

PTA MEETING MINUTES

COLIN POWELL ES

TIME: 7:45 p.m.

DATE: Tuesday, December 2, 2008

I. Call to order: Mr. Jason Ahn, PTA President, called the meeting to order. He welcomed everyone to our December meeting and apologized for the delay in beginning the meeting. We had Dr. Bussey here this evening presenting on behalf of FCPS' Minority Achievement Committee. Jason began the meeting by requesting an approval of the June PTA meeting minutes.

II. Acceptance of Minutes: It was moved by Delia Valentine, and seconded by Amy Heimbach that the November meeting minutes be approved. Motion carried.

III. School Administrator and Staff Reports:

Principals Report:

- **Mr. Brian Hull** welcomed everyone and thanked everyone for attending Dr. Bussey's presentation. His presentation looked at minority student achievement in FCPS and here at CPES as well. Our focus at CPES is on looking specifically at 6 different subgroups. No Child Left Behind Act specifically focuses on, White, Hispanic, African American, Limited English Proficient, Special Education, and Economically Disadvantaged groups. We look at these subgroups and see how our students are performing. Our subgroups are performing at 90% or better. We are constantly talking about best practices and how we can best support each child in this building. Teachers meet within grade level as well as vertical articulation meetings. We have a wonderful relationship between home and school. He also reported:
- Mr. Erbrecht went to a reception this afternoon. We are one of 500 schools in the US that are a USDA Healthier School. We received an award for our achievement.
- Tomorrow morning, Dec. 3 we will be responding to our school plan from our Cluster 7 office. We will talk about where we stand for student achievement and where we are with our goals in that area.
- We asked CPES community to provide feedback for Mike Newman, our day custodian, and based on the wonderful feedback he has been awarded the FCPS Outstanding Performance Award. Thank you for contributing comments and pictures.

Assistant Principal:

Ms. Mary Lambert reported that:

- Thanksgiving luncheon had a great turnout. Over 1100 lunches were served with 30 volunteers.
- The weekly newsletter issued today, Dec. 2, will be the last paper issue you receive. The remaining issues beginning next week will be online.
- December 11 Bach 2 Rock assembly will be held for K-6 students. Caryn Lin will lead the presentation.

Teacher Reports:

Mrs. Suzanne Sorensen, reading specialist, reported that:

- Visiting authors were both a big hit. The kids were really taken with Hilary Hyland's dog Mouse. Both authors discussed the writing process.
- 5th grade teachers will meet with Suzanne this week to finalize their classroom library book choices. Thank you PTA.
- The GMU PDS program has been great! We will have hosted a total of 7 field experience GMU students this year. We have several GMU students continuing on this spring.

Mr. Jeffrey Stratford, 1st grade teacher, reported that:

- We have an Essential Life Skills committee and we are trying to make a connection between parents, students, and teachers on making healthy choices.
- Links on the CPES PTA website are the American Heart Association, food services and www.mypyramid.gov is also included. Communication has been excellent.
- If you were photographed at the Thanksgiving luncheon it was because we were trying to catch you eating healthy.
- In December we are doing the fruit of the month in conjunction with www.fruitandveggiesmatter.gov
- In January in going along with Take Your Child to Work day we are going to have a Take Your Fruit to School day.
- In February we would like to sponsor a poster contest conveying a message about kids making healthy food choices and getting the proper amount of exercise. We would like the PTA to be a partner with us on this.

Ms. Ellen D'Sa, PE teacher, reported that:

- February 16-20 is Jump Rope for Heart Week. This will be held during the school day this year.
- March 11 will be our first Health/Wellness Fair in the evening. This will be a free event held in the cafeteria for adults while the students/children will be in the gym, and the theater will be an informational area. This will be open to all of the CPES community as well as those students and families who do not attend CPES. Please promote this within your own circles of influence. We need to have at least 200 people attend for those companies and businesses to return for a second year.

IV. Officer Reports:

President:

Mr. Jason Ahn reported that:

- Mr. Hull has been nominated for The National Distinguished Principals Program, which is a program to recognize excellence in elementary and middle level principals' school leadership.
- We have 533 members
 - We have another membership drive in January to meet our goal of 600
- The website is now live!!! Thank you so much Sue!

- Playground project update we have earned \$12,718 without the Emily Michael Fund. Emily's mom currently has approximately \$3,000 including the Raytheon matching donation.
- He wanted to correct a potential misconception from a comment that was made by him at the last PTA meeting regarding the fact that the current year's officers were not planning on attending a PTA meeting being held in Roanoke. He did not want it misconstrued that he was insinuating in any way that last year's officers were in any way not excellent stewards of our resources because they attended the meeting. The amount that was spent on last years meeting were largely spent out of their own pockets. The amount that Jason mentioned last month, \$500, was what we as new board officers had budgeted to attend such meetings.

1st Vice President:

Mrs. Beth Ann Lockert reported that:

- Telephone reminders will be sent monthly for the PTA meetings
- Thanks to everyone who came to watch Kung Fu Panda. There were 144 people who attended. We raised close to \$350.
- We decided to cancel the December Family Fun Event.
- The January event will be January 30. We are working on two possible events. A make your own taco night at Moe's or a game night.
- Multicultural night is now in the planning stages.
- Your member and volunteer handbooks have been distributed. There have been a few errors to correct. The corrections have been made on the website version but not on the paper version you might have at home.
- Question from the audience: Can an email reminder be sent reminding people that the Puma Post and Weekly Newsletter has been posted? Ms. Lambert says that she can certainly try.

2nd Vice President:

Mr. Angelo Africa reported that:

- Thanked Mr. Choi from Tropical Café for providing samples this evening. January 22 will be a fundraising event at the Café. It is located on Lee Highway and will be held from 5:30-8:00 p.m. They are located next to Panda Express and Ruby Tuesday. We will receive 25% of the proceeds. The proceeds will benefit the playground fund.
- Sally Foster pickup date was November 20. Some orders are still awaiting pickup in the PTA office. You can still order online!
- The coin box for the playground fund will be handed out in December to the classroom teachers with the instructions. It will be up to the classroom teacher if the box will be decorated in the classroom or at home. A label will be provided. Every three weeks the boxes can be returned for pickup by a PTA officer. The class that collects the most funds will receive a pizza party. We will remind through the website the dates and it will be discussed at the CPES staff meeting.

Treasurer:

Ms. Dawn Fraioli reported that:

- The website was done through recruiting volunteers. The only cost was for our domain name, which was \$16.00 for this year. This was a huge win for us.
- Budget was discussed in regards to what came in November, please see attached.
- Our playground account is a savings account only. Fundraising efforts for playground run through the main account with proceeds transferring to the playground account.
- Scrip program income/expense is for the playground.
- Amy Heimbach, thank you so much for all of your help and time with the Scrip program. You raised approximately \$700 for us. Thank you!!

V. Reports of Committee Chairs/Needs:

Website - Sue Kim – Explained and navigated the website. The three main sections are join, volunteer, and stay connected. The December Puma Post is posted for your reading pleasure. Comments are always welcome.

Puma Post – Julie Conti – Is doing a wonderful with our Puma Post. The December edition is complete. Communication is going well and please do not hesitate to contact her if you have any feedback or questions.

Amy Varner – Box Tops for Education and Campbell Soup Labels – Right now we have approximately 1700 points to use at this time. Perhaps an electric stapler might be purchased with the points. Please take a moment to cut them off before you recycle your soup cans and boxes. She needs to see the expiration date on the labels please. Amy moved that the money earned through these programs be transferred to CPES playground fund rather than Doswell Brooks ES. It was moved by Amy Varner and seconded by Denise Day.

VI. Announcements/Events:

- December 3 – Candid Photos of Clubs
- December 11 - Interims Go Home
- December 12 – Holiday Shop
- December 23 – Last School Day Before Winter Break
- January 6 – PTA Meeting 7-8 PM

VII. Adjournment:

Meeting ended at 8:55 pm Next meeting is January 6, 2009.