

CCES Virtual PTA Meeting Minutes

September 9, 2020

Call to Order

Recording Secretary arrived to meeting late. Meeting called to order by President Gardner at or before 7:15.

Welcome and Introductions

Attendees introduced themselves. At the meeting opening there were 23 attendees on the Google meet.

Approval of Minutes

Last meeting was May 13, 2020. Meeting Minutes are posted on PTA Website.

No amendments or changes were offered for meeting minutes.

President asked for motion to approve meeting minutes.

Motion by C. Pine, seconded by D. Patel. Motion Approved by voice vote.

President's Report

Presented by President Dani Gardner

- 1) President informed attendees that the meeting agendas and all previous meeting minutes (going back some years) are available on CCES PTA website. Also that teacher wishlists are available on CCES PTA website.
- 2) CCES facemasks are available for sale. PTA has sold approximately \$250 worth already, that amount will be included in spiritwear budget. More will be available, information to come on website.
- 3) "Blessing in a backpack" is a program coming to CCES this year. It provides weekend meals for food insecure children. The program has been started by grant money, but fundraisers will happen over the year.

Administrators' Report

Mr. Cosentino: Principal Cosentino welcomes everyone new and returning to the school. Details his history in education and with HCPSS.

Principal Cosentino explains that the Blessings in a Backpack grant money is \$2500 of a donation from T-Mobile that was secured through the HCPSS partnership office. Another \$2500 will go to technology replacements for when children return to school.

Provides statistics for the school. Currently the school community is 553 students. (This is 30-40 students lower than planned, but those are expected to return when in person school returns)

There are 104 new students in grades 1-5, which is about 25% of total 1st through 5th population.

Mrs. Hurd: Assistant Principal Hurd also detailed her history in HCPSS, and welcomed all families and new students.

At this time the only testing expected this year is the MAP testing.

Treasurer's Report

Report done by Pres. Gardner. No full report at this time. The budget was approved at August 26th meeting, it is available on the PTA website.

1st Vice President's Report

1st VP Pine is looking for ways to connect virtually and possibly an October activity and/or fundraiser. Asks for suggestions on activities.

2nd Vice President Report

2nd VP Billingsley introduced herself, & details history in HCPSS. Also talks about what teachers are doing on their end to make this distance learning the best for everyone.

Committee Reports

Membership

No Chairperson at this time. Pres. Gardner explains different ways to sign up and pay dues to CCES PTA. Also explains need for direct donations and how to make them. Membership link will be in Cougar Comments.

Reflections

Chairperson Risa Carlson explains that Reflections is a national PTA affiliated art contest. This year's theme is "I matter because"

Because this program will be done by December, it will need to be done at a distance. Chairperson inquires if we can use the CCES PTA Google drive for submissions? Or could there be a physical dropbox for art? 1st VP Pine says they will determine any limits on Google drive uploads. Principal Cosentino says doing a box at school would be feasible.

Details will go onto website and Cougar Comments.

Cultural Arts

Co-chairperson Suzanne Papailiou says it is unfortunate that we had to cancel last spring's events and that this year will be a challenge as well. The committee is looking at how we can incorporate

these activities into virtual events. Because of the requirements of HCPSS, events would likely have to be on weekends or during afterschool hours.

Pres. Gardner said that some PTAs around Howard County have discussed doing larger virtual events for cultural programs. The committee will explore this option.

After School Activities

Chairperson Karolina DuBois is not currently online. Pres. Gardner gave report. Previous afterschool programs, such as Silver Knights, arts programs, & PE'T are continuing virtually and CCES PTA will be working to make those available.

STEM

The school garden was maintained over the summer and all the vegetables were donated to Grassroots.

Spiritwear

Chairperson Alison Hickman says there are some leftover items from last year that are available. Plans are being made for this year's program.

Pres. Gardner says that mask sales will become part of spiritwear program.

New Business

Rachel Kelly – asks for updated list of PTA committee chair email addresses.
Pres. Gardner will provide that.

Also asks about staff appreciation, and whether there will be room parents this year. Discussion between Pres. Gardner & Mrs. Billingsly; the hope is that if we return to in-person learning in 2nd half of year that the room parent program is up and running. Also hope that for virtual learning we could at least have one room parent/contact.

Asks that things posted on Facebook are also posted on website and Cougar Comments. Pres. Gardner agrees.

Mary Monroe – asks about possibility of doing read-a-thon this year? Answer is hopefully.

No other new business.

Closing

Meeting adjourned at 8:02.