

CES PTA Meeting Agenda

November 14, 2023 at 7:00 pm

Virtual

Meeting called to order at 7:04 pm

Attendees:

Board Members:

Eileen Brewer (President), Cassandra Christensen (1st Vice President), Cathay Mauriello (2nd Vice President), Carmen Cheng (Secretary), Meghan Nickerson (Treasurer), Evelyn Sommers (PTACHC)

Members:

Bokyoung Shim, Rebecca Gorsuch, Micaela Crooks, Bridget Celedon, Carrie Waschak, Deb Bradshaw, Diane Azu Emily Kroiss, Eric Pang, Jennifer Livingston, Jinwoo Lee, Mikkola Brooks, Onyeka Illoh, Tom Hoover, Xinran Li, Yadi Alonso, Rula Sadik, Karishma Chengappa, Jm Pilongo, Patricia Pilongo, Regina Botwe

1. Principal / Assistant Principal's Items

- None

2. President / Vice President Items

- Reminder of policies for meetings
- Approval of Minutes - October
 - <https://cespta.net/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/Draft-Minutes-CES-PTA-Meeting-October-24-2023.pdf>
 - Carmen Cheng asked for a motion to approve the September meeting minutes. Meghan Nickerson seconded. A voice vote was called with no opposition, the motion carried.
- Open Committee Positions - Please consider volunteering for one of our great committees! Sign up here: <https://forms.gle/w9NX5EoNJcXGXsuT8>
- Next PTA Meeting - no PTA scheduled for December, next meeting is in January
- Raise Right - Holidays
 - RaiseRight.com, login with enrollment code for school (FBE15DF99L388) to buy gift cards, CES PTA gets percentage (amount varies per vendor); there is a charge for physical gift card, so preference is e-gift card; purchase by Dec 1 for physical gift cards for holiday gift
- Wellness Activity
 - December 10, Sunday 4-5:30 pm
 - Free, but will need to RSVP
 - Activities include yoga led by instructor, journaling, and art

3. Membership Update

2023/24 CES PTA Membership:

- 25 new members in since last report
- Year-to-date members: 174 members
- Year-to-date membership payments: \$2,275
- Year-to-date Cougar Patron Donations: \$3,255

4. Treasurer Report

- CES PTA cannot collect, distribute, or use funds to purchase gift cards
- Recently informed by PTACHC treasurer that PTAs are highly discouraged from individual teacher reimbursements (HCPSS policy)
 - Board agreed to reimburse teachers who have already spent money by 11/12/23

- Meghan informed teacher representative of update
 - Recommend forming a committee to brainstorm options (RHHS PTSA has small grant system with review by a committee)
- Budget update
- IRS Status Update
 - Will submit Form 1128 (adopt/change tax year due to change fiscal year) and will consult with accountant
 - Will submit Form 990

5. PTACHC Report

November meeting

- Pre-meeting about holiday shop; fundraising opportunities (small vendor fairs, Scholastic Book fair)
- Press release - PTA and Walmart partnership: 1-year free business membership for PTAs and provide funding to host wellness fairs
- Safety Committee Report - RHHS taskforce
 - Recommendations: lockdown process, law enforcement response, reunification process
 - Creating training for parents and students; creating best practices for cell phone use during lockdown; improve reunification process
 - Eventual presentation to Howard County BOE

6. Committee Reports

- Glow Party - well attended; some children crossed the caution tape into the field; low cost; PTA recently purchased a sound system for the event but it did not work well and will be returned. PTA members offered assistance with purchase of new sound system.
- Hospitality/Staff Appreciation - Need committee members
 - October: received lots of donations from family
 - 11/20, Mon: dinner for staff (Italian); sign up coming; need volunteers for set-up and clean-up
 - December: hot cocoa bar and cookies
- CES Cares
 - Candy for the Courageous: 217 lb of candy collected (program all together collected >2900 lb)
 - Gift card drive to support families during the holidays 11/13-12/8; donations of \$50 or less; Ms. Palich reached out to identify families in need. No food drive this year. Will donate food collected from Glow Party to Homewood
- Spirit Wear - followed-up with vendor (various brands for sweatshirts; NextLevel for t-shirts) and will proceed with ordering soon
- Reflections - not many submissions received yet
- Cultural Night - propose date in May
- Restaurant Nights - on hold
- Yearbook - cover selection; submit photos to <https://yearbooks.classic-photo.com/MD1702018/home3/PhotoPost.jsp?ID=M3078Y82TYR2>
- 5th Grade Committee - Grassroots project 12/18, end of the year picnic (preference for admin is on-site at school, but supportive if bus needed for off-site); t-shirt order will be placed by end of November with delivery by January
- Website - no updates
- After-School Programs - Could use chair
- Kindergarten Connection
- Field Trips - Needs chair - have committee members
- Cultural Enrichment - Howard County Arts Council has a cultural arts showcase on February 21, 2024. Opportunity to meet and see performances with interest of booking for residencies, workshops, or presentations for school
- Spring Fling - Needs co-chair and subcommittee chairs
- End of Year - Needs chair
- Fundraising - Needs chair
- BINGO - Needs chair

7. Q & A

8. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 8:39 pm

Upcoming Dates:

- **November 20 - Teacher Appreciation**
- **December 10 - Wellness Event**