

**CCES PTA October Meeting
Minutes
October 10, 2018**

I. Call to Order:

The PTA held an October Meeting.
Met on Wednesday, October 10, 2018 at Clemens Crossing Elementary School in the Media Center.
Karen Pang, President, called the meeting to Order at 7:04 pm.

II. Roll Call:

Present

Officers:

Karen Pang, President
Dani Gardner, 1st VP (Program Chair)
Eileen "Lea" Billingsley, 2nd VP (Staff Liaison)
Vanessa Beltran, Recording Secretary
Hyung Chang, Treasurer
Christy Smith, PTA Council Rep (1)
Vanessa Castleberry, SIT Representative & Special Ed. Liaison

Standing Committee Chairs:

Jennie Molinari, Play Coordinator
Jenn Aballo, Social Media
Risa Carlson, Cultural Arts, International Night & Reflections
Sharon Barnes, Diversity & GTAC Representative
Carrie Seidman, Fundraising

Special Committee Chairs:

Christy Pine, Bingo Night
Chris McDonald, Destination Imagination, Science Fair & STEM

Administrators:

Edward Cosentino, Principal
Sonia Hurd, Assistant Principal

Guests:

****see attached attendance sheet.**

Absent

Officers:

Denise Giuliano, Corresponding Secretary
Emily Livelsberger, PTA Council Rep (2)

Standing Committee Chairs:

Karolina DuBois, After School Programs & Half Day Activities
Louise Valentine, CAC Representative
Debasmita Patra, Communications
Suzanne Papailiou, Cultural Arts & International Night
Alison Sultan, Paw Print Press
Danielle Taymoorian, Staff Appreciation
Joy Spies, Volunteer Coordinator & Memory Book

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III. Minutes:

1. Karen, President, presented the minutes of the 2018 September Kickoff meeting. The minutes were accepted as presented.
2. Jen Aballo made a motion to approve the minutes, and Carrie Seidman seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved.

IV. President's Report:

1. Karen, President,
 - a) Began a discussion about the financial training she attended. Among the best practices mentioned was having a monthly "check-in" where a non-signer of PTA checks could look over the treasurer's books and the bank statement and be another set of eyes to make sure everything looked in order. Discussion ensues about Treasure picking some PTA members to help reconcile the account.
 - b) Bylaws:
 - (1) PTA must review bylaws every three years, Karen will be staying after meeting today to look over bylaws and talk them over. If you have an opinion, stay after and join.
 - (2) We need a small bylaws committee and parent, Ryan Genovese , with experience writing bylaws is willing to help. We also need a chair for this committee. Mr. Genovese is nominated.
 - (3) Ed Cosentino makes a motion to make him the chair to Bylaws Committee, and Sharon Barns seconded the motion.
 - (4) Bylaws must be submitted by November 20. Rules are we need to see revisions 30 days in advance of changes. We are hoping to vote on the next PTA meeting, but we will be letting everyone know by Oct 15 of what the new bylaws are.
 - c) Everyone needs to submit a written plan of work, committee plan of work.
 - d) Karen attended a Board of Education meeting with PTA presidents on October 9. One topic brought up was HCPSS is alarmed with the amount of cars not stopping for school buses. The Board of Education is in communication with Howard County police to instal red light cameras on school bus stop signs. This is a safety issue.
 - e) Great Wolf Lodge offers discounts to CCES. Contact person is parent, Alice Pax. It originally was started for staff, but now it is open to the PTA. If you make reservation you can get discount. Please look at the paperwork.

V. Administrators' Report:

1. Mr. Cosentino, Principal,
 - a) School is already gearing up with parent/teacher conferences scheduled for November. Have evening conferences available Monday (11/19) and

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Tuesday (11/20). By the time conferences begin everyone should have 1st quarter report cards and MAP assessments for 1st through 5th graders. When students take MAP, it gives the school, and especially teachers, a lot of information for planning and preparing students for instructions. Teachers are incredible because they are already using testing information and customizing their plans and moving kids to better-suited classes. It may feel like school tests a lot. Before we used to give a pre-assessment, then a post-assessment, but these MAP tests are really useful.

- b) A new initiative this year for K-5, the school system is focusing on the social and emotional well being. Caring School Community from the Center for the Collaborative Classroom organization. We do this during Community Circle time. We are also implementing a program called, Being A Writer for 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders. The program is from the same organization, Caring School Community. It is to get kids excited about writing. Kids are liking it and teachers are liking it too. It's a set program that gives and creates stamina for writing. Across the county, everyone is really liking it.
- c) Report Cards. The Board of Education recently changed it's policy for grading and reporting for current report cards in K-5. Starting next year (2019-2020), elementary school report cards will be standards-based report card. Each standard will have a code whether a child has mastered, is achieving, or still needs to work on it. It will be a big shift. Once we know what it will look like, the school will share it so we can be familiar before the change. Mr. Cosentino thinks it's the right thing to do because it pinpoints where a child is and it better aligns with our curriculum.
- d) American Education Week is on Nov 12th, and it gives the opportunity for parents to come in and sit in their child's class. Teachers will give out a schedule to know what each child is doing and when parents can come in.
- e) Finally, we are still a school that celebrates Halloween. If you don't want your child to participate we have alternative activities. Most of the day is academic to about 2:45p. That's when kids get ready 15 min before the parade, then they have a party. He likes it to see kids in a different light we will continue to do it.

2. Mrs. Hurd, Assistant Principal,

- a) May have seen parent information update on school climate survey. They are asking all 5th graders in Howard County to participate, to see what the overall climate is for 5th graders. It will happen during technology class all next week.
- b) MAP Home Reports will be sent home in report card folders on Wednesday, Nov 14th. Also, the CoGAT test for grade 3 and 5 will be administered during the month of December.
- c) A question was asked about the Student Government: what is the scope, what will kids do?
 - (1) We want to elevate the student's voice and get their opinion. We did a professional learning committee and decided not to do professional officers and instead decided to have 2 students per class to be a

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Student Council Rep. Even younger grades will have a Representative. Students will decide on spirit days and other things. Mrs. Hurd and Mr. Cosentino will meet during lunch bunch to get feedback from students.

- (2) How were Reps chosen? Students wrote an essay if they wanted to be a Representative. Teachers without reading giving out the children's names read the essays. The kids took notes and then were given ballots. Kids got to choose which 2 speeches they liked best. Maybe we will raise money for grassroots hurricane, student council will do it.
- (3) Mr. Lee is head it along with Ms. Greenlee helping, Ms. Haube and Mrs. Halverson. If it works well the school would like to have it institutionalized.

VI. 1st Vice President's Report:

1. Dani, 1st Vice President,
 - a) Picnic was a couple weeks ago, Thanks if you came. It took 3 tries, but was great.
 - b) Next event is Jan 12, skate night. Will be at Supreme Sports Club
 - c) Feb 22nd will be when CCES will have it's 40th celebration.

VII. 2nd Vice President's Report:

1. Eileen "Lea", 2nd Vice President,
 - a) Read-a-thon. For the reading engagement night, we put together an end celebration, Story time and PJ Night (Oct 25th). Parents will come and drop kids in the classroom, and the Howard County Library will give parents a presentation in cafeteria. We have 20 teachers volunteering to help. After the presentation in the cafeteria, parents can come out and find their child. Kids will be rotating in 3 - 20 min rotations. They can move to another teacher after 20 min period. We will have hall monitors to control movement. We can give books away to kids as they leave. Non school aged children can stay with their parents. It will be from 6:30-8p. It will be mentioned in the Cougar Comments and we will send hard copy in Friday folders.
 - b) Discussion ensued about Carrie Siedman, Fundraising, offering a little money from Fundraising to get pizza for the teachers.

VIII. Committee's Report:

1. Karen, President, on behalf of Corrine Benjamine, Membership,
 - a) Direct donations total somewhere around \$8, 500. Memberships are doing well, over \$2,000.
2. Carrie, Fundraising,
 - a) \$4,000 is our goal. Currently working on decorations for windows.

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3. Jennie, School Play Coordinator,
 - a) Play this year is the Jungle Book and it is first opened to 4th and 5th graders.
 - b) Registration for the play will begin, Monday, Oct 8th, and also went home in Friday Folders. We already have 14 kids registered.
 - c) Registration for 3rd grade will open Oct 22nd.
 - d) She is still trying to figure out where we will have 4 overlapping rehearsals. She is figuring out our options.
 - e) Practices are after school, on the final night there will be a cast party. Rehearsals will be at CCES, and performances will be at Wilde Lake Middle School.
4. Karen, President, on behalf of Shaki, Directory,
 - a) Shaki pulled the directory information from Family File and was working on editing and formatting it. was sent in October and we will try to have it in by the 12th.
 - b) Our Family File is at 100%. Currently, we are not printing directories. If someone wants a printed copy they will need to send an email and make a request.
 - c) Discussion ensued about whether or not we should make printed copies for PTA members only. Someone mentioned it is recommended by Howard County Board to keep it solely to PTA members.
 - d) We should mention it in the Cougar Comments.
5. Liz, Restaurant Nights,
 - a) Next Wednesday, Oct 17th will be at Chick-fil-A. It will go all day. All we have to do is mention Clemens Crossing ES and a flyer is not needed.
 - b) Teachers will have and order that day that will be delivered. Dani, 1st VP, will be taking care of it.

IX. Treasurer's Report:

1. Hyung, Treasurer,
 - a) Still trying to get more numbers for prior treasurer. So far the payments he's made are reflected in budget.

X. Committee's Report continued:

1. Dani, 1st Vice President and Co-Chair of Book Fair,
 - a) Talked to scholastic. Will need helpers Thursday night, Nov 8th, after school.
 - b) Will have teacher preview on Friday, Nov 9th.
 - c) Book Fair will start the following Monday, Nov 12th, and go until Nov 16th.

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- d) We need volunteers from 4-7p.
 - e) Conferences will be from 1-7, and we need one parent volunteer per shift.
2. Dani, 1st Vice President, spoke on Parent Partners Program,
- a) PTA runs this program with the teachers and paraeducators. In grades K-2 they identify kids who may benefit from tutoring.
 - b) They dedicate 10-15 mins a week, the same day every week.
 - c) They read to the kids and work on their handwriting as well.
 - d) Please consider helping.
3. Mr. Cosentino, Principal, on behalf of Carolyn, Spiritwear Committee,
- a) Everything is ordered.
 - b) Help is needed when order arrives to make sure everything goes to the right place. (October 29th)
 - c) Need 3 volunteers to help.
4. Christy, Bingo Night,
- a) We still need more callers.
 - b) Need about 10-15 people.
 - c) Will be on Friday, Nov 2nd.
5. Risa, Reflections, Cultural Arts & International Night,
- a) Reflections:
 - (1) is a National PTA sponsored creative arts, literature, and music contest.
 - (2) "Heroes Around Me" is the theme this year.
 - (3) Entries are judged by teachers. The top 3 entries then move to the county level, then state, and so on.
 - (4) Deadline is Nov 16th. Will send more info in the Friday Folders.
 - b) Story Pirates will be November 12th. It is an improv/acting show. They take kids stories and act them out. They will do an improv show with the kids. They will do 2 shows. One at 9:30a for K-2 graders, and then a second show for 3-5th graders.
 - c) Smithsonian Discovery Theatre, February 19th, for Black History Month.
 - d) International Night. Looking for Chinese Acrobats, hopefully we can find them.
6. Chris, STEM & Destination Imagination,
- a) Monday they are having an interest meeting for Destination Imagination at 6pm.
7. Sharon, Gifted and Talented Advisory Committee (GTAC) Representative,

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- a) Parent Academy is Wednesday, Oct 17th. The program is about the GT education program, and will be held in the the auditorium of Howard High School.
- b) For general information the GT Advisory Committee quarterly meetings will be Nov 15 and January 8th from 7 - 8:30p, at the Old Cedar Lane School on 5451 Beaverkill Rd, Columbia, MD 21044.
- c) Intern Mentoring Program is looking for 11th & 12th graders to mentor. For more info contact Debbie Blum, Gifted and Talented Program, Coordinator.

XI. New Business:

- 1. Karen, President,
 - a) We need 30 people to make a quorum
 - b) Facebook. If you are planning events please send information to Jenn (links graphics, or any info), so we can post it on Facebook. Every grade has its own Facebook group.
- 2. Hyung, Treasurer
 - a) FYI: we are switching web servers. It will cost \$100 to transfer the data.
 - b) He will monitor the process and will keep us informed if any problems occur with the website.

XII. Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 8:12 pm

Vanessa Beltrán, Recording Secretary