



Sunrise Valley Elementary School (SVES) PTA General Meeting Minutes
March 7, 2018, 9:30 am
SVES Cafeteria

- 1) Call to order: The meeting was called to order at 9:36 AM by PTA President Megan Murphy in the cafeteria. Corresponding secretary Kara Manton recorded the minutes until Recording secretary Antonia Blackwood arrived.
- 2) Members present: Please see sign-in sheet. A quorum was established.
- 3) SVES Music Program Guest Speaker- Ms. Jody Delaney, SVES Music Teacher (see attached powerpoint covering her presentation to attendees)
- 4) Mental Health Guest Speaker- "Coping with Difficult Situations" Ms. Debra Wotherspoon, FCPS School Psychologist (see attached two handouts she provided attendees)
Wotherspoon spoke about how to reassure kids and make sure the only source of information they receive is not from their peers. Principal West also answered members' questions about the school's crisis plans and lockdown procedures as well as how the teachers are trained to communicate with children about these types of situations.
- 5) The January General Meeting minutes were approved.
- 6) Principal's report –Principal Kevin West:
West continued addressing parent questions about security at the school and how Fairfax County is evaluating all of these things. All guests must pass through the main office. Mr. West addressed questions about how parents can help ensure security and reminded the group of the following practices:
 - Prominently display your temporary badge at all times.
 - Do not let in guests through side doors -- all guests must pass through the front office.
 - Do not prop side doors open.
 - Unless you personally know the guest behind you, do not hold doors to the front entrance for strangers. Each guest should be admitted by the front office staff individually.

Upcoming events: March 15 Principal's coffee after drop-off. Please email Megan Murphy to request a topic.

7) Officer Reports

- President: Report given by Megan Murphy. She noted that it has been a quiet few months and thanked Mr. West for so quickly rescheduling Bingo Night after the wind storm to March 9.
- Programs: Report given by Gamble Gilbertson. Spring session was going well until Language Stars went out of business without informing her. Berlitz came to the rescue and gave a much better price so all the parents will get a refund for the difference. Something to consider for next year is making the language programs year-long to give kids the chance to get deeper exposure to the program. Gilbertson will survey parents on this. Selena Cobb is a great after hours volunteer. Gilbertson reminded attendees about why parent volunteers are so important. They provide security, escort late arrivals, and make sure teachers are there. Parent survey will go out this spring. It may be time to retire some classes and Gilbertson is talking to a couple prospective vendors.

- Communications: Report given by Julie Hanssen Harris. We have an increase in PT Board members. We just cleaned out the Facebook group for security reasons to ensure only known SVES parents are members. We vet everyone who requests to join the group. We have had a few new PTA members, mostly new parents this past semester.
- Events: Report given by Colleen Elliott.
 - Bingo Night (3/9) Gerald Zavala the event co-chair is seeking more volunteers. Siblings of SVES students can help with concessions or as checkers and they can get volunteer hours.
 - Show What You Know (3/14) Murphy reported that she has been working with Andy Gallagher. Historically Boofie Gorman has sponsored this event but she reduced her support and we may not have it again next year. We do have t-shirts on order and are trying to minimize what we do to save costs. This event is meant to keep focus on the children and not to distract with food trucks or other vendors. We are going to need helpers in the morning. Attendees discussed options for saving money and suggested that next year a sponsor should be secured before the flyer is handed out promising t-shirts to the children.
 - Basketball Challenge (4/6) Zavala will coach the kids' teams. More information is coming. Deborah Nelson and Stacey Graf are working on the pep squad.
 - Talent Show (4/20) Flyers will be sent home soon.
- Treasurer: Report given by Stacey Graf. Graf covered two months of financials since the February PTA meeting was cancelled due to weather. There were some donations for the Backpack program and some small expenses. In February there were a few events including a Destination Dining night, a trampoline park outing and the chorus ice skating event (a pass through). There was also money raised from donated Box Tops and Amazon Smile and payments for morning enrichment programs.
- President Elect: Julie Lele had nothing to report.

8) Mini-Grant Submission Review: Report given by Megan Murphy.

- 4th grade teachers Karen Stevens and Jen Gualtieri requested \$400 for the 4th grade early American experience. Motion for approval by Colleen Elliott was seconded and adopted. Music teacher Jody Delaney requested \$400 for "song tales accompanying books." Motion for approval by Julie Lele was seconded and adopted.
- Special Education teachers Ms. Piper and Ms. Webb requested \$211.47 for 5 technology based academic games to support academic learning. Motion for approval by Megan Murphy was seconded and adopted.

9) Destination Dining: Report given by Kim Ellis. We are still waiting for results from the pizza night at Flippin' Pizza. We are considering an April event, perhaps a taco truck night or a carry out night at Chef on Wheels Tacos & More on Sunset Hills (owned by a SVES family).

10) Cub Scout Fundraising Update: Report given by Antonia Blackwood. The Cub Scouts held their annual Carnival Fundraiser night and with the help of some Girls Scout troops in attendance were able to raise \$1600 which they are donating to the PTA to be split between the Backpack program and requested school technology needs. The check was given to the PTA Treasurer, Stacey Graf.

11) New Business: No new business raised.

Close: Meeting adjourned at 10:46 am.

Minutes:

Approved as presented: KA Date: 4/4/18
 Approved as corrected: _____ Date: _____

AB Blackwood 4/4/18
 Secretary (Signature)

	Name	Email	PTA Member
1	Kim Ellis		
2	Alex Zbarcea	zbarcea.a@gmail.com	YES.
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19	Mikyon Haas		
20	Nancy Darnpool		
21	Wigan		
22	Colleen Elliott		
23	Antonia DeLuca		
24	Kara Hanton		
25	Julie Lee		
26	Gamble Gilbertson		