

**Garrisonville Elementary PTO Meeting  
Minutes  
August 19, 2019**



- **Meeting Called to Order by Erica Edenton at 6:33pm**
- **Pledge of Allegiance**

**Welcome**

- **2019-20 Executive Board Introduction**
  - President – Erica Edenton
    - Went to GES in 5<sup>th</sup> grade. Son also went to GES. She now has daycare kids that are in 3<sup>rd</sup> grade at GES and 7<sup>th</sup> at AG Wright.
  - Vice Presidents – Tammy Atkins & Todd McLean
    - Tammy's kids are former Gators. Todd is dad to a 1<sup>st</sup> Grader and preschooler
  - Treasurer – Jen Crick
    - Has a new middle schooler & 3<sup>rd</sup> grader at GES. Received promotion at work so is stepping down from the treasurer position.
  - Secretary – Meghann Gillette
    - Has a 3<sup>rd</sup> grader and a Kindergartner
- **Vote in new Treasurer – Jessica Whiteley**
  - New Kindergarten mom
  - Nominated by Erica Edenton. Tammy Atkins seconded the nomination. Welcome Jessica!
  - Jessica will be trained by Jen and take over responsibilities at the end of August.
- **Welcome new parents, teachers, and new PTO teacher representatives**
  - Teacher representatives are:
    - Mrs. Carson – Instructional Technology Resource Teacher
    - Mrs. Golles – Librarian

- Mrs. Grosser – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher
- What is the PTO & what do we do?
  - Our purpose is to make the school a better place for our kids to learn. We host fun events to outfit our classrooms, assist our amazing teachers, and create a positive sense of community and pride in our school.
- How can you participate?
  - Vote
  - Attend Meetings
  - Read the Minutes
  - Follow us on Facebook
  - Volunteer (NEW volunteer incentives for teachers and families)
    - Gator PTO “Bingo” Cards
      - Attend meetings, spirit nights, volunteer at events and earn a stamp
      - PTO will keep each family’s card
      - Don’t forget to sign in at spirit nights!!!
      - Each square stamped is an entry into a drawing at the end of the year for \$100 gift card
        - 2 separate drawings – one for teachers and one for parents
  - Join and become an active member
    - \$10 dues to join and you will receive our PTO calendar

### **Communication**

- Please do not hesitate to reach out to us for any questions or suggestions! We love fresh ideas! Email us at [gesparent.teacher.organization@gmail.com](mailto:gesparent.teacher.organization@gmail.com) or message us on our Facebook page.
- The Board meets with Ms. White and Mrs. Odlum once a month or more if needed, and Board members communicate regularly throughout the month. We have a very open line of communication with parents, teachers, staff, and committee chairs to keep things running smoothly. \*Teamwork makes the dream work!\*

### **Thank You!!!**

- To everyone who donated and/or helped with teacher lunch on August 6th
- Lots of sponsors this year:
  - Junior Smiles paid for the agendas

- Long Family Markets sponsored website and calendars
  - Donated free produce to the new teachers who have not yet received a paycheck
- Debbie Stump, realtor, sponsored website and calendars
- Gracie Barra of Stafford sponsored the calendar and \$500 towards Boosterthon shirts
- Star Nails sponsored website
- Meghann Gillette – Gator Gear, PTO Calendar
- Kate Shifflett – Check out our website [www.GATORPTO.com](http://www.GATORPTO.com)
- Tammy Atkins – getting all of our spirit nights set up for the entire year!

### **Budget Report**

- Over/Under
  - Income
    - Membership – we have 143 members with more people still signing up!
    - Gator Gear – Gator Gear is selling really well. We will set up Gator Gear at back to school night and at any spirit nights that we can. We will also be doing a Gator Gear online ordering fundraiser soon!
    - Student Agendas – \$2,900 saved due to FULL cost sponsorship by Junior Smiles of Stafford
    - Boosterthon custom T-shirts this year!
    - Chipotle spirit night made \$330

### **Box Tops and Amazon Smiles**

- New app for phone/tablets
  - Everything is going to become digital – Scan your receipts up to 14 days after purchase to earn credit for GES
  - You may still turn in paper box tops that have not expired
  - We would still like to do contests for most collected, so will notify members close to when we turn them in
  - So far we have almost \$30 in scanned receipts through the app and currently 1,667 cut box tops. Please keep sending them in!
- Amazon Smile link is on our Facebook page!

### **Boosterthon Update**

- Theme is Wild West
- Dates for Boosterthon
  - Monday 8/26 - Pep rallies

- Team Huddles – 8/27-9/5
  - Friday 9/6 – Fun Run
    - Will need volunteers to staff water stations at both runs and throw cornstarch for 4th/5th grade color run
    - Parents are welcome to join and cheer on their Gators!
  - K-3<sup>rd</sup> – 9:30-10:15am
  - Principal Challenge – 10:15 – keeping the challenge a surprise!
  - 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> – Color Run 10:30am
- 
- Boosterthon is giving back \$100K to the Children’s Miracle Network
  - We will need water volunteers and cornstarch throwers the day of Boosterthon, so be on the lookout for the SignUpGenius
  - Suggestions on big item for school to purchase with fundraising monies?
    - We have purchased many big ticket items in the past with monies raised – playground, chromebooks, library makerspace, alternate classroom seating. This year, we may look at several smaller items to fund for the school.

### **After School Enrichment (ASE) Update**

- Working on dates for Fall ASE
- Only doing Fall and Winter ASE this year

### **Volunteering**

- Serving on a committee
- Other volunteer opportunities

### **Committee Chairs Needed (one for each)**

- Trunk or Treat / Harvest Night
- Pancake Breakfast
- Staff Appreciation
- School Store
- Sweet Hearts Dance
- School Beautification

### **Upcoming Events & News**

Monday 8/26 - Boosterthon Pep Rally

Tuesday 8/27 - Back to School night 1st-5th grades 5:15-7:00 p.m.

Friday 8/30 - No School

Monday 9/2 - No School  
Friday 9/6 - Fun Run  
Monday 9/9 - PTO meeting

**Principal's Report, given by Ms. White**

- Thank you to PTO and all of the volunteers!!!
- Check your email – Gator Grams have gone digital
  - Will be updated every 2 weeks
  - Shoutout to Mrs. Carson and Mrs. Page
  - If you did not receive the email, your information needs to be updated in ParentVUE.
  - Link will also be posted on Facebook
- Back to School Night
  - Teachers presenting 3 sessions – each will be the exact same so you will only need to go to one session
  - PTO, Boosterthon employees and our teaching specialists (art, music, etc) will also be there
- Volunteer opportunities outside of PTO
  - Coral sheet was sent home first week of school
  - If you would like to volunteer at school, please fill out and send in
  - Looking specifically for Parent Advisory Committee volunteers
    - 1<sup>st</sup> meeting is mid-September
    - Will be different than PTO – looks at school data, where we want to go as a school and supporting our vision
- School Quality profile
  - a.k.a “School report card”
    - accreditation will be updated mid-September
    - assessment data – tremendous growth across the board from 2017/18 to 2018/19 school year
- Index cards
  - If there are things you'd like to ask, want to hear from certain teachers about certain topics, etc. please leave a note on the cards. We'll invite staff members to speak
    - Previous speakers and topics included teaching specialists (art, library, PE.) and zone regulation
- Boosterthon funds
  - Need suggestions
    - Ideas include more student experiences (authors or speakers coming to school), white board tables, ozobot –

coding in classrooms, standing desks, painting interactive spaces outside, GaGa court

- Will be decided before Boosterthon so it can be promoted to get pledges

### **Planning Committee Meeting (to follow PTO meeting)**

- Boosterthon
- Questions or Comments

### **PTO Members in Attendance**

1. Dr. Kizner
2. Ms. White
3. Mrs. Odlum
4. Erica Edenton
5. Sheila Aikens
6. Ashley Harrell
7. Jennifer Crick
8. Michele Golles
9. Anne Marie Carson
10. Dianna Cookson
11. Amtulnoor Grosser
12. Tammy Atkins
13. Meghann Gillette
14. Jessica Whiteley
15. Kate Long
16. Kate Shifflet
17. Lindsay Cole
18. Heather Ulstad
19. Diane Henion
20. Bridgette Farrell-Kuzma
21. Todd McClean
22. Berit Aloisio