



# Welcome Coffee and PTA Meeting

Agenda . September 2, 2014 . 9:30 a.m.

## Meeting called to order at 9:47am

### Principal Palmisano's Welcome

- Enrollment 419 students, about where we were last year. 3 sections every grade level, but kindergarten which has two. 1<sup>st</sup> grade very small.
- Jeffrey Gratton is the new reading initiative teacher who replace Mrs. Ferrigno. He's here 8:30am-12:30pm daily. He'll support grades 1 and 2.
- Tech mod: all 3<sup>rd</sup> . 5<sup>th</sup> grade students have chrome books. All computers in building were replaced. Upgraded to Windows 8 operating system. One cart of laptops in grades 1-2 and autism; iPads in K-1. Bandwidth access points are being changed today. Server upgrade will increase connectivity.
- PTA . we need you! Need help with lunch and recess, we will be down 2-3 staff members by the end of the week. Plan in place for teachers to cover if needed, but we really need parent support.
- This year, implementing Curriculum via the Lucy Calkins writing program which focuses on reading and writer's workshop. Mrs. Zeitlin and Mrs. Veihmeyer will present the program at PTA meeting in October. A group of teachers will attend 9/22-23 Lucy Calkins program training. Community Superintendent was here last week . she is excited about it. We'll send addition teachers to the Lucy Calkins training in Leesburg, VA in October.
- Principal's discretionary fund (partnered with CSESEF) . largely to provide substitutes. Teaching is stressful and needs to be well planned. Able to provide substitute teacher coverage for teachers, 1.5 days per marking period so they don't have to plan before/afterschool.
- PTA helps in lots of small ways also. He promotes our PTA to his colleagues . we are second to none in our cluster.
- Open door policy . if you have issues or concerns call or email. He prefers to meet in person if it is an issue of significance.
- Challenge us we are here to provide the best possible education for your children.

### Amy Moore, PTA President: Welcome

- Thank you to Karen Roman, outgoing PTA president, for all her support during transition to new leadership.
- Introduction of PTA Board Members ..
- PTA website info - [www.csespta.org](http://www.csespta.org)
  - Reviewed website features and encouraged everyone to use it as a portal to all

things you might need regarding CSES

### **Volunteer opportunities**

- *Recess/Lunch Duty* . visit the %olunteer+tab on [www.csespta.org](http://www.csespta.org)
  - o If you have the capacity and the interest, we really need the help with lunch and recess. Please sign up on Volunteerspot.
- *Room Parents* . visit the Room Parent Guide on [www.csespta.org](http://www.csespta.org)
  - o Please consider being a room parent. See room parent guide on the website. Almost all classes still need room parents. We need 2-3 volunteers for every class. Responsible for the three class parties (Halloween, Valentines, End of Year), help with classroom volunteer needs, help with holiday gift drive, etc.
- *Classroom Volunteers* . teachers will post classroom volunteers needs on Volunteer Spot.

### **Upcoming Events**

- *Back To School Picnic*: Friday, September 19th, 5pm-7pm (new spirit wear on sale!)
  - o Low key, food trucks, DJ . no inflatables, all school photo at 5:30pm. Encourage everyone to wear spirit wear or Carderock colors.
- *Next PTA Meeting*: Tuesday, October 7<sup>st</sup> at 7:30pm (Parent Ed. Speaker!)
  - o Parent Ed: Mrs. Veihmeyer and Mrs. Zeitlin will discuss the Lucy Calkins program.
- *CSES "Open House" and PTA-sponsored breakfast*: Monday, Oct. 13<sup>th</sup>, 8:30am
  - o School is in session, parents are invited to attend classes in the morning.
- *Parent Socials*
  - o Dates not yet set. We are looking for parents to host grade level, parent-only event. 2<sup>nd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade hosts are set. Need hosts for K, 1, 3, and 4.

### **Community Service Overview**

- *Pajama Drive* in support of The Pajama Program . Friday, September 26, 2014
  - o Supports The Pajama Program . Kids may wear PJs to school as long as they bring brand new pajamas with tags on them to donate. Last year over 200 pairs of pajamas were collected. Donated to local program for children in need.
- *Martha's Table sandwich collection* - every Friday starting late October/early November.
  - o Kids bring in sandwiches. SGA representatives count the sandwiches. Martha's Table collects them and distributes them to local homeless shelters. Guidelines for snack donations will be sent closer to the program. Competition between the classes/grades.

### **Current Fundraisers**

- *PTA membership* dues (\$40 annual). [www.pay4schoolstuff.com](http://www.pay4schoolstuff.com)
  - o We strive for 100% participation. Receive a school directory as part of membership.
- *Kids Classifieds* (deadline is 9/19)
  - o Ads are \$10 each. Defrays the printing cost of the school directory.

### **Ongoing Fundraisers**

- *Giant Gift Cards*
  - o Order online for the entire year. Deliveries 4 times per year. Pay only when you

receive your cards.

- *Grocery Shopping Points* (Giant, Safeway, & Harris Teeter)
  - o Register your loyalty cards so that CSES gets credit.
  - o You must renew every year for Safeway and Harris Teeter.
  - o You may have more than one school associated with your card you want.
  - o Grandparents, neighbors may also designate CSES as the beneficiary of their shopping points.
  - o Money goes directly to CSES not to PTA.
- *Online shopping: Amazon, Tiny Prints, Shutterfly* . via links on [www.csespta.org](http://www.csespta.org)
- *Others: Box Tops for Education, Potomac pizza nights, etc.* Stay tuned . more on these at other meetings.

### **Programs**

- *CSES PTA After School Activities* . fall registration underway
  - o 3 sessions per year, each session is about 8 weeks.
  - o Programs run 3:30pm-4:30pm.
  - o Keyboards and Lego Engineering are full. Other sessions are filling up.
  - o Don't need to send a note regarding your child attending afterschool activity every week. A note is only required on the first day a class meets.
- *FLES* . before school Spanish (beginner, inter, and advanced) and after school Chinese classes. County run program. More information in newsletter. Some are 12 week sessions, some are full year.
- *Cultural Arts Assemblies* (4-5 per year) . First of the year is %Everyone Belongs+is Sept 30<sup>th</sup>

### **Other**

- *CarderockNet* . sign up on PTA website to receive posts regarding school events and programs, the PTA newsletter and the Principal's weekly newsletter. See item #3 on the main part of the webpage to enter your email address.
- *Membership* . please join the PTA . [www.pay4schoolstuff.com](http://www.pay4schoolstuff.com)
- *Questions?*

*Many thanks to Suzanne Crump, Holly Hoscheit, and Michelle Murphy for our coffee & goodies!*

**Meeting adjourned at 10:42am.**