

**Glen Forest PTA General Meeting
December 11th, 2008 6:30-7:30pm**

2008-2009 school year PTA officers

President	Alison Lawrence	
Recorder	Lesley Stuler	
Membership Chair & Fundraising		Kevin Leung
Fundraising Chair	Karen Haworth	
Treasurer Co-Chair	Lisa Frankovich	
Treasurer Co-Chair	Maria Laguna	
Boxtops Chair (+Safeway and Giant)		Cynthia Torres
Title I Rep	Katrina Johnsau	
Glen Forest Administrators:		
GF Principal	Elizabeth Aldonas	
GF Assistant Principal	Danielle Freese	
GF Assistant Principal	Tim Slayter	

1. Welcome

Board members not in attendance: Alison, Kevin, Karen, Cynthia

GF admin in attendance: Aldonas, Freese

Number of parents in attendance: 9 at 7pm

Introduction of officers

Translator: not officially here tonight – provided by Meredith Allen, teacher

2. Principal's Report

- Reminder Cultural Friday tomorrow morning, focus on Latino culture – in library.
- Special guests tomorrow – in town for the national education conference this week – 14 visitors from Singapore. Glen Forest chosen to showcase coaching and mentoring models practiced. Instructional coach; reading and math specialists' will meet with them to provide an overview of the strategies GF utilizes. Demonstrates the caliber of teachers we have here.
- Budget – county budget and school budget bleak. Lots of input on decision making. Go to Fairfax County website, to school board under documents to see the tier of cuts is listed. How far and how many cuts will be determined how much money is received. Kay Corey (school board member for our district) is willing to come to next meeting Jan 15 to discuss budget. Modified calendar is in tier 3, there is a possibility that GF could go back to a regular school calendar. Members in attendance unanimously voted for Kay to be invited. Bring your questions, translators will be available.
- Dec 23rd last day of school before holiday. Dec 24-Jan 4 school is closed. Register for intersession now.
- Thanks provided for attending the curriculum fair and thanksgiving dinner .

3. President's Report - none

4. Treasurer's Report – Bake sale brought in \$310.00. Pie sale unknown. Goal for translator headsets – about 5,000 - how close are we to this?

5. Recorder's Report – requested minutes from Oct 23rd as the recorder was unable to attend, unfortunately none are available.

6. Fundraising Chairperson's Report – borders gift wrapping event – Dec 23rd 9pm-midnight and Dec 24th from 7am-7pm. Sign up now to wrap gifts. People make donations to GF school.

7. Membership Chairperson's Report – Kevin not here

8. Boxtops Chairperson's Report – GF will receive a donation of box tops from a parent with children that used to attend GF. Snow people and turkey flyers are out there for collecting boxtops. It is fine to place extra boxtops in a baggie and send in..

9. Teacher Rep. – Meredith Allen, Lori Kuzniewski and Kara Moody - always looking for volunteers to assist in the classroom -career day end of year – come in to talk to students. International night - think of ways to show your cultural: dress, dance, Fashion show – will take place if there are volunteer coordinators. Question posed? How are PTA minutes communicated to Glen Forest teachers. Best option is for the recorder to ask

Lynne to put on web and use “staff news” .

10. Title 1 Rep report – Katrina’s notes from the most recent meeting she attended with representation from each Title I school in Fairfax County: 1. discussion of a cyber café for parents to come in and look for jobs or use the internet – brings the parents into the school. We have this here and it is underused. Liaisons can assist and help parents in using the computer. Fall and spring computer class for parents. We need to promote this resource, what it offers. Attendance slowing dropping off in the parent center. Any ideas of how to bring people in, please share. 2. After school programs – parent volunteers and teacher volunteers – examples are: jr programs, science, frisbee, board gaming and a program for invite only for free. GF has a program for kids at a higher level of risk in the mornings and afternoons, kids identified by teachers. Activities for a fee and/or free. 3. fundraising – many had partnerships with churches and receive school supplies, box tops. GF has business partners. Could this be an option for purchasing headsets? Or funding for afterschool programs? 4. network with teachers to provide tasks for parents to do in the parent room – at times here there hasn’t been work to do. GF always has a need for assistance in the library. Recommendation to advertise this in Tuesday folders – constantly.

Update on afterschool activities at the last PTA meeting results of the survey were shared - there were a lot of people that wanted to do things after school but no volunteers to do it. More of a wish list. If interested let Alison know. Comments from the members: Could be a language barrier or parents not comfortable leading activities. Need leaders to make it happen. Desire for the statistics to be sent home with key highlights from the benefits of afterschool activities to generate more interest. Katrina interested in assisting in afterschool activities - art based, painting, etc. Alison is the key contact. 4-H option of a resource. Need to abide by the *Regulation* – all people that are not members of our community go through a background screening. If a parent of the school volunteers they don’t need to go through the strenuous screening.

11. New business - None

12. Next meeting is Thursday January 15 at 6pm

Meeting adjourned at 7:25pm

Respectfully submitted, Lesley Stuler