

CGS PTO Minutes
January 12, 2010

The meeting was called to order by Kari Bennett at 7:05 pm.

Principal's Report – Mrs. Moyer

January is a busy month as teachers assess all students. Report cards will be handed out at the end of the month.

There is no school on Friday. It is a Teacher Professional Development day.

Absences have been low. We are averaging 15-18 students out per day. Seasonal Flu is approaching.

Faculty is noticing a rise in student tardiness. There are some students that are coming in as late as 9:15 – 9:25. Mrs. Moyer is addressing this with parents when they are bringing them in this late. It is disruptive to other students and the children are missing out on learning opportunities.

Kindergarten Registration will be held this year the weeks of March 9th – 16th.

It's budget time again. This Thursday 1/14, administration will be presenting the budget to the Board of Education. Once again, we are going in at 0%. Mrs. Moyer is presenting a full day kindergarten pilot for the 2010-2011 school year.

Upcoming events:

Speaker 2/24, John Reardon. A workshop titled "Raising Children and having fun" will be presented and funded by the Discovery Grant. This is a free event and will be held at CGS.

There is a preschool program available at the high school starting 3/5.

Teacher's Report:

Karen Unkert – Speech and Language Teacher came to talk to us about what her job entails. There are areas that she looks for in children that are brought to her for speech and language assistance.

Articulation, Language (verbs, pronouns, thoughts are organized), Fluency and voice.

Terry Bitwinski - Kindergarten Teacher came to talk about Guided Reading. Parents of kindergarteners should notice that literacy books are now coming home along with Star Words. Guided reading builds vocabulary, the children talk about the pictures in the book and builds off of simple words. The literacy books are looked at quite a few times before the book is even brought home to be read. By the third day, they actually start reading the book. By the end of the week, a full read through of the book is done.

In the beginning of February, development reading assessment (DRA) will be done with each of the students. The student will be given a book that they have never seen before. The child will read the book and be evaluated. Accuracy should be between 90-95%. Students are expected to pass a level 4 DRA by the end of Kindergarten. A Level 1 or below is considered intervention.

Ms. Puccia and Mrs. Beeching – Second grade teachers came to discuss the narrative writing diamond. Second graders are working on how to write a story. The diamond is a guide that helps them through the process. This will help the students to prepare for the Third grade CMT's. The test will have a prompt to write a story and students will have 40 minutes to write a story.

Mrs. Puccia handed out the Second Grade Writing Prompt Rubric. This is a chart that the students in her class evaluate themselves on how they did with the story writing. If they gave themselves a 0 or 1, they know that they need to go back and do a better job before they even hand it in. I have extra copies if you are interested in having this or the Narrative Writing Diamond.

Acceptance of December 2009 Minutes – Beth Hassett

Laura Malcolm made a motion to accept the December 2009 minutes and Leslie Poland seconded the motion. All were in favor of acceptance.

Treasurer's report – Darby Muia

We currently have a balance of \$8498.28 December was a quiet month, not much in the way of expenses or income. We received the check from Dove Chocolates from the Shopping Night at Thymes Remembered in the amount of \$90.00. Thanks Leigh!!

Committee Reports:

Wolfpack game – Kim Power - January 29th, tickets are \$10.00. Family fun night!! Send in the order form with your check made payable to CGS. Wolf pack will donate a portion back to CGS. If you are unable to make the game on the 29th, you will receive a voucher in which you can use at any Wolf Pack game. Great deal!!

Family fun Nights – Kari Bennett - We will be scheduling an exercise night.

Kids Fun Fair – due to a scheduling conflict with the high school, we have had to change the date to April 24th. We will need to run this date by Dr. Bernard to see if she is okay with this since it is the same day of the Town Meeting for the budget.

Jump Rope for Heart – Michelle Mansella is the chairperson for this event. It will be held the first week of February. If you are interested in helping out during your child's class or anytime, please contact Michelle at 860-742-9303 or mrmansella@charter.net Pamphlets will be coming home shortly.

Talent Show – Amber Culp is the chairperson for this event. It will be held on Friday March 19th. Tryouts will be held the first week of March, possibly March 1st from 5-7 pm. Dress Rehearsal will be held March 16th. If you are able to help out, please contact Amber at amberleeculp@hotmail.com

Box Tops – next submission date is February 28th. Our goal is 20,000 box tops and we are at 9,000. Also, there is a sweepstakes going on to win 50,000 box tops by Pillsbury. Log into boxtops4education.com and register to win.

Old Business:

Mitten Tree – Crissy Stinson – This was a huge success. Thank you to everyone who donated. There are still leftover apples. Please contact Doreen Hurley to see what is left. If nobody claims, then funds will come out of PTO to donate the rest.

BJ's Memberships – Leslie Poland – We received approximately 18 memberships. Check from BJ's will be coming shortly. We will be running this again in the spring.

New Business:

Spring Fundraiser – We are still searching for a chairperson for the Spring Fundraiser. If you are interested please contact any member on the board. Kim Power has chaired this in the past so if you have questions about what it may entail and hours involved, please contact her.

School Dance – We have unanimously decided to rename the Ladybug Ball to the Dolphin Dance. We will be picking a night to have this in the spring.

Don't forget – Grade 2 concert – Wednesday 1/20 at 6:30 pm in the Veterans auditorium at the High school. Students need to be there at 5:45 pm.

Next meeting will be held Tuesday February 9th at 7:00 pm. Free babysitting!!