

Cider Mill Council
PTA
every*child*.one*voice*.

PTA Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, Jnauary, 2015
9:15 a.m.

Attendees: Lisa Smith, Lisa Finn, Kristen Schestag, Ginna Yerrall, Carolyn Lym, Dr. Jen Mitchell, Johnna Reuter, Gretchen Jeanes, Cecilia Gargano, Mary Jane Rein, Carolyn Lyon, Vanessa Elias, Jamie L

Principals' Report

Dr. Mitchell:

1. SBAC will take place again this year after April break. The school has not yet received a lot of information on details. Pilot was conducted last year. No results were made available. This year is actual program, not pilot. Results should be received for every child; not positive yet when or how though. Parent meetings will be scheduled when info is available to further discuss details.
2. Please remember to dress children appropriately for the cold weather! The children are only allowed to go outside for recess if they have hat, gloves, warm coat, etc... and it is important to get outside as much as possible. Teachers will be asked to reinforce with students and a blurb will be out in Hot Cider to remind parents.
3. Principal's Message will be distributed to school outlining all new meeting/activities such as book group, child safety, etc.
4. Parent Advisory Board for enrichment is working on some new additions for this year and next including adding world language to 3rd grade curriculum. Looking into ways to change WIN block and add in enrichment this year. More to come for next year as well.

Catherine O'Keefe:

1. Digital Safety Presentation to be held January 20 at 7PM in CM Cafeteria. Will look into having the presentation streamed on public broadcasting website.
2. SCHOOL DISMISSAL MANAGER - New system for child dismissal service via on-line after school notes will be implemented. It will replace calls to office and written notes. Parents will be able to input where their child is going after school (good for up to 2 weeks) on an on-line system if different than default setting. Information needs to input before 12:30 PM on the day of. Start date: TBD but hoping for end Jan/early Feb. Blast will be sent out soon to announce new system with directions for use. It will be smart phone and ipad adaptable.

President's Report

1. November meeting minutes will be approved and distributed next month along with January meeting minutes. Going forward minutes will be sent to whole school, not just PTA members.
2. Vote for up to \$300 for S. Baurfeld/Book Group will be taken next meeting since there were not enough participants for a quarum. Presentation and kick off scheduled to start late Feb/early March.

3. The current secretary has resigned. A request for any volunteers to take over the spot this year and continue next year was made.
4. Nominating position is open for this year. Any volunteers interested in standing in for this year and continuing into next year was requested.

Treasurer's Report

1. The Cash Flow shows a current balance of \$40,643 through Jan 7, 2015. Budget vs Actual shows outstanding expenses.
2. PTA Teacher Gifts will be determined after ideas from Gifts and Grants is presented. To date, there have been no submissions.
3. Hospitality is OK with current budget.
4. Book fair was a success. \$26,849 in sales (similar to last year). The PTA will receive 25% of sales, the rest to Main Street Books for a profit of \$6-7,000. Chairs did fantastic job!
5. 2 out of 8 teacher grants were completed. Jackie Levenherz sent a thank you for the grant and teacher's brunch.

Secretary's Report

1. Johnna Reuter took over as temporary secretary for today's meeting. Made an announcement for everyone to sign in (sheet in back) for every meeting.
2. November minutes were not approved or distributed. The minutes will be distributed and approved in the February meeting.

Spiritwear

1. Trying to increase sales and get rid of old inventory in anticipation of refreshing offerings for next year. Will sell old inventory at concert nights for all grades. Also, will try to get spirit days going again. T-shirts are worn on spirit days.
2. 3rd Grade Field Day Chair will send blast out to 3rd grade parents closer to field day date to remind everyone to order t-shirts for Field day! Blurb will be out in Hot Cider now.

Parent At Large

1. Dec 4th Board Meeting – The first Budget Meeting for 2015-2016 school year took place on Dec 1. It was not well attended. The Board urges more people to attend meetings coming up.
2. Round Table discussions to focus on STEM will be coming up as well. Date: TBD
3. Technology – CM to launch Learning Commons to transform the library into a more collaborative work setting.
4. Special Ed continues to underperform. Special Ed review is being considered because the gap is widening. Needs a vote to move forward with review.

Misc.

1. Are You Smarter than A Fifth Grader to be held March 13 at the Klune Center from 7-9PM. Slips will be coming out soon to sign children up. T-shirts will be designed in art classes at CM.
2. NAMI CAN Wilton – Child Adolescent Network: Meeting to be held Monday February 23 7-8:30PM at the G&B Cultural Center. Topic: School refusal/avoidance issues which is becoming a growing problem in Wilton.

Meeting adjourned at 10:25 a.m.