

Virginia Run Elementary



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PTA General Meeting October 8, 2013

Call to Order: 7:10 PM by Lori Leventry, PTA President.

Attendance: Lori Leventry, Susan Patterson, Kelly Bobek, Kim Beamon, Rebecca Brazier, Karen Mychalus, Jason Skerker, Angil Romitti, Keri Lowery, Tiffany Graef, John Graef

Minutes: May 2013 and June 2013 minutes were approved. Motion by Susan Patterson and seconded by Jason Skerker. Vote was unanimous to approve the minutes.

Guest Speaker: Jeanne Loveland, Education Director for Greater Reston Arts Center, gave us an introduction to the Grace Art Program, formerly known as Art in the School. The program provides one hour, in-class interactive presentations of art historical subjects, followed by art projects that reinforce the styles, techniques and concepts of the lesson. Each school has a volunteer Grace Art Coordinator who is responsible for working with the Grace Education Director and running the Grace Art program in their school. Grace Art Program components include: Art Appreciation Portfolios (there are a total of 80 art appreciation portfolios that contain reproductions of artwork); Student handout templates; related art activities (appropriate for grades K-6); Grace Art Training video and PowerPoint presentations; Elements of Art Portfolio; and additional reference materials, art activities, and resources. The cost of the Grace Art program for the 2013-2014 school year is \$675.00. In most schools the program is sponsored by the PTA. More information on this program can be found on their web-site www.restonarts.org.

New Business:

- Lori Leventry explained that the PTA Budget should be amended to include a line item under Administration for PTA Web Site Maintenance. Motion was made by Karen Mychalus and seconded by Angil Romitti. The vote was unanimous to approve the web site maintenance line item.
- Karen Mychalus discussed the audit that was performed for last year's PTA Budget. Dana Mathews is the auditor of the PTA books. A motion to approve the audit was made by Lori Leventry and seconded by Susan Patterson. The motion was unanimously approved to approve the audit.
- Angil Romitti explained under Virginia PTA Bylaws a motion to amend the bylaws was needed to create a third Vice President Position. The three positions and descriptions are as follows: Vice President Education/Service - coordinate with all educational and service chairs and the PTA Executive Board to facilitate a productive year for our school; Vice President Social - coordinate with all social chairs and the PTA Executive Board to facilitate a productive year for our school; Vice President Fundraising - coordinate with all fundraising chairs and the PTA Executive Board to facilitate a productive year for our school. A motion to amend was made by Angil Romitti and seconded by Kelly Bobek. The vote was unanimous to create three Vice President positions.

Treasurer's Report:

- Karen Mychalus reported that the PTA has a balance on hand of \$21,203.42 and added that we are in a good fiscal position for this early in the year.

Vice President Committee Chairs Reports:

- Kim Beamon noted the Flex program will start on October 21. Passport Club still needs volunteers (there are still several classrooms that have no passport volunteer). We will continue to reach out to parents. Directory chair Russell Ramey is working with Mrs. Painter and the information for this year's student directory will come from the emergency care information. Mad Science has started and had an overwhelming turnout. Pottery will have a winter session. Walk for the Homeless will be held two days in October, during PE class (WFCM will receive part of the donations). An exploratory committee was formed for the Lego Club. They have met with the Bull Run Elementary school Lego Chair with the possibility of a January sign up date.
- Rebucca Brazier will add the minutes from the PTA General Membership meeting to the VRES PTA website after the minutes have been approved.
- Kelley Bobek noted our Fundraiser this year is Classic Cookie and will kick off October 18 with an assembly for the children. The order due date is November 6. Prizes will be given out based on sales and pizza party for the two classes with the highest sales. Delivery date for cookies will be November 20.
- Kelley Bobek noted there are 413 PTA members. Will reach out to members to include their spouses. After the membership sign up deadline a drawing will take place for seats to the VRES Variety Show and VRES 6th grade End of Year Ceremony. Holiday Shop will be December 5. Looking into changing vendor for spirit wear in January. Early bird yearbook sales will start in November. To increase box top collections flyers are being sent to encourage parents to register online with participating stores (Giant, Target & Harris Teeters). Restaurant night is October 16 at Chick-Fil-A at Chantilly Place.
- Susan Patterson reported on a host of social activities that include: Bus Driver Appreciation Breakfast (September 27); Fall Dance (October 25); Teacher Coffee (November 6); Bingo Night (November 15); and Movie Night (December 6).
- Jason Skerker informed us that the mother of two of our students died in an automobile accident. Ms. Erika Alvarado is the mother of sixth grade student Gerson Munoz and fourth grade student Emely Munoz. The school is providing emotional support to the family. Lori Leventry expressed on behalf of the VRES PTA that we would like to reach out to the Munoz family and will contact Stephanie Whittaker the VRES social worker and see how we can help.
- Jason Skerker reported the FCPS will be looking into cutting its budget this year. Fairfax County has had an increase of 15,000 students in the past five years. Teacher salaries are lower in FCPS compared to Arlington and Loudoun County. Rebucca Brazier asked if any information has been received from FCPS concerning if VRES will be considered a Level 4 school. Mr. Skerker will check with Mrs. Edwards on this.

Next General PTA Meeting:

- November 8, 2013 at 9:30 am.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:50 PM