

Carlos Gilbert PTK

Meeting Minutes February 4, 2021 4:00 pm

Attendees: Kathy Primm, Sara April, Sarah LeBlanc, Jana Amacher, Michaelann Perea, Kim Pietrocci, Brintha Nathan, John Delamater, Kate McCarthy, Patricia Azuara, and Rebecca McDonald

1. School News

- Ms. Pietrocci shared her excitement for the 5th grade band performance tonight at the SFPS District Board meeting. Students will perform and answer questions related to learning a new instrument through a remote education model. Everyone expressed how proud and happy they were for these CGE students.
- Parents, staff, and teachers wait to hear what decision the Board will make regarding reopening of schools in the hybrid setting. Ms. Pietrocci asked for help from the PTK for additional eblast communications that may come up as a result of any Board action.
- Teachers are preparing for next week's parent teacher conferences. Coding and computer science coaching with staff is underway, this is a continuation of the recently awarded grant. The team is looking forward to putting everything in its place for the students and their classes.
- Thank you to Sarah LeBlanc for her help with the CGE teacher and staff surveys. Ms. Pietrocci completed hers right away. Seeing everyone's responses in the upcoming e-blasts CGE Highlights will be a lot of fun.

2. Yearbook – February school community project spearheaded by Bernadette Cortez

- Through eblasts, Room Reps, and the website the word is out: a CGE Yearbook is in development. Picture Day is set for February 9th. Hopefully the teachers will have all students in attendance to take a great class photo. If not, there is still time to get all photos submitted before the end of the month.

Parents will send portrait pictures of their student to the Room Reps. A few reminders will be sent out to help keep things moving along. Upcoming weekly themes may include pajamas and stuffies, 100 day parties, students with a favorite pet or book. Everyone is encouraged to e-mail Bernadette with any other suggestions and ideas.

Kathy will work with Bernadette to make sure every baby picture is correctly identified as part of the 6th grade adds and baby photos.

3. Minutes from the January 28, 2020 meeting were provided to the PTK Board for their review and approval. After minimal discussion, the PTK approved the minutes. A final set of the meeting minutes will be available on the website, posted in the CGE blog post, and linked into the e-blast back to the PTK website.

4. Finance Summary

- Sara April provided a finance summary to all Zoom meeting participants. As of the date of this meeting, the accounts are up \$11,000.00. There have been very few funding requests and decent fundraising efforts in these unusual times that have helped ensure funding is available for enrichment programs and other activities to support all within the CGE community. Brintha Nathan reminded the group that \$600 of services triggers a 1099 and a few may need to be prepared. Sara reported that \$8,220 has been expended from fall stipends. The raffle currently has earned \$1,838 and another Facebook push will be sent out soon before the raffle closes. After considering the financial summary the PTK approved a \$300 stipend per teacher for the spring semester with a one-time exception of not requiring receipts to support the various costs accrued in these unusual times of remote learning (ex: wi-fi, printer paper and ink, etc.). Sara will draft a letter announcing this approval with instructions outlining this one-time exception.

5. Funding Requests

- Ms. Cherry submitted a request totaling \$91 for 11 copies of “Phantom Toll Booth”. The PTK considered this request and approved the funding request.

6. Fundraising– Valentine’s Day Raffle

- As mentioned earlier, \$1,838 has come in through RallyUp from this fundraiser. The PTK is grateful to all who contributed and hope everyone realizes how much this makes a difference in providing the enrichment programs for the students and in the various teacher appreciation and support activities. The drawing for this raffle is scheduled for next Friday at 5:30 pm on Facebook live.

7. Supporting Staff

- Highlighting Staff: There are 14 weeks of school left and 41 total CGE teachers and staff. Each week a group or block will be highlighted in the e-blasts. The front office may be the first as they have completed their surveys. Ms. Pietrocci may send an email reminder to her team to help get the surveys done.
- Enrichment: The PTK discussed any new updates on the enrichment programs. A question regarding how much was available for the first grade classes enrichment. Depending upon the activity and the frequency of the activity – the PTK may grant \$2,500 to \$4,000 per grade. The third-grade team met yesterday, and more information will be sent out later next week. Fourth grade is already working with NDI. Fifth grade may need another follow up to make sure they have what they need with Meow Wolf. And another follow up will take place for sixth grade.

The following reflects PTK discussions of what may be considered as “other business” – items not formally on the agenda at this time but are welcomed ideas for the PTK.

Patricia Azuara asked the PTK for help in bringing back the CGE Book Club with the goal of supporting sustained silent reading with a prize. Getting students to read a real book has been very difficult lately. The PTK agreed this has been a challenge and more thought needs to be put into

developing an activity to support this. The former book club model is a great place to start. The PTK will discuss this further in upcoming meetings.

March 2nd is Read Across America Day. Kate McCarthy and Ms. Frances are open for ideas. Read alouds with students is one such idea. More on this will be presented to the PTK. It may be possible to incorporate Read Across America Day with a re-boot of the CGE Book Club.

Ms. Walker is having a baby! Jana asked if there was something the PTK may do to recognize and support such an occasion. It was also announced that Ms. Peterson is expecting a child too. While it has not been a traditional area of PTK support, perhaps in these extraordinary times there may be alternative moments of support that may not build precedence or expectation. The PTK will discuss this further in upcoming meetings.

The next PTK will be next Thursday, February 11, 2021, at 4 pm. The Zoom login information is consistent (810 0499 1466 CGERocks). The code is available to all within the CGE community via e-blasts and the website. Everyone is welcome to participate.