

GATEWAY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

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PTF MEETING MINUTES FOR JANUARY 15, 2008

Welcome

Rich Boyd opened meeting at 7:05 pm with a pledge of allegiance, and introduced Doc Beale to address the audience early in the agenda because Doc had an urgent appointment.

Administrator's Report

Doc thanked everyone for praying for him in his role as Administrator of Gateway Christian School, and indicated that his church is supportive of his position (which he incidentally held three years ago). He shared that this is a challenging time, and that a few parents attended the recent Board meeting and wanted to know the vision of GCS. The board and Doc will be working on that vision and report back to the PTF and parents. He would appreciate our prayers surrounding that task.

Doc expressed that he has a team of people he works with so he can make wise decisions. He added that he not only makes decisions, but that he also listens. Although his position is part-time, he will make himself available most mornings to meet with parents.

Along with the new vision and correction, Doc considers wearing a uniform a privilege and, as such, casual dress will no longer be offered as a reward - nor as a punishment. Gateway will still have casual dress, perhaps the last day of the month, but the children should be proud to wear their uniforms.

Doc declared that he wants GCS to earn its reputation of doing things well, and if there are some things we can't do well, we will drop them. Consequently, there may be some students who won't be accepted at Gateway, because we are not set-up to help everybody. We want to help those we can do a good job with. Doc is thankful for our attention and prayers as he lends some direction to our faculty and staff.

Doc closed by saying, "There is a lot of laughter that occurs at GCS, and we have a great team. You can do a lot with a team that has fun together. I'm privileged to be here serving you and serving the Lord."

Welcome

Rich Boyd shared a devotional from Acts 27:11 which, in summary, referred to a storm which battered a ship and the crew had lost all hope of survival. Paul directed them to keep hope and have courage. Rich paralleled that example to GCS and explained that Gateway is going to have some tough times, but we need to listen to God. There will be conflict, but we should ask, "Lord, what would you have me to do?" We will have some stormy days and some smooth days, but we should pray. Faculty: pray...Board: pray...Parents: pray. We should always look to God for guidance and direction. Rich closed by thanking God for Paul's courage and that the Lord is in control.

Minutes Review and Approval

Rich Boyd asked for a motion to accept the minutes as corrected. Laura Dexter and Lita Curtis motioned and the minutes were accepted.

President's Announcements

Debbie Sharp announced that there were many larger-size uniforms available in the cafeteria, and it is not necessary to give any uniforms to be able to take any.

Debbie Sharp announced that Spring Auction will be Saturday, April 12th at Resurrection Ministries and we do have a caterer. We are looking for a Chairperson, and we have lots of people on the committee.

Jamie Harrison announced that the Missions Lunch is Friday, February 15, where the children learn about different countries and cultures all week. For lunch, the parents bring authentic cultural foods and the children dress up in costumes and bring artifacts. The PTF is seeking volunteers to serve food and clean-up. Ms. Zamora added that the speaker will be Amanda Collins.

Open Floor

Rich Boyd indicated that we lost one volunteer and therefore help is needed to aid in the distribution of hot lunches on Tuesdays (from 11:30 to 12:30).

Mary Nijhuis shared that the Scholastic Book Faire brought in roughly ½ the proceeds as in prior years. She elected to obtain a \$1,000 voucher toward books for the future library, instead of the \$470 cash value. She indicated that the Board will determine whether it makes sense to do this event again, or whether efforts should be placed elsewhere. Lita Curtis indicated that we might want to shift it so it's not so near the Christian Book Faire, and perhaps to schedule it after the Orchestra Night at the LH campus (instead of after the Christmas Play in the GH campus) so it will attract more parents.

Amy Benavidez asked about the status of the 10-plex. Emil Stahli responded that it was "on the Board's plate", and they need to work with the City to get water service, which currently stops at the corner of Lone Tree and Jeffrey. The cost of extending water would be pricy; however, a developer may build next door to the LH campus, so there may be some cost savings there.

Guest Speaker

Detective Kelly Challand, of the County Sheriff's office, is part of the team who searches for missing children and talks with kids who have been sexually assaulted. He addressed the group as a preview for the presentation he would be making on Tuesday, January 22nd at 7pm in the LH chapel (no child care will be provided). Mr. Challand shared that the number of cases has increased so substantially, such that each detective is working on 6-10 cases per month.

Mr. Challand challenged each of us to access the Megan's Law website weekly, because sex offenders move very frequently. He summarized the points he will be discussing next week as follows:

1. What happens if your family becomes a victim?
2. The history of Megan's Law
3. Jessica's Law, and how it is held-up in the court system (pertains to sex offenders not being able to be within 2000 feet of a school)
4. Safety ideas to keep from becoming victims
5. Warning signs to look for in your children
6. Behavioral signs that someone may be attracted to children

Lyndee Monson, parent, asked of GCS teachers are instructed to teach anything to the students to educate them to be safe. The general consensus was that there is no formal teaching.

Dale Doty prayed and the meeting was adjourned at 7:50 pm.