

**Sequoyah Elementary School
PTA General Membership Meeting
Tuesday, May 5, 2015
Meeting Minutes**

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:09 pm by Heather Whirley.

Administration's Report – presented by Dr. Bobbi Jasper

- Mr. Scott apologized for not being present – he had a family event to attend.
- The fire alarms are being replaced because they are so loud.
 - Starting the first week of April workers will be in the school.
 - They are all finger printed ahead of time and are in uniform.
 - They will only be in classrooms after hours.
 - They will sign in and out like any other visitor.
- As the end of school approaches, we are working on the calendar.
- Finished PARCC testing this week.
 - Students did better this round than last round
- Grades 3, 4, and 5 will start other testing
- Kindergarten assessments will be moved to October so Kindergarten teachers can help students set up their routine.
- New superintendent of schools not yet named.
- Field Day will be May 19 for younger grades and May 21 for older grades.
- Students have started wearing cleats to school – Dr. J is sending a message home that cleats are not allowed in the school.
- June 5 is Stem Day
 - Would like parents to volunteer to help with experiments
 - Other volunteers could come in as well
 - A sign up genius will be created to fill slots – Paula Summers will send information to Tina Webb
- Changes in staff
 - Mrs. Veith is not retiring
 - Susan Block is retiring
 - Camille Dean will be teaching at Mill Creek
 - Dr. J has asked for the next Assistant Principal to be here more than one year.
 - There will be four kindergarten classes next year
 - There will be five first grades next year – Mrs. Stopak will be teaching first grade
- There are 66 incoming kindergarteners to attend the orientation (some from the new neighborhood)
- Kindergarten's Baltimore field trip is still going – brought up because of the riots

President's Report - presented by Heather Whirley

- Meeting Minutes –
 - John Moriarty motioned to approve the meeting minutes from 3/31/15. Doris Ryba seconded; the motion passed.
- Staff appreciation is going on
 - Breakfast was provided on Monday
 - Lunch was provided today

- Thursday will be dessert bar
 - Wednesday students should bring in a card or flowers
- The dance is 5/15
 - Looking for snack and drink donations
- June 5 is movie night
- Kindergarten orientation is 5/14 and 5/15
 - We still need greeters and tour leaders
- Mrs. Wardell is putting on School House Rocks Jr.
- Fifth grade farewell is 6/12
 - Kim Anderson is the fourth grade chair
 - Need more volunteers
- Garden project:
 - Working on the butterfly garden and layout of bricks
 - Need filler for bricks

President Elect Report – presented by Tina Webb

- No update

Secretary Report – presented by Stephanie Strahan

- We received thank you notes from Mr. McGuire and Mrs. Mahaffey – shared those with the group.

VP of Fundraising Report – presented by Francesca Cannetti

- The brick fundraiser had a profit of \$3885
- The Silent Auction on 5/15 will be from 6:30 – 8:45
 - Should be a fun-filled night
 - The dance will be in the gym
 - Teacher and event raffle outside that door
 - Esmerelda will be greeting people as they come in to provide a greeter for Spanish speaking families
 - Auction tables will run along the hallway
 - Will have massage therapists giving free massages
 - Events in the all-purpose room:
 - Master Method Karate:
 - Half hour Zumba class
 - Karate demos
- Programs will be handed out as people arrive
- Selling pizza and Carmen's
- Still need volunteers that night – a sign-up sheet is available

VP of Programs – presented by Kelli Markham Miller

- No update

Treasurer Report – presented by Jean-Yves Van Halle

- The second book fair and brick fundraiser made a profit.
- People have passed goals in all fundraisers driven by parents.

- Will set up the audit in the next couple weeks.
- John Moriarty commended the volunteers, mentioned the box tops, clothing, bingo, directory, brick fundraiser, and book fair.
- Corporate income goes directly to the school
 - Tina Webb said it would be removed from the next year's budget
 - It can be used for direct student needs
 - GL Scrips is not taking off – will check the bylaws to see if we can buy and resell at events
- Doris motioned to accept the Treasurer's report. John Moriarty seconded. Motion passed.

President's Report, continued - presented by Heather Whirley

- Need to revisit the ink cartridge issue from last meeting
 - The school actually needs \$1800
 - The school is requesting an additional \$560 from the PTA.
 - Sandy Walsh motioned to give the school \$560. John Moriarty seconded, noting that the total given (including the amount approved previously) is \$1130 and that the cultural arts budget was not used. Motion passed.
- Ms. Lentz leads PBIS committee
 - Should have been reimbursed for expenses
 - Will use the PBIS fund from the PTA
 - She really appreciates the PTA support, especially because the county retracted \$440 from the budget
 - Next Monday, examiners for the Gold Award will be present

Elections

- Slate was approved:
 - President – Tina Webb
 - President-Elect – Stephanie Strahan
 - VP of Fundraising – Francesca Cannetti
 - VP of Programs – Kelli Markham Miller
 - Treasurer – Jean-Yves Van Halle
 - Secretary – Taline Diarbi

Recognition

- Paula Summers was recognized for her continued work to keep the parents informed and working with the students to ensure success.
- Two volunteers recognized (but were not present)
 - Mitzy Rodriguez for her work on the birthday board and international night
 - Anastasia Wooden for her work with art fever

Adjournment

John Moriarty motioned to adjourn. Doris Ryba seconded. Meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
 Stephanie Strahan
 SES PTA Secretary, 2014-2015