**Gate City Charter School for the Arts**

**Friends of Gate City Meeting Minutes**

**Date:** Thursday, January 14, 2016

**Time:** 1:30pm

**Location:** 7 Henry Clay Drive, Merrimack NH, Kindergarten Room

**Attendance:**

Nadia Doty

Dani Preston

Jenny Hitzeman

Heather Tyler

Amy Savoie

Charisa Martin

Hilary Henderson

Sarah Hall

Megan King

Betsy Moore

Melanie Butler

Kim Luongo

Karin Cevasco

Kimberly Horstberg (sp?)

Priscilla Cormier

1. **Snow Ball- Betsy Moore (1:30pm)**
2. Last year was successful, and she asked for volunteers to help run it.
3. She passed out a form that people could put their contact info on to help.
4. Many dates were discussed, but She is thinking that it could be April 1, 2016 Caribbean themed or to coincide with the Book Fair’s theme (Peace love and happiness)
5. She mentioned that Debbie had said there was a little bit of a budget for that. She is thinking of purchasing a disco light on Amazon. People would arrive early to decorate to cut down on stress.
6. She said that the kids could make some of the decorations, and input their ideas too.
7. Usually, they go to BJ’s and get snacks, and she said they made a few hundred dollars
8. **Global Leadership Group- Betsy Moore (1:40pm)**
9. Intended for the older kids to work with Generis International to meet, talk about current events, customs of other countries, trying to develop the kids into becoming upstanding world citizens.
10. Open to 5th grade on up, but mature 4th graders welcome. She thought one Friday a month but Dr Cane is suggesting 2 Fridays a month. She is looking at Friday afternoon after school for a time frame.
11. She mentioned she has a friend from Uganda who would come and do a tribal dance, or some could bring international food. An initiative to raise funds for a school in Uganda would be introduced, and this club will be several years in the making.
12. Also could reach out to other schools to see if they want to work with our kids. Music/snack/fun so that they’ll want to come back. She passed around a form to have people help.
13. **Introductions of those present- Sarah Hall (1:45pm)**
14. **Teacher Update- Mrs Savoie (no new updates) (1:50pm)**
15. **Review of December minutes- Charisa Martin (2:00pm)**
16. **Red Sox Fundraiser Update- Charisa Martin (2:10pm)**
17. Debbie had sent her the dates possible for a Red Sox fundraiser for the school
18. She put it out there to see if someone would spearhead it, or if there was an interest
19. Karin offered that she had sent Debbie info on a Fisher Cats fundraiser
20. It will be their 100th birthday, and there will be better parking, in selection and pricing
21. It was agreed that this is a better alternative to the Red Sox fundraiser, and that it would be worth looking into as a community building event.
22. **School Spirit Week- Heather Tyler (2:15pm)**
23. Scheduled for the week of March 21st
24. She said that she wanted it to be more art themed than last year
25. Daily themes include Manic Monday (80s theme), Tacky Tourist Tuesday, Whimsical Wednesday (dress like art), Freedom Thursday (USA theme), Storybook Friday (dress like your favorite storybook character, and teachers could have a secret reader come in to enhance that theme)
26. Heather will e-mail Karin the date and the themes
27. She suggested that the bulletin board beside bathroom would have the Spirit week dates posted so that students and teachers can see it multiple times a day as they pass.
28. The idea of a daily winner will be given up, and the Traveling Trophy would be given for class prizes.
29. **Yearbook- Hilary Henderson (2:25pm)**
30. They were going to do a club but they want to make it smaller and less complicated, not having to teach new technology to a large group of kids in the time allotted
31. She said that instead, graphics will be provided by kids (drawings, art, etc)
32. Yearbooks to be done by April, and April 28th final date to be submitted pictures. The Yearbook committee will meet once a month, and in April twice.
33. Sarah suggested that for custom pages that Hilary do a dry run with a few kids
34. Hilary suggested a party so kids could sign each other’s yearbooks
35. School to receive $3.92 per book as profit versus the initial profit of $4.92; theYearbook will cost $15
36. Sarah offered money from the budget to help fund the cost
37. Hilary explained yearbooks so the newer parents could be brought up to speed. The two customized pages are custom per child that will be all about them
38. Spring pictures April 7th, and although turnaround might not be there, parents could submit pictures anytime either on the school’s collective database or their own.
39. **Margaritas Fundraiser- Charisa Martin (2:30pm)**
40. An e-mail from the staff at Margaritas was read, notifying us that the percentage we could earn from a fundraiser with them was increased from 15% to 20%.
41. Jenny Hitzeman will look into it. As far as dates we were thinking Thursday, February 18th, with a backup dates March 15th. (Art Show and Arts Integration night is March 10th)
42. Kim Luongo suggested giving a flier with a coupon on it to help people remember to mention the school before they dine
43. **Closing/Wrap Up Thoughts (2:35pm)**
44. Jenny had asked the director at Children’s Winter Garden about GCCS clings. The company that school uses is called Stitches and Screens, and pricing is $75 for 500 clings.
45. Melanie asked about Spirit Wear, and Sarah asked for assistance, with Nadia offering to help. Sarah will e-mail Nadia the existing order form, finalizing prices, etc.
46. Amy asked about the Paint and Pour night, and Charisa mentioned the 7th grade fundraiser will take place either the March 11th or 12th, run by Rebecca Frederickson, with info to follow.
47. Hilary asked to get school logo for the yearbooks from Sarah.
48. Nadia suggested exchanging email addresses.
49. Sarah mentioned that we could use parent volunteers for lunch, as well as reshelving for the library, and Kimberly Horstberg expressed interest in re-shelving.
50. **Minecraft Club- Megan King (2:40pm)**
51. She is going to meet with Mr Swann, they determined Monday would be the best day, Megan would have her kids with her, and they’d help her run it. She was thinking we could do it after school. She mentioned Carrie Mitchell would be interested in helping. The club is to
52. Sarah suggested the following: if you are a volunteer you are guaranteed a spot, and then if we don’t have enough volunteers then cancel it. She thought it would be good for kids to help each other and ask for ideas.
53. Megan is scheduled to ask Mr. Swann about good websites to go to that are virus free
54. Sarah suggested holding a parent informational meeting so parents would know about it, and so that she would know what kind of response it would get. She was thinking of doing it weekly for an hour. Megan was saying that we could start at 20 and see if it’s manageable.
55. Dani suggested a sign up rotation for the kids. Sarah thought of the Apple Store and suggested having a “genius bar” for older kids who wouldn’t play, but would be a resource for the younger or more inexperienced kids. She suggested that there be 4 children to float and give advice as needed.
56. **Next meeting was scheduled for Thursday, February 11 in the kindergarten room at 1:30pm.**
57. **Meeting Adjourned at 2:50pm.**