

SWES PTA GENERAL MINUTES

Southwest Elementary School - High Point, NC

Date: January 18, 2023, 6:30 pm | Meeting called to order by Rachana Prabhu

In Attendance

Rachana Prabhu	Casey Lloyd	Emily Barnes	Jennifer Skender	Shaunda Menke	Erik Garland
Alison Snyder	Christie Graves				

Board

- Rachana Prabhu called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm, at SouthWest Elementary School in the Media room

Principal's Report

- Principal Report: Casey Lloyd
 - Has a strong desire to see more parents involved in PTA
 - Ideas/for school activities include:
 - Family fun night (movie, bingo, etc.): Florence Elementary may have the royalties/rights to show movies to large groups; Need to check with GCS if rights have already been paid; ideal if show was after a PTA meeting to encourage parent attendance at meetings; April may be more suitable due to weather
 - 4th and 5th grade will be having a spelling bee
 - Upcoming events: Multicultural night, STEM night, spring cleanup; 2nd and 3rd Grade concert and a K-1st Grade concert
 - Literacy night, March 29, 2023: can raffle off several baskets...6-8 baskets would be needed which would be appropriate for Grades K-5
 - Principal Lloyd has already completed a staff meeting with the District Superintendent and parents will have the opportunity to meet with the Superintendent during "Better Together"
 - Parents can ask questions of the school District
 - Impact Program
 - Program designed to support kids having experienced trauma
 - Guilford county is partnering with Invo Health. Information webinar on Feb 07, 2023. Behavioral support will be available to those in need: 5 x a week
 - Children will not be randomly selected; they must meet program requirements and have the approval of parents
- Alison Snyder: Assistant Principal
 - Shirts will be available in black, green, or gray
 - Short sleeve shirts: at a cost of \$5.25 will sell for \$10

- Long sleeve shirts: at a cost of \$7.50 will sell for \$15
- Hoodies: at a cost of \$19.25 will sell for \$25
- Tye Dye short sleeve shirts: at a cost of \$8 will sell for \$12

Committee Reports

- DEI Committee (Christie Graves)

Black History Month

- Door Decorating
- “CommUNITY Celebration of African American Culture” with Red, Black, and Green theme (ideas presented by Christie Graves: DEI)
 - Submission by students identifying a time when they had to persevere
 - Ideas: kids could work on this in guidance or in morning meeting
 - 4th and 5th graders could write essays(?)
 - Use a similar platform to Reflections where kids’ submission types are unique to them
 - The winner could be announced at the festival
 - Unity necklace/chain
 - African American Bingo, Folk dance
 - Utilize gift cards at local restaurants for prizes
 - Need to decide on the day and time to hold the festival
 - Good option would be to hold a Zoom meeting during the school day where parents could log in to attend
- Black History can be observed daily during morning announcements
 - A new person would be detailed daily during the month of February
- Jennifer Skender presented her work on the “Disability Awareness Box” and “Games around the world Binder”, which included a well-organized display of games and materials helpful to educate children on Disability Awareness, as well as games/traditions of a variety of cultures

New Business

- Current Treasurer, Jodi Johnson has resigned from her seat on the board; Emily Barnes, former Treasurer has offered to serve in her place to finish out the school year.
 - **Vote: Vote to Approve Emily Barnes as Treasurer. Motion made and seconded. I’s unanimous and no Nay’s.**
 - There is some question of how much longer Emily can serve in this position according to PTA Board Rules for maximum length of service. This will be clarified per the PTA Board by-laws
- The Welcome Committee is gaining traction
 - Rachana has spoken with Maria Ivan about ideas to help bridge the gap for new parents and students in the GCS and Southwest Elementary School systems, such as:
 - They will come at/before open house and speak
 - Maria will follow up with Dr Buchanan regarding expansion of this committees outreach

- Per Principal Lloyd, the car rider path lights shut out at 7:11AM and this time needs to be extended: a work order has already been entered for this
- Suggestions to improve parent/volunteer participation:
 - Specify roles and responsibilities during request for help
 - Participation Barriers:
 - Parents are tired at the end of day which impacts volunteerism/attendance
 - Ideas discussed to increase attendance at PTA meetings
 - Options to participate virtually via zoom or telephone
 - Engage the kids in some activity while the parents attend the meeting
- Talent Show
 - This committee needs parents to volunteer: emails have been sent, yet the response rate is low.
 - Talent Show: 3rd -5th grade, early May (in the evening)
- Valentine's Day ideas
 - Last year there were lollipops with stickers affixed
 - This year we may try Ring Pops
- Action Items
 - Determine how much longer Emily can serve as Treasurer and note any restrictions
 - Find a parent that is willing to assist with organizing a Talent Show
 - Find out from GCS if there are already provisions made to show videos to large groups

Next Meeting

February 09, 2023

Meeting Adjourned at 8:07pm