

CGES PTO Minutes

November 2019

The meeting was held on Monday, November 4th at 6:00 pm in the CGES conference room.

-No minutes were read.

-No treasury report was given.

-Attending: Heather Honas- Principal. Dana Reddick- USD 417 Nurse. Ashley Spaulding- President PTO. Adam Dirks- Secretary PTO. Travis Schweger- Parent. Brooke Lococo- CGES 5th Grade. Sandy Bachura- Treasurer PTO. Staci Swalley- Vice President PTO

-Mrs. Honas opened discussion about a parent survey. PTO/Site Council is in search of questions/ideas for the survey re: how we can grow PTO/Site Council. The purpose behind the survey is to find out why there aren't more parents involved with PTO/Site Council. A couple of the reasons suggested by those present as to why we want more parents involved were: "to support school activities," "gain parental insight," and give parents "a place to have a voice." Some ideas for questions are as follows:

-“Do you come to PTO/Site Council meetings?” Yes/No- please explain. Give multiple choices as to why and ask for them to write in to specify their answer.

-“How can we increase your interest level in coming to PTO/Site Council meetings?”

-“Do you know about the CGES PTO facebook page, and do you have your notifications setup properly to see the messages?”

-“What suggestions do you have to improve the fb page?”

-Travis Schweger brought up the idea to somehow reward the kids for bringing back a filled-out survey so that would maybe motivate parents to fill it out. Ultimately Site Council decided that sending a paper flyer survey home with the oldest kid in each family would be the best way to reach as many parents as possible. The reason for this is because if a family has multiple kids in CGES, we would have difficulty determining which kid to reward in each family.

-The group discussed giving the PTO class reps more responsibility and accountability. Such as requiring them to attend meetings and to communicate more effectively with the parents via facebook or whatever medium used to communicate. This will be discussed in more detail at the next meeting.

-Celebrations:

-There were 349 P/T conferences. Which is a 95% turnout. Excellent numbers!

-The book fair made \$5,609.09

-Ashley Spaulding brought up some issues/concerns with P/T Conferences.

-There were some issues with babysitters and times they were there. Some went home too early. Next time we will communicate better with Joany and how we will work the schedule with ASP. We will ensure the babysitters do not play on their phones while watching the kids. PTO still needs to pay Chloe (cheerleader) and ASP for services.

-3rd - 6th grade kids are currently working on posters for Art. The Halloween art contest where the pictures were hung on main st. for the Halloween parade were a hit!

-Tomorrow is pickup for fundraiser. 3:10. Discussion about if we can use extra fridge/freezer space for cold food at CGES Kitchen. PTO made about \$20,000 but will owe \$10,570 to the fundraiser bringing the total income to about \$9,430.

-There is a grant available for 50% of the cost of rubber mulch for the playground. The application is due Nov. 15th. The district will submit the application for the grant.

-There was some discussion about what we can do to improve parking. Are there safety grants? Can we set a goal to improve the parking?

-Ashley and Staci had a suggestion from a parent to put more things for pre-k kids to play with over on the slab area outside the modular area. Or that some of the playground items are not good for smaller kids. Heather stated that there are plenty of good playground toys for the pre-k kids and thought went into what is out there for them to play on. Mrs. Bailey doesn't mind the slightly farther walk to the playground for her classes.

-Box tops were mailed off. Blythe's class won the class competition. They decided on smores for their reward. There was a discussion about setting it up in the Box Tops login so people can give "credit" to the teacher/class inside the app when Box Tops are submitted.

-There was an issue with a class rep. He/she forgot to reach out to parents and some of the blanks were not filled in for the Fall parties. PTO discussed reaching out to that rep and seeing what happened exactly.

-The Elf Shop Christmas Store will happen again this year on Dec. 16th-19th in the multipurpose room. The December newsletter will have information about it. "Watch for the Elf Store" flyers will also be sent home right before Thanksgiving break. At the Dec. 2nd meeting, we will place posters/banners around the school about dates/times. Setup is Thu. Dec. 12th. There was some discussion about moving the Elf Store to an area with more eyes on it because of potential theft. After this year though, there will be more camera coverage in the building. The class schedule for shopping at the Elf Store will be posted in the office. Times/Dates were settled upon: 7:30am-8:00am and 3:10pm-4:00pm on Mon. Tue. Wed. and Thu. Tuesday it will stay open until 7:00pm.

-Dana Reddick presented to PTO about "Body Venture." A traveling health/body exhibit. It takes up the multi-purpose room. It's a fantastic learning experience where different parts of the room and setup like different parts of the body with presenters that will talk about each body part. It was proposed that the HOSA kids would be perfect for the presenters. K-6 kids from CGES and PHES will be included. Additional volunteers will be needed for it. It will be all day February 27th 2020. PTO approved of this presentation.

-Next month PTO will assemble to come up with some bullet points about what PTO does. Such as what we pay for, what events we put on, etc. A list needs to be put together to be sent home for the survey to provide additional information.

Future PTO Dates

December 2 nd 2019	March 2 nd 2020
January 6 th 2020	No April Meeting
February 3 rd 2020	May 4 th 2020