

Cider Mill PTA Meeting Minutes

October 8, 2019

Attendees:

Carolyn Lyon, Manisha Patel, Ruth DeLuca, Lisa Smith, Jennifer Falcone, Mandi Schmauch, Laura Rowley, Sabeth Albert, Address Pettibone, Jennifer Lalor, Vanessa Elias, Jacqueline Cox, Savet Constantine, Priya Kottapalli, Ritu Malik, Amanda Patania, Mandy Kuzan, Jen Bell

1. Call to order, 9:21am
2. Welcome by Carolyn Lyon and Meghan Russo
 - Thanks to everyone for joining us today, especially with our special guests
 - Walkathon last week. \$18,500 raised but did not meet our goal, donations are still being accepted. Tie-dye t-shirt signed by all the CM kids was gifted to Officer McLean. Thanks to Amanda Patania for organizing the huge effort.
 - Thanks to Chandra Ring for coordinating school pictures
 - Power School issues are being resolved. If you are still not receiving updates/emails by next week, please contact school secretaries.
 - Met with Chartwells/Brian Reynolds to resolve some of the lunch room concerns. All items will be clearly labeled with pricing. FAQ sheet was sent out to all families.
 - Fifth grade River Study is no longer in the curriculum and has been moved to Fourth grade. Working with Dr. Falcone for more opportunities for parent volunteers to get involved with Science Lab/programs.
 - Because Pizza & Paint (March) was so popular last year, a new event will be added as an after school program, Tiles & Treats, in November.
 - Be Kind Program led by Meghan Russo and Lauren Catalano. Kids will be painting river rocks to be used to promote kindness and decorate the rock garden in the front of the school. Spring project.
3. BOE Candidates introduction and sharing why they are running for the Board of Education
 - Mandi Schmauch, Jennifer Lalor, Ruth DeLuca, Savet Constantine
4. Principal's Report (Dr. Jennifer Falcone)
 - Big thank you to Amanda Patania for the Walkathon!
 - Thank you for the two Sensory Pathway kits which will be leveraged across the four houses. First set-up has been completed in Nod Hill. The others will be completed in the coming weeks.
 - Fourth grade African Drummer was a huge success, very engaging with the kids.
 - Parent Engagement survey coming
 - STEAM innovators lab being developed for WIN enrichment
 - Zero Waste week coming up - week of Oct 21 - raffles and prizes will be incorporated with activities in the classroom.
 - Question raised about sufficiency of balls at recess. Dr. Falcone reiterated that new balls have already been purchased and being used. Contact specific teachers if there is an issue with your child. Second gaga pit also being set-up.

5. PTA Teacher Representatives Report (Jacqueline Cox)
 - PTA membership encouragement/reminders sent
 - 3rd grade Highlight: study of Indigenous people of Connecticut - Newpont Farm field trip - kids working on an artifact museum in the LMC
 - Thank you for supporting the LMC with the fall into reading pumpkin project - all grades!

6. Officer Reports:
 - Treasurer's Report by Manish Patel
 - Fundraising for Walkathon \$18,500 (Goal was \$25,000), Spiritwear sales \$5,000
 - Key Expenses: Fourth grade Drum Challenge \$1400

 - Membership Report by Julie Fowler
 - 325 total members (306 parent members, 19 teachers)

 - Fundraising by Amanda Patania
 - Feedback from Walkathon welcomed. Donations still being accepted!

 - Secretary's Report by Jen Bell
 - Shared minutes from 9/10/19 and made a motion for approval. Seconded by Carolyn. Approved.

7. Committee Reports
 - Hospitality (Sabeth Albert)
 - Next event, Veteran's Day after the Assembly (Nov 11)

 - Gifts and Grants (Michelle Krupa)
 - \$200 to returning teachers, \$300 to new teachers granted for refreshing classrooms

 - SEPTA (Kara Berghaus)
 - Bake sale on Sunday, 10/27. 11-2pm - need volunteers - e-mail wiltonsepta@gmail.com
 - Next meeting 10/16 at 9am at Comstock
 - Stay tuned for Sensory Kids for a parents night out in November

 - WYC (Vanessa Elias)
 - November Events
 - 11/4 - 7pm Dr. Eli Lebowitz, S.P.A.C.E (Supportive Parenting of Anxious Childhood Emotions) Program - WHS Clune Center
 - 11/13 - 10am & 7pm Resilience Formula - Wilton Library
 - Free Play in Wilton considered best practices for neighboring towns

8. HELP NEEDED - OPEN POSITION - Need volunteer to run Bingo Night, Thurs evening Dec 12! If interested, please contact Amanda Patania

9. Meeting ended at 10:25am

Date of next PTA General Meeting: Tuesday, November 12, 2019, 9:15am