


Minutes CES PTA Monday December 12, 2011

I. CES President

- A. Minutes from November were voted on and approved 
- B. The chorus trip and parade for Thanksgiving in Philadelphia went well
 - 1. There is still interest in pursuing the School Board to support these types of activities including music in the park in the future, though they did not support it this year
 - 2. Our PTA insurer was okay with supporting this type of activity and should not have a problem doing so in the future if necessary
- C. Nominating committee for next year's officers has been formed
 - 1. Vidya Ambrosi, Stephanie McClellan and Amy Billups have agreed to serve
 - 2. There was not a quorum of the Executive Board present so a vote could not be taken to approve this
- D. A question was raised as to whether there was a president for our PTA which has a Large operating budget to make donations or sponsor activities for other less fortunate schools
 - 1. It was discussed that we have a budget for community outreach which could be increased
 - 2. It was also discussed that we have given to the Homewood PTA in the past
 - 3. It was mentioned that we should discuss with our PTACHC delegates about potential areas of need that we could address in other schools in the county both as a general donation and of support for particular activities that they would otherwise not be able to sponsor themselves
 - 4. It was suggested that we could support staff breakfasts or dinners, etc.
 - 5. It was also suggested that we could get some of our PTA members to help volunteer to support events at schools in need
 - 6. Once we have highlighted which schools have a need and what their specific needs are, then we can potentially help with money, volunteers, etc. as necessary
 - 7.

II. Treasurer's report

- A. We have a budget for \$45,000 and have spent \$10,000 so far
- B. Not all of the committees have expenditures yet
- C. We still have a healthy budget
- D. There was some discussion about the \$10,000 from the previous year's budget that Was to go to a electronic sign, but instead per administration request was to go for a Postermaker, new bulletin boards and security cameras
 - 1. The county actually picked up the cost for the security cameras
 - 2. It is unclear how much money may still be available to spend
 - 3. There was discussion of using the money for a new Pavillion which had been discussed previously and our first Vice President thought he could help have it done at cost, unclear what happened with that

III. Howard County Delegates Report

1) Middle School Curriculum Restructuring:

The official proposal for middle school program restructuring will be presented at the Board of Education meeting on Thursday, December 8, 2011 at the 4 p.m. session. The meeting is open. Also, you can watch the meeting online at http://hcpsstv.granicus.com/ViewPublisher.php?view_id=6 or on cable, for Comcast - ch. 95 or Verizon - ch. 42.

The report will be given about half-way into the meeting. If you miss the live broadcast, it is available to watch any time on the internet (*go to the link above*) and on the cable channels it is rebroadcast periodically (*check the schedule at: <http://tvs.hcpss.org/pdf/DecCableGuide2011.pdf>*)

The Public Hearing on the proposal is scheduled for January 12, 2012 and the Board will vote on January 26, 2012. If the proposal is passed, implementation will begin in the Fall of 2012.

The attached e-mail of "Facts" gives a brief outline of the reading program restructuring proposal. Folks are encouraged to read the full proposal (attached), also available at:

[http://www.boarddocs.com/mabe/hcpssmd/Board.nsf/files/8PAJAF4C3575/\\$file/12%2008%202011%20Middle%20School%20Program%20Studies%20BR.pdf](http://www.boarddocs.com/mabe/hcpssmd/Board.nsf/files/8PAJAF4C3575/$file/12%2008%202011%20Middle%20School%20Program%20Studies%20BR.pdf)

2) Local PTA are encouraged to support the Homewood School Staff

Tina Maddox, Principal of Homewood made a presentation about the center which serves students in need of intensive academic and behavioral instruction and support. The Homewood Center has 100 staff members and 140 students, but not its own PTA. PTACHC includes \$350 in its annual budget to support Homewood Center Staff, and encourages local PTAs to also support the staff in some tangible way, *e.g.* making a monetary donation, giving gift certificates, providing a staff appreciation lunch or breakfast goodies.

Action item: Vote on proposal to approve \$100 from CES PTA Community Outreach budget to support the Homewood School Staff.

3) Selection of Board Superintendent: The Board of Education is seeking input for the selection of the new Board Superintendent. The Board invites parents, staff and students to complete an online survey at <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/5B5WXYQ>. The survey opportunity may end on Dec. 8, 2011. Also, there were Community Open Forums scheduled from 6:00-8:00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 6 and Wednesday, December 7, 2011, in the Board Room at the Department of Education, 10910 Route 108 in Ellicott City. Specific forums for students are scheduled at 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday, December 6 and Wednesday, December 7 in Board Room B at the Department of Education. Students may attend either session. If you miss these opportunities to voice your opinions, call Board of Education liaison, Brian Meshkin at 410-575-3070, or e-mail me and I will forward to PTACHC and the Board.

IV. Go Green Committee

1) Go-Green Recycling Presentation – Wednesday 11/30: (Thanks Andrea and Mrs. Slattery!) Students enjoyed Alicia Moore's presentations and worked hard to recycle everything they could at the end of their lunch periods. Thanks to front office, green teachers & yearbook committee for their support! Thanks also to Sara Toth (Columbia Flier) for covering this event (<http://www.baltimoresun.com/explore/howard/news/ph-ho-cf-school-days-1208-20111201,0,6777682.story>).

2) Go-Green Committee Ideas for Classroom Parties: (Thanks Andrea, Suzanne & Stephanie!) Andrea is working to reduce waste at classroom parties by getting the word out to parents and working with teachers and room parents. Andrea announced the effort via a PTA email and the newsletter to continue the greening efforts for the Holiday parties. She plans to contact teachers and room parents, so that everyone will work together to "green" all future classroom parties. Thanks to Suzanne and Stephanie for helping promote these ideas via PTA announcement and

newsletter.

3) Reflections Committee helping encourage entries with Green themes (Thanks Mike & Kathy!)
a) Thanks to Reflections co-chairs for identifying Green entries.

b) Go Green Committee will prepare certificates for Green entries to distribute to students who submitted Green entries.
4) Green Teachers (Thanks Mrs. Becker & Mr. Schwab!)

a) Trash weighing to start soon. There are student reps for Grades 3-5 who will assist. Go-Green committee is encouraging parents to help with trash weighing at lunchtimes on Wednesdays.

b) Garden planting being planned by Mr. Schwab.

4) Green Pictures for the Yearbook: (Thanks Deb & Lisa!)
a) Teachers will let us know when Green activities are being done (e.g. weighing trash, planting the garden) so Yearbook Committee can take pictures.

b) Thanks to Yearbook Committee for taking pictures of other Green events, e.g. Green Presentation on Wednesday 11/30.

Meeting adjourned