

Virginia Run Elementary



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PTA General Meeting December 7, 2015

Call to Order: Robin Osterhout, PTA President, called the meeting to order at 9:35 AM.

Attendance: Saria Muhgob, Cynthia Lemke, Nancy Spinar, Amy Roundtree, Christi Brubaker, Johannah Evans, Kari Lowery, Mr. Skerker, Robin Osterhout, Shelley Teras

Robin talked about the open Board positions and Committee Chairs for 2016-17. The current Board members cannot serve in their current positions. Current chairs may want to consider a Board position for the next school year. Robin distributed a list of the current committees for review.

Minutes: November 9, 2015 membership minutes were approved. Motion made by Robin and seconded by Johannah. Vote was unanimous to approve the minutes.

Principal Update: Mr. Skerker reports a new Special Ed teacher was hired and will start on January 4, 2016. He is currently interviewing for Mrs. Weber's position - cafeteria assistant. Additionally, there is a proposal for change in the school calendar. If there are 5 snow days we may start school in 2016-17 prior to Labor Day. Initial vote to be held in February. Mr. Skerker suggests parents keep an eye on budget issues for Fairfax County. Also, Tues, March 1st is the primary election and there will be a 2 hr delay opening. Mr. Skerker is planning the SOL calendar – tests will occur between May 16 – June 16.

Treasurer's Report:

- Kari distributed the treasurer's report and budget variance. Kari completed the tax return, Robin review it, and hopes to mail the return on Wednesday. Also, Kari reports there are a couple of glitches in the new treasurer's software system but, overall, she is pleased with it.

Vice President Committee Chairs Reports:

- **Amy Roundtree, VP of Education** reports the next assembly is scheduled for March 8th. Chess Club and Run Club will start again in the spring. The Toy Drive for ONC is over but is continuing with the Police Dept. Art Teacher Tracy Dumar will start an Art Club to begin in the spring. It will held before school every other Wednesday and available to 4-6 graders. The Directory is in the final stages.

The Robotics groups is in the planning stages. Nancy Spinar is the chair. She needs three laptops and 2 minestorm kits (estimates cost at \$1250) and wants to start with a class of 12 students. A motion was made by Nancy to start the Lego/Robotics Club in the Spring; it was seconded by Johannah. It was unanimously approved.

Regarding the Stem Excel program – there are some behavior issues. One suggestion was to secure a contract with each child/parent regarding behavior standards. Or perhaps we have younger kids with one group and older kids with another group. The program is vendor-run and Amy will talk with the vendor. It just seems there are too many students.

- **Johannah Evans, VP of Social** reports the Room Parent meeting was held and a question was asked – can room parents use pay pal to collect money for teacher’s gifts? The answer is ‘yes’ as long as there are other choices available as not everyone has a pay pal account. The Teacher’s Coffee was held the Tuesday before Thanksgiving and was successful. Variety Show meetings will begin soon. The 6th grade celebration committee is handling the concessions. Johannah also reports the movie night voting will continue until Dec 18th.
- **Christi Brubaker, VP of Fundraising** reports the Barnes and Noble event is Wed, Dec 9th from 4-8 pm. Several teachers will attend and art teachers selected students’ artwork to be hung on Dec 9th. The Holiday Shoppe made approximately \$600. The new fundraiser for VRES is Amazon Smiles. We have the opportunity to make 5% on sales. The yearbooks are still on sale until next week.

Meeting Adjourned: 10:22 AM