

Kent Gardens PTA Meeting Minutes

May 19, 2016

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 8:55 a.m.

Old Business:

Motion made to adopt the April meeting minutes was approved.

President's Report:

- Summer camp: Registrations are due this week. Walk-in registration will only be available on the first day of camp. There will only be that one day to register for all the sessions, unlike last year when campers could walk-in and register on the first day of each session.
- Thank you to all of our teachers and volunteers who helped with Teacher Appreciation Week.
- Wee Delivery is collecting and delivering cards and letters for Mr. Whitfield.
- PTA dollars at work: Playground bins are being installed and the picnic tables are arriving soon.
- The PTA still needs to fill committee chairs for next year. For some of these programs, your students will receive a discount if you chair the program (ex. Chess Club, Odyssey of the Mind).

Budget Update:

- Finance Committee handed out the proposed budget for next year.
- Bumping up One-and-Done and bumping up grocery rewards due to their success.
- Transfer from reserves: \$53,000 is going to building and grounds for an outdoor learning area and technology which will include a big computer push.
- Student programs: French video, STEM Saturday and others mostly the same, after school academies and summer camp are being bumped up a little and the amounts shouldn't be too hard to meet.
- Added a website category for a new registration website for programs and hope to have a better program soon.
- Added a "care and concern" program. This is where we can have some funds to send out messages and items to help ease troubles families may go through.
- Most categories remain the same as last year.
- Bumped up teacher/staff appreciation slightly.
- Popcorn Club was eliminated. The PTA is consolidating fundraising and we are not supposed to serve food during school hours outside the cafeteria.
- Also eliminating the auction and rolling it into One-and-Done. As its own line item it's gone, but we might be able to add a live auction for teacher experiences during March Madness or another event.
- We will vote on the proposed budget at next month's meeting.

Principal's Update and Discussion of the Technology Inventory:

- Mrs. McGuigan compared Kent Gardens ES' technology to other schools in the area.
- Laptops are 5 years old, desk tops are 6-10 years old.
- In terms of the student:computer ratio, KGES was the worst among McLean schools. Haycock has a similar issue as KGES with the carts being moved around.
- Mrs. McGuigan surveyed the teachers about how they use computers. It's inconsistent among classrooms.

- Acquisition costs: Computers must be purchased through Fairfax County if we are going to have maintenance.
- We need to refine what we are doing for security, care and maintenance.
- We looked at a targeted initial outlay. If we look at one grade for a 1:1 ratio, then the other computers can be distributed to other grades and we can get laptops and get rid of obsolete computers.
- We only get about 10 laptops from the county per year.
- The iPad's have been huge in the primary grades.
- The goal will be to work next year to continue to find solutions.
- There are a lot of areas in the school's infrastructure that need help.
- We are currently listed to have five kindergarten classes next year. KGES has hired someone who was Teacher of the Year in Georgia last year. She is fabulous and we are looking at our facility to see where to put the classroom. We can't add a modular.
- The PTA could do a special fundraiser for just raising technology money, for example, a fun run.

Treasurers Report:

- Fall and winter after school academy numbers are pretty final.
- Spring academies show the bulk of revenue brought in but we haven't made vendor payments or salary payments yet.
- Morning academies are negative now because we will be getting reimbursed for it and that will show up next month.
- The Book Fair amount will be around \$4,700.
- Box Tops: We expect a large payment to come in in June; same with grocery rewards.
- We are still getting Square One Art payments.