

SEQUOYAH PTA MEETING MINUTES

JUNE 2, 2009 MEETING

The meeting was called to order at 7:05pm

President's Report – Jacques Croom

Jacques Croom welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced the new PTA Board. He then went around the room and the teachers and parents introduced themselves.

The minutes were reviewed and there were several corrections needed:

1. Correct the spelling of Yvette Sherman's name
2. Global correct the spelling of "Principle" to Principal throughout the minutes
3. Correct "President-Elect" to President
4. Correct "Vice President-Elect – Amy Stevens" to Vice President of Fundraising and add Vice President of Programs – Emily Matusek
5. Correct the spelling of Mrs. Holloman's name
6. Correct the spelling of Noelle's name
7. Change the word "coping" to copying.
8. In the Treasurer's Report correct/change the word PBIS in the sentence "Dr. Jasper requested \$3,500 in funding for PBIS..." to Assignment Folders.

The minutes were corrected and approved.

Jacques then spoke about his vision for the rules of the meeting – that they be fun, informative and move along.

Open PTA positions were discussed, specifically that the President-Elect position is open as well as many committee Chair positions.

Jacques then spoke about the visions and expectations for the year. He spoke about wanting to get a Q&A section on the SES PTA website where questions can be posed and answers would hopefully be posted within a week.

Principal's Report

Principal Jasper said that for the first time ever we are over-enrolled in all grades and gave specific numbers. In total SES was projected to have 399 and at present we have 415. She said that these are the worst economic times as a teacher and that SES should not expect to get another teacher. She evaluated the needs of the students and the strengths of the teachers and specific shifts of teachers were made. A complete list of staff is attached.

She said that Sequoyah has instituted a "Block Scheduling" curriculum that is cutting edge and different from what ever other school is doing saying "We are a model. It feels different but we want our kids to be the best."

Then she and Paula Odans, Staff Development, showed a presentation going into great details on the TN2 and MSA testing scores.

Some positive comments that came out of the presentation and discussion:

- At Redland MS all 15 Sequoyah Students entering 8th grade that took accelerated math at SES are all taking Algebra 2.
- For the first time all of Sequoyah's Hispanic, ESOL, Free & Reduced Lunch kids hit or exceed the target for the MSA

She then discussed SIP and asked for parents to join the SIP team. A complete Action Plan Summary of the SIP is attached.

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Staff Report

Beth Deigan thanked the PTA for the delicious luncheon last week while they were setting up their classrooms.

Kathleen McInnis thanked the PTA for the generous support with reimbursements to the teachers.

Treasurer's Report – Jennifer Trickey

It was explained that we spend less than we take in and in order to remain a true non-profit organization we need to reduce the cushion that we have so that if we are audited we can show that.

We have roughly the same in CD's as last year - \$15K.

Jennifer went over the budget, which raised several questions and issues. Jennifer pointed out some changes from last year - Bingo was moved from a program to a fundraiser and the Spring Fair has been moved from a Fundraiser to a program. Other programs have been combined and the Staff Appreciation Committee replaces the Hospitality Committee.

There was a question raised about the note of PBIS in the Supplemental Support category in that PBIS did not receive \$6,656.60 last year. Clarification will be made. There was also a question raised about the Clothing/New Student Gift line item and that Spiritwear is a separate issue and needs to be a separate line item. Clarification on the notes in the budget will be made.

Danielle Rice pointed out that the Spring Fair was budgeted at \$500 but the actual cost was \$3,416.47 and asked for an increase in the budget to either \$3,000 or \$3,500.

Kathleen McInnis asked for \$350 for PBIS.

It was pointed out that the \$300 allocated for the Counselor's Fund was too little. We will confirm with Dr. Plaisance as to whether he wants to request more.

It was then determined that the budget would not be able to be passed at the meeting and Jacques asked for motions to pass specific upcoming items for September and October.

Two motions were made. The first motion made was to approve a limited budget for five items for September:

1. Market Day
2. Fall Fundraiser
3. Book Fair
4. Author's Program
5. Directory/Handbook

The second motion included four additional items:

1. PTA Insurance
2. Fall Dance
3. PBIS (\$350)
4. ICB

Both motions were approved.

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Program Report – Emily Matusek

There are several upcoming events – the first being Back-To-School/Movie Night on Friday 9/11 at 6:30pm. Armand's Pizza, Carmen's Water Ice, and Pretzels will be sold.

The Fall Dance has two chairpeople – Jeanette Cocci and Aixa Kalai

The Author's Program on 9/30 is for 3rd-5th graders. Information will be sent home.

Programs need chairpeople – especially for International Night.

Fundraising Report – Amy Stevens

Amy reported that we need a lot of money and we have a lot of different fundraisers going on because she tried to include all different types that would appeal to everyone including recycling toner and ink cartridges, raffling off a free Pizza/Soda for Movie Night, Safeway and Giant Scrip cards, and Box Tops.

Upcoming events include Restaurant Night at Mama Lucia's in Olney on 9/23, Market Day, and the Cookie Dough/Gift Wrap/Joe Corbi's Pizza sales.

She also reported that there are a lot of committees that need chairpeople – specifically Bingo Night and a Co-Chair for the Book Fair. Another big committee that is in need is the Community Sponsorship Committee. This was the committee that was responsible for getting the printing for last year's Directory/Handbook donated. The Chair needs to be someone who is comfortable with soliciting donations from local businesses.

Website Info – Amy Stevens

In conjunction with fundraising – all the events are on the calendar on the website – www.sespta.org. There are links to pertinent websites including SES, Bar-T, and a link to the CDC and other organizations with information about H1N1

Dr. Jasper then asked for help with the SES website. John Moriarty has volunteered to help with the PTA website and may be able to help with SES as well.

Old Business

No old business was brought up for discussion.

New Business

A parent reported that letters about the H1N1 flu keep being sent home but that not all the children are washing their hands or getting a spritz of antibacterial hand cleaner after recess before lunch.

Dr. Jasper said she would look into that and make sure better monitoring was done. She also said that there would be free seasonal flu shots, flu mist, and H1N1 vaccines offered at SES. More discussion followed.

Jacques thanked everyone for their support and patience for the first meeting of the year.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55pm.