, Christine Shamus, Delphine Hartsel

Call to Order (Time - 6:41 pm) – Kaje Stuckey

Approval of Minutes-Kaje Stuckey

Motion made by Tracy Teal to approve the minutes from the November 2011 meeting. Amy Foy seconded the motion. No one opposed, motion carried.

Correspondence-Stacey McKenna

*Several thank you notes from teachers were circulated during the meeting.

President's Action Items/ Announcements-Kaje Stuckey

*The Cookbook Committee is finalizing the cookbook for print. We have pre-sold over 260 cookbooks and anticipate an initial run of 500. The name of the cookbook is the "Shady Grove Stove". Thanks to SGES parent Cathy Buckenmeier who designed a great cover.

*The Directory was printed and distributed in December. We have many left for sale for \$3 each. The same amount was printed as in prior years, however may need fewer now that we are charging for them. We had some people left out of the directory. The one-form at Open House was a great idea to gather information, however we will work to do a better job of distributing information to the right committees and to the directory.

*Annual PTA Day at the State Capital is January 23. We are asked to make appointments with our representatives. There is an Education Rally on the Capital at 1pm. This is a Virginia Board of Education approved field trip, so you can take your kids.

*The Nominating Committee will be named in the next month. Kaje will send an e-mail reminding you if you are up for renewal or not and seeing what your intentions are.

Principal's Update-Dr. Regina Schwab

*The annual Spelling Bee was held on January 13th.

*Shady Grove has received the 2012 Governor's Award for Educational Excellence. This award is based on a number of school quality factors, including the percentage of students who achieve advanced pass scores on the Standards of Learning tests.

*The spring testing schedule has been distributed.

*The annual Parent Survey has been sent home. Feedback is very important.

*The comprehensive safety audit will be taking place soon. This is done every three years.

*Please remember to check the Lost & Found for any missing items.

Treasurer's Report- Tracy Teal

*We anticipate having approximately \$4,000 extra at year-end. Discussed ideas for how to spend this money. Some suggestions included: purchasing a new copier, revamping the PTA room, purchasing a new paper cutter, purchasing updated playground equipment for 3rd-5th graders. Will discuss further at future meetings.

*Board members were asked to look at budgeted amounts for the remainder of the year and let Tracy know if anything has changed.

Executive Committees:

1st VP Programs- Sally Raderer/Julie Lang

*The January 19 program will be "Going WILD for Reading," and will include a children's book swap, stories for students, and a presentation for parents. The presentation, given by Librarian Lisa Blouch, is titled "For the Love of Reading: Nurturing Your Young Readers at Home." Students are invited to bring up to 4 books each to trade, and any extra books will be donated to SGES classrooms and the Read Aloud Virginia Children's Book Bank.

*The February 15 program is a parent-education event, being co-hosted with the Short Pump Middle School PTA. This program is being held at Short Pump Middle School. The program is a screening of "Race to Nowhere," accompanied by a panel discussion. Tickets are \$10 per person (plus a small transaction fee), available online through www.rtnshadygrove.eventbrite.com. Money raised through ticket sales will benefit Short Pump Middle School and Shady Grove Elementary School. All adults of the community are invited to attend, and specific invitations have been extended to elementary schools in our immediate area. We are excited about this opportunity to strengthen the relationship between Shady Grove Elementary School and Short Pump Middle School, and to shine a light on the excellence of our schools.

*Looking ahead, we'll have the Rock-a-thon and Fourth Grade performances in March and April. Then, on May 17, we'll have our annual end-of-year picnic. Since this is Shady Grove's birthday year, we're planning an especially festive picnic, including a casual concert by the Soundsations and Syncopations, and some birthday fun.

2nd VP Finance- Angela Roupe/Beth Clark

*Our Check Writing Campaign has collected \$30,508 so far this year. Tax receipts will be sent out soon. Will be following up on matching donations not yet received.

*We anticipate receiving \$471 from the December Papa John's Pizza Nights. The Teacher Delivery Night is scheduled for Tuesday, March 20th.

* We have currently raised \$1,792.00 from Box Tops. Our Spring Challenge Box Tops deadline is Friday, February 17th. Any Box Tops received after that date will count towards the 2012-13 school year. Interested in finding someone to take on Box Tops as part of the Finance Team so they can expand it to meet the program's full potential.

* The Barnes & Noble Spirit Night was a huge success. We raised \$838.21. Thank you to all the teachers and families that came out and participated. It was fun having Soundsations and Syncopations there to perform. Our next spirit night will be the Papa John's Teacher Delivery Night in March. Considering a possible California Pizza Kitchen Night in February.

* To date, we have 81 Martin's cards registered and have raised a total of \$662.42. At Kroger, we have approximately 49,000 points and at Target we have 46 cards registered and have made \$545.41 so far.

3rd VP Volunteers- Branton Smith/Sue Manley

*Branton Smith and Penny Ohman informed the Board that Teacher Appreciation Week will be held the week of February 13th. Parents will be informed that the PTA will be sponsoring a teacher luncheon on the 14th and each day two gift cards will be raffled off. The PTA will be emphasizing that nothing additional is expected from parents. Donations for the raffles would be welcomed and appreciated.

4th VP Communications – Melissa Taylor

*No report.

Lay Advisory- Esther Black/Lucille Lindamood

(The following updates from the November and January Lay Advisory meetings were not read at the Board meeting, but were emailed to the Board after the meeting.)

* Superintendent Dr Russo attended the November Lay Advisory meeting on Nov. 15, 2011. Below are some items that were discussed:

-Advanced College Academy (specialty center at JR Tucker High School) - According to Dr. Russo, there were currently 38 students enrolled. The hope is to expand to 50 students, making up 2 classes. Would appreciate any feedback.

-Budget - The Virginia Retirement System is a big concern for HCPS, as it is currently funded at 68% currently (Dr. Russo). Virginia PTA approved an emergency measure to allocate surplus to education (Ann S.) Dr. Russo encouraged everyone to contact VA Senator Walter Stosch, who sits on the Senate Finance Committee. HCPS has lost 100 teacher positions and 63 Central Office positions through attrition.

-“King's Dominion” law might have a chance to be reviewed. Dr. Russo said a survey would go out to parents before a decision would ever be made to start school before Labor Day. There is legislation on this that will be considered during this General Assembly session.

-SOL's - A discussion was held regarding no remediation is possible at the current SOL timeline for elementary or middle schools. Dr. Russo is one of 5 superintendents who have asked for more flexibility on when the SOL's would be administered. The state definition of “college ready” is “advanced proficiency” in Algebra 2. A discussion was held regarding whether it's been looked at whether the SOL's have evolved and been evaluated.

-No Child Left Behind - There is an opportunity for a NCLB waiver. US Senator Tom Harkin currently has a bill in front of Senate to overhaul NCLB.

* From the January Meeting

-There was discussion on how best to get the word out to parents about the role of the Lay Advisory Committee. A flyer was prepared in the fall and could be shared with PTA boards and put on the PTA website. Once I receive this flyer, I'll share it with the Board.

-A parent had concerns with the PE assessment that was given her child at local school. The assessment said that it is part of the new PE curriculum. The general consensus of the group was that when changes occur in the curriculum, parents need to know why the change is occurring and how they can help implement the changes with their child. Parents need more communication when these changes happen.

-The Chair of Lay Advisory will ask someone from central office, perhaps Superintendent Russo or the Curriculum staff person to attend one of our meetings this spring to explain the changes in curriculum for the current school year and also next year.

-The General Assembly session started on Wednesday, January 11th. There will be a VA PTA Advocacy Training Day on January 22nd from 2 to 4 pm at Holiday Inn Koger Center. The PTA Day to visit the General Assembly will be on January 23rd. There are many pieces of legislation being considered during the session relating to education.

County Council- Vicki Parlantieri/Brian Levitin (absent, report read by Stacey McKenna)

*Brian attended the break-out session with our district and noted the following interesting facts: in the past 2 years we have cut \$32,000,000; 100 teacher positions have been cut and 63 central office positions have been cut; 82% of our budget is spent on personnel and benefits; 80% of the citizens in Henrico County do not have kids in public school; in May 2013 the new elementary school will open on Pouncey Tract Road; last year was the first year we had a decrease in students in Henrico County (lost 75 students, next year is projected to increase by 200 students).

Standing Committees:

After School Programs- Alison Crowder/Stephanie Marcus/JoElle VanRoekel

*The Winter Session is getting ready to start. Numbers are down from prior years, most likely due to the new online enrollment process. Will work on including more detailed information (class descriptions, dates, etc.) on page that is sent home prior to enrollment in the future. Will also plan to send home paper version of liability form.

*Still in need of parent volunteers for a few classes.

College Scholarship Fund- Kelly Plageman/ShannonJohnson

*Talked to students about the Rock-a-Thon at the Jingle Bell Jam.

*Putting together a parental release form and t-shirt order form, which will be sent home soon. Pledge form will go home later.

*Several acts will be performing: the Tucker Step Team, the Holman Step Team, the Holman Breakdancing Team, Nutsy the Squirrel and several Shady Grove teachers.

*Will need several parent volunteers.

Cultural Arts/ Education Enhancements- Penny Sellers

*No report.

Historian-Deborah Vuturo

*No report.

Hospitality-Laura Girard/Jennifer Conklin

*A teacher luncheon was held this week.

Legislative-Deb Holden

*No report.

Membership- Michelle Bone

*No report.

Outdoor Classroom-Sarah Westmoreland

*No report.

Parliamentarian-Lisa Weisner

*No report.

Reflections- Colleen Bohlman/Mary Jordan (absent, report ready by Stacey McKenna)

*The county judging is complete and winners have been selected to move on to the next level. Sadly, no one from SGES is moving forward this year.

*All entries from the county will be displayed at the HCCPTA Reflections program on Tuesday, February 21, 2012 at 7 p.m. at Deep Run High School. We'll be sending invitations to our contestants. All the entries except those that moved on to the District level will be on display and light refreshments will be served.

*One Reflections Board position will be open for next year.

Room Parents-Penny Ohman

*Report given in conjunction with Volunteers.

School Store- Christine Shamus (absent, report ready by Stacey McKenna)

*Kaje, Christine, Dr. Schwab and Sarah Moore met to discuss allowing students that are not SCA Representatives to work in the school store. Decided to offer volunteer opportunity to fourth graders only since there are several other volunteer opportunities for fifth graders.

*The SCA Representatives are able to work in the school store on Fridays. The fourth graders will work in the store on Mondays and Wednesdays.

*Students interested in volunteering will need to fill out an application and have their parent's approval. The applications are due back to Mrs. Moore by Friday, January 20.

*Plan to select 12 students to work in the store during the 3rd quarter and a different 12 students to work in the store during the 4th quarter. Students selected will be notified by Friday, January 27.

*A training session will be held on Tuesday, January 31 before school starts.

*The fourth graders will start working in the school store on Wednesday, February 1st.

Special Events-Delphine Hartsel

*No report.

Yearbook- Justine Sherman/Andi Elliott/Amy Foy

*Have sold 2/3 of the yearbooks already and are expecting more before the price goes up to \$30 after March 31st.

*A reminder will be sent home with any student who has not yet ordered a yearbook.

*Will also let teachers know whether or not they have already ordered a yearbook.

*Expect to have an excess of \$1,000 at year-end. Last year we undercharged for online orders, which resulted in additional shipping charges for the PTA. Pricing was adjusted this year to avoid this.

Teacher Reps- Mrs. Rhyne/ Ms. Taylor

*No report.

Time ended: 7:44 p.m.

**Respectfully submitted,
Stacey McKenna, Secretary**

**Next Meeting:
Thursday, February 9, 2011
6:30pm**