

AG Middle School PTO Committee Chair and General PTO Meeting Minutes September 9, 2015

The meeting was called to order at 8:54am.
Those in attendance are attached.

Welcome

Katharine Bolt welcomed the group along with Amy Godwin and introduced the Exec Board members.

Treasurer's Report

We voted and approved the proposed budget for 2015-16.

Lauren Ball spoke about the \$42,000 carryover from last year and explained how every year we have carryover money that covers back to school/beginning of the school year expenses.

AG raised over \$123,000 last year through Invest in Excellence and our goal for this year is \$95,000 or more.

Lauren talked about each committee's budgets and reminded committee chairs that the PTO doesn't pay taxes on payments made directly to vendors. Therefore, vendors need to bill the PTO directly to avoid taxes especially expenses over \$100. Email check requests to Lauren Ball or put them in the PTO box in the staff room. Check requests may take a few weeks to be processed. If vendors need our tax information, it is on the AG website along with other expense forms. Lauren also discussed that there needs to be a second person to witness cash expenses without a receipt, ie. tips.

Committee chairs are responsible for recording individual checks from their committees, rolling change, removing staples from forms, and having two people present to count cash.

Principal's Report

Mr. Folk informed the committee chairs about the key fob system to use to shorten the checkin process. Using the key fob system, committee chairs will only need to enter where on campus they will be. Debbie Featherstone in the office can order the key fobs.

Mr. Folk reported that the school year was off to a smooth start including transportation. We are still working on the issue of having many substitute bus drivers. Mr. Folk is excited about our new staff and the talent we have joining us from other schools. The academic emphasis for our school system is on literacy. Ann Clark, the new CMS Superintendent, set literacy goals for our district. AG teachers will get help with reading apprenticeship, analyzing text using close reading techniques and incorporating that information with our world today.

Middle School Matters: The first meeting on October 13 will be on social media. Mr. Folk mentioned the book "How to Raise an Adult" and hopes to do a talk around the book's concepts.

Technology: The new chrome books are working well and he would like to add more. Our school has applied for a grant from the Jimmie Johnson Foundation for a digital learning space versus the traditional computer lab. We will know this fall if AG will receive the grant. Many classes can be offered through the state level through virtual learning.

President's Report

Katharine Bolt mentioned Policy and Procedures are on the AG PTO website including forms.

Committee Reports

Bulldog Bulletin goes out Wednesday mornings and all submissions are due the Friday before to be included.

Directory and Yearbook are still accepting ads. Ad sales are on track with similar numbers from last year.

Schoolmates, which supports Sedgfield school, had back to school breakfast for Sedgfield staff.

Inreach/Outreach Committee are still collecting school supplies.

AG book fair will be held at Barnes and Noble Southpark location in November. The book fair dates on the back of our meeting agenda are incorrect. The book fair will be held on Friday, November 20 through Sunday, November 22. There will be exciting events at the store this year. This event is a great time to stock your library, do some early holiday shopping and support AG.

Friday, November 20, AG Coffee House 6-8pm- Come see student performances from the band, orchestra, chorus, drama, and language arts departments.

Saturday, November 21, Family Day 10am-2pm- Gift wrapping available for all those gifts you buy!

Friday, November 19-Sunday, November 22: AG Art Showcase

AG gets a portion of all sales-including sales at the cafe! The committee needs parent volunteers to help us on Friday and Saturday. If you are available for a two-hour shift during the hours above or if you can help hang art for the showcase on Friday morning, please contact Renee Foster (reneemark@carolina.rr.com or Jen Huff (jarhuff@yahoo.com)).

Invest in Excellence chairs Katie Catron and Amy Strawser spoke about the funds raised through Invest and how the funds were used to purchase chrome books, iPads, software for the school, campus beautification items, and donations made to Sedgfield. Last year, 340 families donated and \$30,000 was raised from matching contributions.

Bulldog Prayers is in need of a leader. The group meets in the gym on Thursdays.

Chess Club is now a year long program.

Prospective Parent date is on October 20 from 9-10am and multiple school tours will be held then.

AG School Store needs 3 more volunteers for early lunch shifts (10:30am-noon) once per month for 1.5 hours on Mondays or Tuesdays.

Amy Godwin thanked the committees who have already been working hard to get the year started off well. A special thanks to Camp Bulldog, Volunteer Coordinators, Bulldog Bulletin, Media Center, Back to School Forms, Ad Sales, Office Volunteers, Spirit Wear, Campus Beautification, Copy Shop and volunteers collecting the consolidated payment forms.

Upcoming Meetings

September 21, 4-5:00 pm: SLT Meeting

September 24, 5:45-6:30 pm: TD Parent Meeting

6:30-8 pm: Back to School Curriculum Night

October 1, 8:30 am: PTO Exec Meeting