

MINUTES
Shady Grove Elementary PTA Board Meeting
March 8, 2012

Present: Kaje Stuckey, Stacey McKenna, Tracy Teal, Angela Roupe, Beth Clark, Branton Smith, Sue Manley, Melissa Taylor, Lucille Lindamood, Alison Crowder, Kelly Plageman, Shannon Johnson, Jennifer Conklin, Sarah Westmoreland, Colleen Bohlman, Justine Sherman, Amy Foy, Regina Schwab, Crissy Rhyne, Debbie Taylor

Absent: Sally Raderer, Julie Lang, Esther Black, Vicki Parlantieri, Brian Levitin, Stephannie Marcus, JoElle VanRoekel, Penny Sellers, Deborah Vuturo, Laura Girard, Deb Holden, Michelle Bone, Lisa Weisner, Mary Jordan, Penny Ohman, Christine Shamus, Delphine Hartsel, Andi Elliott

Call to Order (Time - 6:34pm) – Kaje Stuckey

Approval of Minutes-Kaje Stuckey

Motion made by Tracy Teal to approve the minutes from the February 2012 meeting. Lucille Lindamood seconded the motion. No one opposed. Motion carried.

Correspondence-Stacey McKenna

*Several thank you notes were circulated during the meeting.

President's Action Items/ Announcements-Kaje Stuckey

*Cookbooks have arrived and will be sent home tomorrow. We have made just over \$2k profit. Cookbooks are still available for sale.

*Kaje attended a meeting with Dr. Russo and PTA Presidents. Discussion included the following:

- Boundary lines for the new elementary school have not been drawn yet.
- The next new high school will open in the east end in 2016. It will be a Business & Medical Specialty Center.
- The approved budget was presented. Considering adjusting the timing of the school day. A form is available online to express your opinion.
- Discussed closing the achievement gap in the county
- Discussed summer programs for career areas.

*The Nomination Committee has begun meeting. Nomination forms will be sent out via room parents.

*The Annual State Conference will be held on July 12th.

*Would like to nominate Ms. Amrhein for Outstanding Nurse of the Year. Looking for a parent to spearhead this.

Principal's Update-Dr. Regina Schwab

*Over the weekend seven teams competed in Destination Imagination competition. Two of our teams won 3rd place and one team is going on to the state competition.

*Thank you to all volunteers who manned the halls during the primary elections this week.

*We have finished our first round of SOLs (4th/5th graders).

*At the School Board meeting on March 22nd, Shady Grove will receive the Governor's Award for Educational Excellence. Syncopations will perform at the meeting.

*Spring pictures will be taken on March 23rd.

Treasurer's Report- Tracy Teal

*Please let Tracy know if you have any changes to your forecast for the remainder of the year.

Executive Committees:

1st VP Programs- Sally Raderer/Julie Lang (absent, report read by Stacey McKenna)

*The February 15 "Race to Nowhere" program was a success. We sold 100 tickets, and everything went smoothly at the showing and subsequent reception. We expect to receive our initial deposit back from The Race to Nowhere office, as a result of our ticket sales.

*The next program will be the Rock-A-Thon on March 15th.

2nd VP Finance- Angela Roupe/Beth Clark

*The Check Writing Campaign has raised over \$30k.

*We have earned \$725 from Papa John's Pizza Nights so far this year. Expect to earn approximately \$300 for January. Still waiting to hear results of the Massanutten contest.

*Our next Spirit Night will be a Silver Diner Spirit Night at the end of April.

*To date, we anticipate earning over \$2,800 from our Box Tops collections, which is an increase of approximately \$900 over last year.

3rd VP Volunteers- Branton Smith/Sue Manley

*Nominations for Volunteer of the Year were presented and voted on.

*Meeting with Mrs. Reynolds soon to plan for Field Day.

*Scheduling volunteers to help with Picture Day on March 23rd.

4th VP Communications – Melissa Taylor

*No report.

Lay Advisory- Esther Black/Lucille Lindamood

*Attended Lay Advisory meeting and the following items were discussed:

-Discussed topics to be covered with Dr. Russo at next meeting: Curriculum, survey results, online learning.

-Discussed concerns about online classes specifically the new required Economics class for all rising 10th graders and how the process will work.

-Discussed how math and science in middle school is a not a one size fits all and there appears to be inconsistency at area schools on how advanced students are handled and those who need remediation.

-Discussed how parent input does make a difference – for example one of the committee members was disappointed in the age requirement for summer online PE (had to be 14 years old). This concern was brought to the attention of the school board and the requirement was changed to all rising 9th graders, regardless of age.

*If you have any concerns, let Esther or Lucille know and they can bring them to the attention of the Lay Advisory Committee. The purpose of the Committee is to research parental concerns and help find answers.

*Relevant Legislation:

-HB 1061 – Diploma bill – will reduce Board of Education approved diploma options from seven to three, providing more rigorous and meaningful requirements – Passed both houses

-HB 947 - Tebow bill – Passed in House but failed in Senate Education Committee

-HB 1063 – School calendar flexibility – Passed in House but failed in Senate Education Committee

-HB 576 - Teacher contracts – Passed in the House and still in the Senate for a vote – will address next year

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

*The Reflections Award Ceremony was held on February 21st. Unfortunately there were no Shady Grove Elementary representatives this year. 44 schools participated, 2145 total entries county wide, 188 entries received at the county level. Next year's theme will be "Magic of the Moment"

Standing Committees:

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

*No report.

College Scholarship Fund- Kelly Plageman/ShannonJohnson

*We are making last minute preparations for the Rock-A-Thon. We have approximately 300 students attending.

*The t-shirts will be in at the beginning of next week. We will be distributing them so the students can wear them to the Rock-A-Thon.

*It is not too late for students to register for the Rock-A-Thon. Parents can still go on the website and print off the liability form and pledge forms.

*We will be sending out information next Tuesday about where parents will enter to sign their child in for the Rock-A-Thon and where they will pick them up.

*We are planning on locking the front doors 30 minutes after the Rock-A-Thon begins for security purposes. We don't want people coming into the school that we do not know about.

*We are excited about this event and we think the kids will have a great time!!

Cultural Arts/ Education Enhancements- Penny Sellers

*No report.

Historian-Deborah Vuturo

*No report.

Hospitality-Laura Girard/Jennifer Conklin

*Hosted a chili luncheon for the teachers in February in conjunction with Teacher Appreciation Week. Gave away approximately 35-40 raffle items.

Legislative-Deb Holden

*No report.

Membership- Michelle Bone (absent, report read by Stacey McKenna)

*Worked with the Virginia State PTA to change our 100% membership number since our student enrollment has declined from last year. Our new target is 716 members (vs. 760+ from last year). This is good news as the goal is much more reasonable.

*Last month we implemented a targeted marketing campaign. It has been successful. We are now up to approximately 690 members. This number includes envelopes that I have received this week.

*We are still short by approximately 26 members. I am sending out a plea to sign up your spouse, grandparents, babysitters, etc. to help us reach our goal. It would be nice to do this by the end of March so Shady Grove can be recognized for 100% by the time of our County Banquet.

Outdoor Classroom-Sarah Westmoreland

*Last week our Edible Garden arrived and was installed. We now have four, cedar, organic raised beds behind the school. Mark Ziegler built the beds off site and has worked on this project for the past two years to earn certification for Eagle Scout. Our first classes to use the beds will be all five Kindergarten classes. On Friday, March 16th there will be five lessons held in the garden where the children will learn about the garden, seeds, potato starters, dirt, worms, etc. They will be growing carrots, peas and potatoes to be harvested in early June. The garden will be closed for the summer.

*Would like to host a Beautification Day. Will consider offering a lunch to encourage people to attend.

*Sarah proposed planting a tree on Earth Day to replace the tree being removed from the front of the school. James River has offered a donation and she would like to propose that we invite them to plant the tree. In addition to the tree donation, she would like permission to invite them to fill in areas that have had erosion - specifically, the peace garden along the sidewalk and the front, right of the school near the parking lot/playground. Grass seed would need to be planted, as well. Volunteers will water.

*Let Sarah know if you have any ideas on signage for the garden. She is working with Cathy Buckenmaier on a logo and theme.

*Discussed how Shady Gove will be having a school-wide paper-free day to celebrate Earth Day.

Parliamentarian-Lisa Weisner (absent, report given by Kaje Stuckey)

*Scholarship information was distributed on Monday, February 20th to the surrounding high schools. Forms will be posted on the PTA website. The applications are to be received by April 1st.

Reflections- Colleen Bohlman/Mary Jordan

*The County reception was in late February. All of our entrants were sent a formal invite notifying them that while they did not receive an award, their work would be on display and celebrated. If they could not attend, their work would be returned to the school at a later date. There were no SGES award winners this year.

Room Parents-Penny Ohman

*No report.

School Store- Christine Shamus

*No report.

Special Events-Delphine Hartsel (absent, report given by Kaje Stuckey)

*Working on t-shirt order for Field Day.

Yearbook- Justine Sherman/Andi Elliott/Amy Foy

*Yearbook sales are at 87%. There are less than 80 books left! Another reminder will be posted in the blast.

*The cost increases to \$30 after March 31st.

*The deadline for personalization has passed.

*Cover is finally finalized and we are very excited about it!

*We sent out a final reminder to upload pictures last week. Andi and Justine have been busy taking more pictures and finalizing the class pages. They will be going to the teachers and Dr. Schwab next week for one last look. All the other pages are almost done except for our Rock-a-Thon page. We have saved space to capture this new event to Shady Grove.

*Deadline is the first week in April and we are on target to meet the deadline.

Teacher Reps- Mrs. Rhyne/ Ms. Taylor

*Discussed some concerns regarding participation in Teacher Appreciation Week. Suggested that we clarify that while individual recognition of teachers is not being organized by the PTA or by Room Parents, parents should feel free to recognize their teachers however they feel is appropriate.

*Discussed need for STEM Lab support.

*Discussed renewed efforts regarding teaching students to read. Teachers will be creating a storage room to organize leveled reading books (based on Beverly Tyner program). Expressed need for additional book sets. Will look into cost and will present a proposal to the PTA.

New Business

*Working on list of suggestions for what to do with our extra money this year. Email Kaje with any ideas.

*Need to look at our schedule for next year. Begin to think about whether or not we want to do another Silent Auction. Please contact Kaje with any feedback. Also need to consider whether we will do another Rock-A-Thon or have a Talent Show next year.

Time ended: 7:50 p.m.

**Respectfully submitted,
Stacey McKenna, Secretary**

**Next Meeting:
Thursday, April 19, 2012
6:30pm**