

**Central Elementary School PTA
Minutes of the Board Meeting
Wednesday, August 22, 2018**

Attendance

Gaye Johnson, Ashley Crutchfield, Carol Penney, Tracy Gordon, Lauren Kozak, Samantha Hoke, Alesa Chaffin, Nathan Chaffin, Juline DeVoe, Jenny David, Lindsay Perry, Rachel Clark, Catie Brown, Robin Parker, Paige Owens, Kyra Pridgen.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:37 p.m. by Gaye Johnson.

Principal's Report – Robin Parker

- Teachers and staff enjoyed a successful “Back-to-School Breakfast.” We’ve had a great start to the school year, and everyone loves the new tie-dyed house color shirts.
- Parents seem to have settled into the drop-off and pick-up routine.
- 517 students (pre–K through 5th grade) are currently enrolled.
- The Title I program now applies to the entire school. There are more resources and funds available that can now include all children. We’ll need a PTA representative to be on the Title I Advisory Council.
- Friday, September 30, 2nd through 5th graders will go to Maury River Middle School to see the Rockbridge Orchestra.
- September 7th will be an early release day because of the Rockbridge County Fair.
- Second graders will take a field trip to the fair on September 6th.
- Incentives to improve attendance at Central include the “Bear Essentials Good Call of the Day.” Teachers and staff will nominate a child for the “good call of the day.” Nominations are based on observations such as consistent good behavior, getting caught in a helpful or thoughtful act, etc. The chosen student will have his/her picture taken and posted to social media, and will get to call their parents and let them know. We’ll continue to implement more individual, class and whole school incentives to ensure good attendance.

PTA Treasurer's Report – Gaye Johnson

- Balance is currently \$5,572.28.
- The Central PTA gave teachers their stipends before school started.
- Still owe \$3,200 for house color shirts.
- PTA dues, walkathon donations, Central “dine-out” nights, family nights, and Box Tops will cover this year’s PTA expenses.

Central Clothes Closet – Lindsay Perry

- Most clothing sizes are stocked and the closet is in a good position for the winter clothing drive.
- Plan to begin filling orders in early October and have them distributed to families before Thanksgiving break.

Communications –Tracy Gordon/Carol Penney

- So far, PTA has 110 members this year. 39 of these are faculty and 28 are new to the PTA.
- Parents have provided feedback that they are happy with the new house color shirts.
- Currently working on student directory and plan to distribute in the fall.
- We have a beautiful new PTA poster thanks to the communications committee, which will be used at all events and possibly hang somewhere in the school.
- Carol needs newsletter content by August 29 for the first newsletter, which will be distributed Tuesday, September 4. She will include an article about Ron Clark’s philosophy and explain why Central has “house colors.”
- First newsletter will go home with all students, as there is no “youngest and only” count yet.
- Newsletters will be sent home in Tuesday folders on the first Tuesday of each month again this year.
- New Central PTA website, centralelementarypta.com, has been set up, but will continue to be updated and improved.

Beautification – Robin Parker

- We did not get the beautification grant. There is a program at Lowes called “heroes’ day” where they will come and help do work at the school. Will look into this further and re-group and develop a plan for the committee this year.

Fundraising – Samantha Hoke

- Walkathon will be October 31st. The walkathon is our biggest fundraiser of the year.
- Sam would appreciate help in getting local businesses to donate money (as a sponsor) or door prizes for the event. Please let Sam or Gaye know who you plan to contact so the master list can be updated and each business is not contacted by more than one person.
- We will continue to plan “family dine-out nights” at local restaurants this year. Our first will be Domino’s on October 4th. The manager, Rush, said they will donate 10% of all sales for the day to the Central PTA.
- Seth Humphries at McDonalds also agreed to another “McTeacher Night” in October. Gaye will follow up with him to determine available dates.
- Spirit merchandise will be set up and distributed differently this year. The company that produced the new house color shirts offers the same design in long sleeve, hoodies, etc. We’ll distribute pre-order forms (and request payment up front) for tie-dyed shirts as well as the long sleeve gray and maroon shirts, similar to those we sold last year. The PTA/fundraising table will have samples during events, and families will complete the order form. The merchandise will be delivered to the student when it arrives. This process will eliminate overhead costs, reduce storage space to house inventory, and lighten the work involved in setting up at each event.
- Gaye will order house color popcorn cups for “Movie under the Stars” night from 4imprint.

Hospitality – Gaye Johnson

- Julie reported that the faculty/staff breakfast went very well. The committee will be meeting to plan events for the year.
- Discussed the fact that sometimes teachers don’t get a break to eat a meal served on teacher conference night, so the committee will look into other options. Robin also plans to poll teachers and provide their feedback to the committee.

Reflections – Gaye Johnson

- Theme this year is “Heroes Around Me.”
- Two Central students were recognized at the state level last year.
- Deadline for entries will be early December and we will begin to promote the contest this fall.

Student Activities – Gaye Johnson

- Wildlife Center of Virginia “For Goodness Snakes” student assembly will be on October 10th.
- The musical, “Jack and the Beanstalk,” is scheduled for March 29th.
- Outdoor “Movie Under the Stars” will be Friday, September 28th. Robbie and Molly Moore will set up the projector and screen again this year. Ashley is working on getting raffle prizes for the event.
 - CES students will participate in a penny drive September 5th -13th to vote on one of the following movies: *Coco*, *Ferdinand* or *Trolls*.
 - The September 4th newsletter will include information on the penny vote, and flyers will go home on Tuesdays, September 18th and 25th, to promote movie night.

Volunteers – Gaye Johnson

- Alesa Chaffin will be the new Volunteer Committee Chair; the first volunteer sign-up will be for movie night.

Other Business

PTA member Jenny David approached the Board with an interest in having people meet and play on the CES playground to allow parents and students a chance for community-building and a way for new families to meet people. Meeting attendees agreed this was a good idea; it will be discussed further and some dates will be chosen for “PTA playdates on the playground.” These playdates will be promoted in the PTA newsletter.

Meetings will continue to be held on the 3rd Wednesday of each month, with the next meeting scheduled for September 19th at 5:30.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:35 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Ashley Crutchfield, Central PTA Secretary