

Grange Hall Elementary School

Parent Teacher Association

General Body Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, January 23, 2024 at 18:00

- I. Call to order: 18:06
- II. Report of Officers
 - A. President Report
 1. November Meeting minutes stand as presented
 2. Thank You
 - a) Sarah Battle and Nadine for coordinating the coat drive, the food drive, and the denim drive
 - (1) Coat Drive: on the news with SCA kids
 - (2) Food Drive: donated over 3000 pounds of food to the food bank
 - (a) Extra thanks to the teachers and staff for tallying house points that really helped motivate students to donate
 - (3) Denim Drive: turned in early October, placed 2nd and received a \$750 check from Goodwill
 - b) BJ, Kristen O'Neil, Lauren Cain for organizing grandparents breakfast; behind the scenes: picking up food each day, etc. Everyone really enjoyed the event and this is not something every school puts on. Also thanks to Mr. Berge for lending out the gym each day.
 - c) Sarah Battle for hospitality after the 3rd grade and 5th grade programs
 - d) Jean for coordinating all the staff appreciation events: gift cards for the staff and cookie swap for the staff and bus drivers; also to all those that donated
 - e) Lisa for behind the scenes with the finances and also helping with the membership drive and the class percentages for updates
 - f) Stephanie for the yearbook (Congrats to Ivy McDonough for winning yearbook cover!)
 - (1) All entries will appear on the back of the yearbook
 - (2) Prices go up on March 1, so order ASAP
 - g) Bridget for handling spiritwear, everything is ordered and distributed. House spiritwear is still available and will be on an ongoing basis
 - h) Pam for the Reflections contest; will be attending the ceremony on 2/3/24 to determine if we have any winners moving to the next level
 - i) Heather and Laura for handling minutes for the meetings
 - j) Chrissy and Stephanie for Bingo Night - went well and as planned
 - (1) Also to Mrs. Saunders and Annabelle Rosenberg for calling numbers and cards and keeping everything organized
 3. Attended the County PTA Meeting. Notes from that meeting:
 - a) PTA was rescheduled to Friday 1/26/24 due to weather
 - (1) Theme: Advocacy. County and State PTA meeting with General Assembly to discuss increasing school funding to be comparable with other states, addressing the teacher shortage and how to attract college grads. On the local level they'll be fighting to fully fund the Superintendent's budget
 - (2) Town Halls will be held regarding the Superintendent's budget. Specifically the Matoaca one will be at Manchester High School on 1/30/24 at 6:30P. On 2/1/24 there is a Spanish option at Manchester Middle School.
 - (3) As a reminder our representatives are Steve Paranto and Kevin Carroll and you can always reach out to them with questions or concerns

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4. If you are interested in servicing on Exec Board next year, please reach out to Sarah at ghesptapresident@gmail.com with any questions. Intent to serve forms are due February 9 and as of right now we have not received any. A potential nominating committee cannot nominate anyone without a filled out intent to serve form.

B. Treasurer Report

1. Current Balance: \$93,843.84
 - a) December 31 Balance: \$93,488.45
2. Recent Highlights:
 - a) Since last PTA Meeting on 11/9/23
 - (1) Total Income: \$1,855.69
 - (a) Includes: Interest (\$1.60), direct donations (\$8), Corporate Donations (\$750 (Goodwill Denim Drive)), Membership Dues (\$160), Bingo Night income (\$558), Carnival Pizza Sales (\$240.69), Clothing to Cash (\$70.90), Box Tops (\$66.50)
 - (2) Total Expenses: \$6,975.03
 - (a) Includes: Teacher Appreciation (\$1,272.43 (staff holiday ornaments and boxes for cookie exchange)), Credit Card Fee (\$35.23), Board Materials (\$48.63 (pizza party and popcorn party for membership drive)), Website/jotform: (\$78 (2 months of Jotform fees)), Reflections (\$145 (gifts for winners)), Hospitality (\$137.52 (Veteran's Day flowers and napkins, Birthday Fairy items, 5th grade program flowers and cookies), National and State dues (\$230.75), Bingo (\$86.62, bingo cards)), Carnival Staff Payments (\$462.75 (buses)), resources for reading (\$115.04 (birthday books for fall)), special projects (\$612.74 (tower garden for STEAM and products from Oriental Trading Company for the school store)), Grandparents' Breakfast (\$3,750.32)
 - (3) Net Loss: \$5,119.34
3. BJ has signed off on November reconciliation and the December one is done and ready for review

C. VP Fundraising Report

1. Met with Sarah Physioc, Dr. Jones and the Fun Run Coordinator
 - a) Fun Run Date: 2/29 (hopefully outside weather permitting)
 - b) Registration will start on 2/7 for families to make accounts
 - c) Kickoff will be on 2/21. That week there will be daily challenges to encourage fundraising
 - d) Prizes will once again be sent directly home
2. Yearbook
 - a) March 25 will be the last day to submit picture
 - (1) The request for 5th grade baby pictures has already been sent out (earlier than in past years)
3. Box Tops
 - a) Please sign up, very easy to via their website
4. There's a big white box in the parking lot where you can donate used clothes, sports items, linens, etc. First goal is to repurpose and then to recycle

D. VP Membership Report

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1. 2 membership drives were held in October and November. Very successful. Mrs. Smith's class won pizza in October and Mrs. Drahms' class won popcorn and a movie in November.
 - a) November was the biggest month of signups since August
 - b) Membership does go all year long, goal is 1 paying member/student (755 total). Current membership is 355. This was our first year doing a mid year drive and was very successful. People can still sign up via the website.
 - c) Trying to make sure the general population is aware of what events the PTA organizes vs. which ones the school organizes to understand the importance of the PTA and membership
- E. VP Programs Report
 1. Thank you to all of the teachers that showed up early to help with Grandparents' Breakfast and to all of the parent volunteers, helped everything go very smoothly
 2. Feedback about the event was very positive
 3. Special Thank you to Ausin, the manager at the Wawa at the corner of Hull St. and Otterdale, they donated all of the coffee and the supplies for the event as well as giving a discount on the sandwich order
- F. Principal Report
 1. Echoes thanks for Austin at Wawa: he has donated donuts and coffee one time a month for Faculty Fridays. Each team has a month and the teachers have an opportunity to socialize and it's been a huge hit for them
 2. Earlier today the Chesterfield County PD community department came and had lunch with the students. Law enforcement is always welcome: the kids were very excited (Kindergarten in particular!) and the cafeteria monitors were grateful for the help. Great way to build the relationship with local officers
 3. Superintendent presented the budget to the principals and school board tonight. Encourages parents to be involved in the process, to read the provided slides and understand where the money is going.
 - a) It's a multi-step process, with the school board reviewing what was presented and approving, then the county, the state.
 - b) The budget is a needs based budget: all funds proposed are what is required to keep the division running
 - c) Town Halls are available for questions and the budget will be sent out via email to families
 4. A lot of exciting things are going well at Grange Hall:
 - a) 5th grade is working on an inventive for Fun Run fundraising
 - b) House system has been going well
 - (1) 2nd house unity day this past Friday, done differently than 1Q, classes teamed up with their SEL buddies, was very successful
 - (2) Enfoca won!
 - (3) The impact of the system is felt on all days vs. just house unity days. A huge thank you for the PTA's support to be able to implement the Houses this year
 - (4) Looking for ideas for the 3Q and 4Q celebrations and also how to announce the end of year winner. Please send ideas to Mrs. Saunders
 5. Teachers are all doing well and very appreciative to the PTA and Jean Finney for everything they do to keep them feeling appreciated

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6. February 5 - 9 is school counselor appreciation week and they will be celebrating our amazing counselor team

III. Report of Committees

A. Bingo

1. Chrissy: Went very well! No issues, all volunteers reported. Thank you to everyone who came to help, the staff that helped move tables before the volunteers were there. Sarah and Stephanie and BJ all gave a lot of support.
2. Marco's Pizza was amazing to work with. They provided all paper goods, pizza bags, and were easy to work with. Would recommend using again.
3. Thank you to everyone who donated prizes!

B. Dance

1. Bringing back the school dance this year! First one since right before the pandemic.
2. "MVP" Dance. Will be held by grade level.
 - a) March 15, 6-7:30: K-2
 - b) March 22, 6-7:30: 3-5
3. Kids will bring 1 important adult with them
4. Theme: Red Carpet
 - a) There will be crafts, a photo booth, a DJ
5. Tickets will be available but for numbers purposes only. "Order" via jotform by 3/4
6. Volunteer need: 10/night
 - a) Hope is to have parents of 3rd-5th grade kids volunteer for the K-2nd dance and then swap
7. Important note: this is not a "drop off event", an adult must stay with each student
8. Doubtful there will be a signup genius for volunteers, reach out to Pam (pamam89@vt.edu) to volunteer or be on the committee to help plan
9. The school has been booked for this event

C. Nominating Committee

1. Need to form to review intent to serve forms and vet people who run for elected PTA office. Needs to have at least 3 members and if there are more it must be an odd number. President may not be a member
2. Still need intent to serve forms, forms are on the website and should be emailed to the president. The president will then pass them to the committee
3. Committee needs to be formed in February and members must be a paid member
4. Still need people to volunteer to be on exec board! 6 positions (president, treasurer, VP of membership, VP of programs, VP of fundraising, secretary) and each serves a 2 year term

IV. New Business

A. Vote on teacher proposal

1. Art teacher: Mrs. P requests Explore and Create with pottery wheel for grades 2 - 5. Needs to purchase glosses and glazes. \$650 to buy
 - a) Lisa motions, Sarah second. Passes with 12 ayes, 0 nays
2. Art teacher: Mrs. P also requests drawing thumbnail sketches on doodle boards for all grades. Set of 30 for all classes to use. \$1050 to buy
 - a) Dr. Jones motions, Lisa second. Passes with 12 ayes, 0 nays

V. Adjournment: 18:51

- A. *Next PTA general body meeting will be Tuesday, February 20, 2024 at 18:00*