

Galway Elementary PTA
January 4, 2005
Meeting Minutes

CALL TO ORDER at 7: 08 p.m. by PTA Co-President Sandy Rogers

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The Nov minutes were approved as distributed in a motion by Susan Payton that passed unanimously.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

Nominating Committee - would like both long time and new families represented
Sierra Grill was very gracious at our PTA Holiday Dinner
MCPS Operating Budget comments are due by Friday

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT:

New Staff - Chris Hoffner 2-3 SBLC and Michelle Bernardi in ESOL
Feb 1 & 3 Jump rope and Hoops for Heart for grades 3-5, plan to add K-2 next year
MCPS 2005-06 calendar is out
March 1-10 testing in grade 3
CTBS testing March 16-22 grade 2
Gifted/Talented testing in mid-April for grade 2
MCPS Budget - additional staffing: Counselor for over 700 students, Building Services 10 portables and 4 staff members, Reading Recovery part time, Psychologist serves 6 schools.
Materials - doing well, some catch-up in 5th grade new materials

TEACHER'S REPORT:

Planning a Math explanation night for parents

TREASURERS' REPORT:

Several teachers have not submitted reimbursement requests for Welcome Back Money
Reports distributed

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Book Fair: Volunteers are needed to "learn the ropes" at the Spring Book Fair. This is Jo Talley's last year at Galway ES and she has information to pass on to someone willing to take on the book fair position. The Spring fair will be buy one get one free.

Consortium: Anne Carson - Galway ES will be hosting the May 23 Consortium meeting. There are concerns about trends in High School selection.

Cultural Arts: Debbie Van Demark

Working on booking Kevin Reese "A Perfect Balance"

Avoiding assemblies in Jan-Feb because of the play and none in March because of testing.

Heritage Night: The Galway PTA will host Family Heritage Night on Friday, March 4, 2005 from 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. There will be food samples from families, entertainment and prizes for students who learn about other cultures. If you would like to bring a native dish for the food tasting please contact Kim Jones at 301-890-7366 or email at kdcjones@aol.com. You may also

contact Leela Patnaik, Co-chair at 301-890-2322 or at dtnestea@yahoo.com. The registration forms will be send in the Friday Folders by January 14 and the cost will be \$1.00 per person. Teachers will be provided with fact sheets and materials if they would like to incorporate this into their class discussions in social studies, geography or art. For those students who participate in native dress, there will be a parade.

Webpage: Lee for Petra Slezak. Hosting bill should come any day. Please send any forms that you would like included on the webpage..

Gifted and Talented: applications for Middle School magnets are due this Friday.

Galway Student Handbook and Directory: The Galway 2004-2005 Student Handbook and Directory was distributed on Friday, Dec17. The cost to publish it was \$646. I would like to thank Mrs. Linda Taylor and Ms. Annette Ffolkes for their assistance. The handbook portion will be put on the Galway webpage(we will NOT put directory information online). A note will placed in the PTA Newsletter for parents who may not have received their copies. A PDF of the Handbook and Directory will be sent to Mr. Sweeney for paper distribution to staff. If anyone has comments or suggestions for next year, please contact Debbie Van Demark at vandemarks@comcast.net or 301-890-0046

Hands On Science: Need a teacher for the 2/3 grade class.

Health & Safety: The numerous safety issues with the parent drop-off and pickup parking lot were discussed. The rules for using the parking lot will be added to the PTA Newsletter. Ms. Ffolkes will ask the Montgomery Co Police to visit and for MCPS Security Officers to come as well.

Staff Appreciation: Gail Wolf - luncheon scheduled for May 3.

Volunteers: Sheree Gripper - January is her last month as Volunteer Coordinator as she is moving out of the area. Everyone thanked her for her support to the school.

Newsletter: Susan Payton said that the Newsletter will go out in hard copy 4 times a year. The next deadline is January 10.

OLD BUSINESS: Incorporation: Volunteers are needed to follow up on the incorporation documentation process by the March meeting

NEW BUSINESS:

Nominating: Please sign up to be on the committee. A slate of candidates is needed for the March meeting.

Bylaws Review - Volunteers are needed to review the updated Bylaws and recommend them for approval at the February meeting.

Fairland Green Homeowners Assoc. Donated \$250 to Galway PTA - Melvin Jones

ADJOURNMENT moved by Lee Slezak at 8:15pm and passed unanimously.
Next meeting is February 1.