

Grange Hall Elementary School

Parent Teacher Association

General Body Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, January 25, 2023 at 1800

- I. Call to order: 1804
- II. Report of Officers
 - A. President Report
 1. Minutes from the December meeting approved
 2. CCCPTA meeting
 - a) Discussed advocacy and PTA day at the general assembly (January 27); promoted spending in Chesterfield County (large county, bottom in spending even though incomes are at the upper end)
 - b) Next budget work session is February 13 at the Public Meeting Room (10001 Iron Bridge Road)
 - (1) Pushing for free lunches for all students; working on improvements in reading for students (recovering what was lost during the pandemic) and lower counselor-to-student ratios
 3. Congratulations to Alexander Carr for winning first place for his Reflections entry at the county level!
 4. Thank you to our volunteers for all your hard work and support
 - a) Sarah and Nadine did a great job with the coat and food drives
 - b) Christina, Belinda, and BJ for planning the Grandparents' Breakfast (and getting up super early!) We had great attendance and many appreciative comments
 - c) Nadia and Josh Gibson for the Kindergarten garden plots - *opportunities to help with weeding, in need of mulch donations*
 - d) Jean for all the winter festivities - cookie exchange, gingerbread house making, and the lunches!
 - e) Charlotte for planning bingo night - 280 people in attendance and everyone had a great time
 5. Nominating Committee
 - a) Looking for 3 or 5 paid members to serve on the nominating committee (to be elected at the February meeting)
 - (1) Will look over all intent-to-serve forms and nominate one person for the role in March; voting will be in April at the general body meeting (can also have floor nominations at this time)
 - b) Pam Willard is stepping down after 3 years, so we are in search of a new VP Fundraising
 - c) Please reach out to the board if you have any questions
 6. YMCA Learn to Swim Program
 - a) Rob Dent, Operations Manager of the Swift Creek Family YMCA
 - (1) The Learn to Swim program at the YMCA promotes water safety and works to drown-proof Chesterfield County; teaches second graders basic strokes to help them feel more comfortable in the water through weekly 60 minute swim lessons over the course of 7 weeks
 - (a) Some children at this point have never been to a pool, so the exposure is important
 - (b) This is the first program year since before COVID
 - (2) In fall 2022, the PTA helped fund transportation, which is traditionally school and county funded - thank you for leading the way!

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- (3) Mrs. Camire (2nd grade teacher) said her students always looked forward to swim days and Crew Stecher (2nd grader) said he loved the program and is looking forward to potentially being on the swim team this summer

B. Treasurer Report

1. Current Balance: \$71,067.83
 - a) December 31 balance: \$71,968.26 (2022), \$41,745.75 (2021)
2. YTD Highlights
 - a) Total income: \$2,806.44
 - (1) Includes direct donations (\$22), corporate donations (\$1,000 from denim drive), Sugar Shack (\$148.97), business partnerships (\$695.21), membership dues (\$52), interest (\$1.26), and Bingo income (\$887)
 - b) Total expenses: \$7,797.69
 - (1) Includes teacher appreciation (\$543.47), teacher conferences (\$655), Centennial celebration (\$1,325.50), administration fees (\$131.88), national and state dues (\$39.50), hospitality (\$479.75), beautification (\$180), special projects (\$2,120), grandparents' breakfast (\$2,215.25), and Bingo (\$107.34)
 - c) Net loss \$4,991.25; however, all losses expected and within the budget
3. Aaron Hawkins, CPA, willing to do the audit again; planning to have his firm do our taxes over the summer
4. Filed 1099 for teachers for the after school enrichment programs

C. VP Fundraising Report

1. Fun Run
 - a) Kick off is February 22 and goes through March 2
2. Remember to keep uploading your receipts on the Box Tops app!
3. Amazon Smile is no longer donating to smaller charities, so this will be discontinued

D. VP Membership Report

1. 370 paid members
2. If you're a paying member, you should be getting the monthly PTA newsletters in your inbox; if you are not receiving them, please reach out to the board

E. VP Programs Report

1. GHES Centennial Celebration
 - a) Saturday, April 22 from 1100-1400; theme is *Past, Present, and Future of GHES*
 - b) An event for the entire GHES community, including alumni; taking place of Active Night and the dance
 - c) Drone will do an overhead picture of all the kids (possibly in the shape of a "100") prior to the event; kids will be in their centennial t-shirts (each grade level will have a different color)
 - d) Will be a ceremony in the beginning with Dr. Daugherty, kids reading what Grange Hall means to them, etc.; followed by DJ, petting zoo, night at the museum in the cafeteria, open house of the school, giveaways, etc.
2. International Week
 - a) Two weeks prior to centennial celebration
 - b) Thank you to Gratia Goode for volunteering!

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F. Principal Report

1. Principal for a Day
 - a) Sadie Battle had the opportunity to be principal for the day after winning bingo! She got to visit classrooms see the day to day responsibilities; will likely use this experience as an incentive/prize again
2. Shout out to PTA volunteers for putting on a great bingo night!
3. Dr. Belton working on Fabulous Fridays in February; accepting donations
4. Budget
 - a) *Please* stay involved in the budget process, if possible; information has been sent in the Bulldog Bulletins and is also in messaging from the county; encouraging parents to attend meetings, especially in this district
 - b) Beneficial to learn about the funding and what it takes to run a district as large as CCPS
5. Kindergarten registration
 - a) Will take place in mid-April; no date yet, but details will be coming soon (online pre-registration will go live mid-March)
 - b) All incoming kindergarteners will get a cinch bag, which is supported by the PTA each year
 - (1) Have 43 bags still in stock, need 110
 - (2) \$6.50 a piece (roughly \$715 dollars) - already a line item in the budget
6. Report cards go out February 6
7. Remember to check the Bulldog Bulletin for important dates and information
8. Receiving data from the survey sent out in December
 - a) Asked things that are going well and things that could be improved
 - b) Currently reviewing and reflecting on that information to identify trends; will seek further feedback from parents and the community soon
9. Currently have 750 students enrolled in our centennial year and our greatest partner has always been the PTA; there is a lot of behind the scenes work and any support helps (from volunteering to simply being a paid member)
 - a) One of our goals is to better communicate the specifics of what the PTA is doing for the GHES community and acknowledge where all the support is coming from
 - b) Will be encouraging higher membership with our families that have not signed up
 - c) Please continue to promote and join in on our efforts! Reach out to the board and ask how you can help

III. Report of Committees

A. Yearbook

1. Price will increase from \$30 to \$36 in March (link is in the Bulldog Bulletin)
2. Please continue to submit pictures you'd like to include

B. Teacher Appreciation

1. Thank you for all the participation in the cookie exchange in December and the soup lunch in January!
2. Working with Dr. Jones to come up with February ideas
3. Teacher Appreciation Week is May 8-12
 - a) Board game theme
 - b) Will need donations and volunteers to make it extra special

IV. Adjournment: 1847

- A. Next general body meeting is Tuesday, February 21, 2023 at 1800