

CES PTA Meeting Agenda
November 19, 2024, at 7:00 pm
Media Center

Meeting called to order at 7:05 pm

Attendees:

Board Members:

Eileen Brewer (President), Julie Kim (1st Vice President), Carmen Cheng (Secretary), Meghan Nickerson (Treasurer), Evelyn Sommers (PTACHC Delegate)

Members:

Becca Gorsuch, Gosia (Margaret) Curtin, Ernest Lawson, Emily Kroiss, Micaela Crooks, Karishma Chengappa, Bokyung Shim

1. Principal / Assistant Principal's Items - N/A

2. President / Vice President Items

- [Policies for Meetings](#)
- Approval of Minutes - [October](#)
 - Becca Gorsuch asked for a motion to approve the October meeting minutes. Micaela Crooks seconded. A voice vote was called with no opposition, the motion carried.
- IRS Status Update - With the help of pro bono consulting from KPMG and Freestate PTA bookkeeper, we submitted a new 1023. Will keep you updated. 2024 taxes are outstanding.
- Winter Dance - No volunteers - Do we want to do a December event?
 - Emily Kroiss motioned to skip the December event. Becca Gorsuch seconded. A voice vote was called with no opposition, the motion carried.
 - There is potentially a Family Fit Night in January - led by CES
- Still need volunteers - need to send email to solicit
 - January: send out email to solicit subcommittees for Spring Fling
- Need to get email to teachers about reimbursements/membership
 - Grants by teams (2 grants per year for each group)
 - Issue: teachers previously used individual enrichment funds to join PTA
 - \$4.25 fee per PTA member (Mr. Weiskind needs to join because Committee Chair)
 - Teachers inquired about joining (can attend meetings without being member); consider teacher representative; Julie will f/u
 - Eileen will work with class representative volunteer to communicate with teachers (after speaking with Julia)

3. Membership Update

- New members this month: 4
- Total members YTD: 130 (Total PTA members last year 181)
- Total membership payments YTD: \$1,765
- Total Cougar Patron donations YTD: \$3,275
- Discussion: consider PTA table/membership sign-up info at Spring Fling and during American Education Week; add QR code

4. Treasurer Report

- Financial review uploaded to Givebacks, annual financial report, proof of insurance,

- bylaws, updated officers list
- Mailed membership payment and forms to PTACHC and Free State
- Ordered new checks
- Discussion: need to submit 990 tax form

5. PTACHC Report

- *See end of minutes for full report*

6. Committee Reports

- 5th Grade Committee - t-shirts delivered; Grassroots service project scheduled second week of December (make sandwiches; 12/9-12/12); winter hat/mitten collection (flyer pending approval)
- Class Representatives - Has volunteer chair - Karishma Chengappa
- SECAC - no report yet; next meeting Dec 3
- BINGO - Next BINGO February (Book Fair); no date yet
- Yearbook - [Link to Upload Pictures](#)
 - Discussion: will only have Special Messages for 5th Grade only
 - Consider replacement with teacher messages to class or favorite quotes from teachers
- Hospitality/Staff Appreciation - Upcoming Parent/Teacher Conferences (Monday, catered meal from Anthony's); December - soups; January - stuffing mailbox
 - Recently held event: Nov 1 - Halloween Hangover (coffee, baked goods, yogurt parfait)
- Cultural Night - no updates
- Kindergarten Connection - no updates
- Reflections - no updates
- Summer Bridge - no updates
- After-School Programs - No chair
- Events - No chair
- Fundraising - No chair
- Spirit Wear - No chair
- Spring Fling - Need Committee Members
- Other (Website, Front Sign, Fall School Supplies, Communications)

7. Q & A

- No PTA meeting in December
- Suggestion: once a month communications chair to work with Julia to send through school, so communications reach non-PTA members
- Clarksville Elementary School (not PTA) and River Hill High School PTA - collecting gift cards

8. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 8:14 pm

Upcoming Dates:

- **November 25/26 - Parent/Teacher Conferences**
- **November 27-29 - School Closed**

Refer to agenda for notes on main points/issues of meeting:

President Terri Marcus did not provide a President's report but instead handed out notecards for any local PTA issues they would like to highlight for purposes of Operating Budget Planning. If you have additional topics, please email Board@ptachc.org. Mr. Barnes will be talking with the PTACHC Board on November 12th.

James Lemon, HCPSS:

- Mentioned School Safety Committee had 600 volunteers for Mr. Barnes.
- November 19, Howard County Operating Budget 7-8 Virtual community discussion.
- Katy Fry Hester, BluePrint Funds for Wellness Workshops. Backpack Health November 13 Virtual Session Challenges of Parenthood, Support Parenting Adolescent Childhood Emotions (SPACE) Program Developed by Yale University, there are in person and virtual groups. It is a supportive educational program; it is not therapy.

Dr. Chen, Board of Education:

- On November 16th there will be a County Council Budget Session Employee Health Insurance, Student Transportation, Special Ed, School Safety and Security were all priorities. If you have additional priorities, send to PTACHC. School Start Time: The Superintendent is proposing the same bell time for next year. Start date for school year may start after Labor Day.
- Potentially next year 2200 students eligible for buses, may be an additional \$1.1M total

Secretary's Report:

- Approved the Minutes.

Treasurer's Report:

- Explained PTACHC Dues are due 11/1/2024.
- Dues are also due to Free State.
- Please submit your 990 by November 15th. Please email PTACHC Treasurer if you don't know. You have until March to be in good standing.

Executive VP Report:

- Capital Budget for County is being decided.
- Phone Policy Workgroup concluded. Mr. Bassett is compiling a report that will be shared with the Board of Education.

President Marcus gave a report on Task Force on HB 1450:

- Governor signed into law. \$ & Capital needs of school system
- \$800M in deferred maintenance.
- Gateway Development will affect school enrollment.
- Supposedly enrollment is flat. (But that is taking into account time during COVID.) A total of 13 people appointed. This is to address 3 previously proposed bills about Public Private Partnerships, Commercial Excise Tax, and Transfer Tax allocation. PPP haven't used in schools in

Howard County. Based on other sectors in Howard County, it looks cost prohibitive in the long term. The task force is looking at best practices from other states.

- Transfer Tax currently sees 25% for parkland / watershed, 25% for Capital Projects, 25% for Community Housing, and 25% Fire Department . _So if you see \$28M total from taxes, schools would get \$7M.____ _
- Task Force Study deadline has been extended to December 1, 2024.

List issues voted on, what they were and what was the result of the vote on each issue: _No positions were voted on.

List any matters referred to local units:

- Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance is really important. There was a community hearing on November 6, 2024 and will be another later this year.
 - Concern is there is a big construction project in the Gateway corridor that will bring 30,000 housing units. Estimation, 15,000 kids. This is called the Gateway Master Plan. They are currently slated to be going to existing schools in the county. This would be an increase in student population without increase in funding.
 - There was a virtual advocacy 101 training on November 14, 2024. If you are interested in learning more about APFO or advocacy, please email.
 - If you also have Operating budget priorities you would like us to share with the PTACHC board, please email Evelyn Sommers at evelyntsommers@gmail.com

List future meetings: __December 2, 2024.

Delegate's Signature: _Evelyn Sommers_____