

# Carderock Springs PTA Meeting Minutes

## September 3, 2013 9:30 a.m.

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### **Meeting commenced at 9:45am**

Approximately 25 people in attendance.

### **Welcome and Overview – Karen Roman**

- Karen welcomed returning and new parents and volunteers.
- Stressed the importance of the PTA's role: "We are here for one reason: Want to make CSES the best school it can be"
- A Great Big Thank You to Michelle Murphy, Holly Hoscheit and Suzanne Crump for supplying the treats and coffee for our PTA Coffee!

### **Principal Palmisano's Welcome**

- Smooth start last week. MCPS Official Dr. Hollingshead impressed with student engagement and learning that began on day one.
- 427 students registered up from 317 in 5 years. There are three sections of each grade but kindergarten which has two.
- Transition year – next year new evaluation for teachers begins next year. Will include student data. Our professional growth system is not good enough to meet standard of including a percentage of student data in teacher evaluation.
- Test scores last year were very good. Our score dropped slightly, but were very high. We outperformed cluster school by a wide margin.
- This is the last year for MSA – PARCC exam will begin next year – demands are different from MSA. Students will need to be able to explain their answers, not just give the answers.
- Instruction shift in reading, language arts and math. Going deeper to understand the reasoning. Non-fiction will be stressed, at least 50% of materials will be non-fiction. At high school level will be at 70%.
- Thank you – we can't do many of the things we do without the support of the PTA. Most importantly professional development. Allows our teachers to be better educated and better planned for teaching.
- Open door policy – please stop by and see him with issues and concerns as soon as possible.

### **Q&A:**

Given changes to cluster, do we know how to advocate for our children?

- Dr. Hollingshead and Pat can address concerns. County PTA is working on issues regarding grading and reporting.
- Curriculum 2.0 being implemented across the board grades K-5. Departmentalizing in grades 4-5. 5<sup>th</sup> grade reports grade. If on grade level, student will receive old report card. If student is in math 6 or 7, student will receive old report card with an addendum. Curriculum 2.0 report cards not being used in HS, but currently unsure where it will stop, elementary or middle?

How does 2.0 affect middle school placement?

- Math 7 here will go into algebra in middle school. Algebra 1 is based on Cur 2.0 this year. If student takes regular courses throughout their course of study, they'll still be able to take Calculus in HS. Increasingly colleges are not recognizing AP courses for credit. They'll have to take it again despite score on placement exam.

Grading has changed. I,P,ES instead of A, B, C, D. How do you determine I, P, ES?

- This year teachers will use a fraction system. Will also let parents know what the student could do to earn the higher grade.
- Variability of grading: working on remedying differences between classes/teacher. Same student profile in one class might receive a P in one class and an ES in another class.

### **PTA Website**

- PTA website serves as a portal to CSES and MCPS.
- New links in upper right corner. 1. Newsletter, 2. PTA /school Calendar. 3. Pay4schoolstuff 4. Volunteer spot 5. Foundation 6. A-z directory 7. School lunch menu and payment
- Introduction of Board Members
- PTA Online store now open
- After-school starts Sept. 16

### **CSES School Website**

- Updated links/information this summer
- **New policy: Food allergy safety guide.** See school website for details

### **Events**

- Back to school night – Thursday Sept. 12. Spirit wear will be on sale. New item – shorts!.
- New band long term sub is having a 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade parent meeting at 6pm just before back to school night. If your child is interest
- Next PTA meeting, Tuesday, October 1, 7:30pm. Parent education speaker topic TBD.
- CSES Open House Oct. 14<sup>th</sup>. Parent visitation day starts with a PTA breakfast on the blacktop at 8:30am

### **Community Service**

- Martha's Table collects sandwiches every Friday. Project will begin as soon as SGA is organized. The bigger the sandwich the better – this may be the only meal these people get all day. Pre-wrapped snacks and fruit, juice boxes. No condiments on sandwich – meat and cheese only. Please separate PBJ from meat sandwiches.
- The Lemonade Ripple service project returns in October. Kids choose what interests them.

### **Fundraisers**

- Spirit wear will be sold at Back-to-School Picnic, not online.
- Kids Classifieds: Deadline is 9/20 to buy messages for the in the directory. Pay \$10 to PTA as a fundraiser and send a nice message to your kids or teachers. Purchase and send message via pay4schoolstuffonline.
- Giant Gift Cards: Place orders online or send email to [marcellafezza@gmail.com](mailto:marcellafezza@gmail.com). CSES PTA gets 5% back on gift cards purchased. Order now for all year. Deadline for October order is September 20<sup>th</sup>.

- Grocery Shopping points (Giant, Safeway and Harris Teeter): Register your number so that our school gets the credit. You may submit via the store website or let us handle it for you, at [www.pay4schoolstuffonline.com](http://www.pay4schoolstuffonline.com).
- Online Shopping: Amazon and Tiny Prints: You must click the link on the PTA homepage in order for the PTA to get credit for your purchase.

### **Programs**

- After-school activities: 15 classes covering a wide-range of activities are offered this session. Classes started on 9/16, running 3:30pm to 4:30pm. Three semesters this year. Sign up online – payment goes through either CSES PTA or organization providing service. See website for details.
- FLES: Spanish and Chinese offered before school, 8-8:50am. See online for schedule and class details. (note: the before school and after-school classes are different programs.)
- Cultural Arts Assemblies: 4-5 assemblies throughout the year. There will be a variety of programs, but all are to be determined. Parents are always welcome to attend.
- Artist in Resident: Week-long program. Artist works with each class through the week with a student presentation at the end of the week.

### **Questions, Suggestions and Ideas**

- Always looking for fresh faces and fresh ideas.
- VolunteerSpot –
  - Lunch/recess volunteers: if you want to sign up for same slot every week email Christine Fruehwirth.
  - Media Center volunteers (Lisa Bronfman) we need volunteers in the media center to shelve books and to help students check out their books. Media Center lessons on Thursday and Friday will require volunteers also. If you are here early to pick up your child Mon and Tues, please come in to shelve books, even if it's only 5 minutes. It helps! Book Exchange Schedule: will be included on Volunteer spot so you know when your child will be in the library.
  - Also used for classroom volunteering and parent/teach conferences.
- Lice notices. Can we get lice notices sent home electronically? Could do a Carderocket post?
- Grade level socials: (Wendy Kuhn) *Parent only* social – great way to meet other parents in your child's grade. Keep an eye out for details.