

Greenbelt Elementary School PTA General Meeting

October 4th, 2011 begins 7:16pm.

By Gretchen Schock, Secretary

Ms. Case, Music Teacher

Ms. Case's students sang and danced for the parents to celebrate National Hispanic Heritage Month. Ms. Case shared the news that the school has been awarded a MSAC grant for grades K-1-2. Linda Fang, Chinese storyteller and calligrapher will be coming to teach the students calligraphy and then will do 2 assemblies for the entire school. MSAC is paying 1/ 2 of the grant money of \$1300 and the PTA will be matching it. A bamboo brush will be given to each student to use for calligraphy.

Dates to remember:

December 9th Montpelier Mansion Governor's House the 4,5 and 6th grades will be performing.

5th grade parents there will be another ballroom competition this year at the Bowie Center on February 4th.

Monica Gaines, Principal

Ms. Gaines introduced two new teachers for 1st and 6th grades. She stated that they worked hard to get exceptional teachers not just bodies to fill the classroom. The two teachers have not received email addresses yet but when they are assigned they will be put on the website.

<http://www1.pgcps.org/greenbeltes/index.aspx?id=57910>

School Improvement Plan is to come up with major strategies to increase reading, math and science.

With Media Specialist hours cut it cuts into accelerated reader program. Melissa Sites (parent) has volunteered to work with the kids but could use more parents volunteering to help in the media center. We want kids to read for fun! October 27th "Books the Magic is Real" assembly for the whole school. Joe Ramano does a show introducing books with magic tricks. Ms. Gaines asked if the PTA would sponsor assembly. Sheila asked what the budget would be for us to pay for that; Melinda Brady (treasurer) reported that we would have to add it to the budget.

October 28th Story Book Parade. Kids are to dress up in a costume that represents their favorite storybook character. Still trying to figure out the logistics but we will need volunteers to help coordinate the kids and to get them dressed in their costumes.

Walk to School Day- October 5th, 2011

Karen Yoho explained that students are encouraged to walk to school instead of taking a bus or parents driving them into school. This is an international event. Parent volunteers are there to corral the kids and keep an eye out in case of emergency. Parents who previously volunteered were asked to raise their hands to show who they were.

Bernard Kelley: Boxwood

Julia Shapiro: Boxwood

Jen Brown: Greenbelt East

Gretchen Schock: Plateau Place

Rafael's Race

Kirsten Dabelko talked about Rafael's Race and announced that registration is open. We need runners so please sign up! This event is 100% teacher supported. Vanderlei Martins (Rafael's father) passed around the maps for the 1K and 5K route so that everyone could see them. Raffle tickets are for sale and some of the prizes include Redskins tickets, hotel stay at the Marriott, skate party for 8 kids. A flier went home in the backpacks to purchase raffle tickets. On October 9th, Sunday, we will be selling raffle tickets outside of the Co-Op grocery Store. Please bring friends, even kids who don't go to GES!

Scholastic Book Fair

Karen Yoho talked about the sale and how students can shop and make wish lists. There will be a family night and percentage of the proceeds goes back to the school. Books will be distributed in each classroom. Volunteers are needed during the school day to help students make their wish lists and also to assist with cashier duties. Karen will set up a volunteer spot sign up calendar. Earn a free book for volunteering.

Lucy Dirksen, PTA President

Lucy asked about changing the meeting time from 7pm to 6:30pm. Huge NO from the room and the item was dismissed entirely.

Reminder that October 10th is ***Males Make a Difference*** at the school. And October 27th is a Spooktacular Concert at Roosevelt High School at 7pm.

Meeting adjourned at 7:55pm so parents could break into groups for the Open Forum:

Arts Committee- Julia Shapiro

Green Committee- Jacob Novick

Events Committee- Elizabeth Yun