

# Cunniff School PTO Meeting

October 2, 2018

## Attendance

Lee Haley, PTO Co-President  
Milton Contreras, PTO Co-President  
Jen Nicholson, Secretary  
Tina Brisson, Co-Treasurer  
Carrie Holland, Co-Treasurer  
Mena Ciarlone, Cunniff Principal  
Mike Tempesta, Cunniff P.E. Teacher  
Will Stirling  
Adam Winston  
Lauren Stefano  
Jackie Airasian  
Carolyn Pipitone  
Carm Bruncati  
Melanie St. Pierre  
Georgia Santander  
Maura Hurley  
Kristen Chapron  
Julie Romei

## Guest Speaker

Mr. Tempesta comes to the Cunniff from teaching P.E. at a private school. He provided an update on the Fun Run, which is changing last year from taking place in the field to Warren Street to Brookline. He plans to discuss it with students in class over the next two weeks. There will be a marathon clock and names will be announced at the finish line on a microphone to create a race atmosphere. Lee asked for a schedule of classes and he is thinking the younger grades will go at the beginning (noon start). He will have a conversation with Mena about how it affects the schedule and prep times for the day of the event. Teachers can record student times. Mr. Tempesta also discussed Field Day. In the past, he has run an Olympic formatted event. Students (and siblings) are placed on red, white and blue teams and remain on their color team for their career at school. Lauren pointed out that she hopes that town wide support (from the rec department and fire department) can remain as it worked out well last year.

## Principal's Update

On Wednesday of last week, Mena attended the Building Committee meeting. The Sustainability Report was presented that outlined renovations. An approximate timeline is not clear yet. The Hosmer is going to be done first and questions exist of what to do

with the Lowell while renovations happen there. It would be more efficient to house our students here and send grade levels over to the new structure while parts of our existing building. There will be a new drop off route with a road running adjacent to Ridgelawn.

## **Upcoming Events**

Fun Run (October 12) – As of today, over \$5,000 has been raised. The permit for the road closure was approved. Discussions are still happening to figure out a finish line. Will mentioned reaching out to the WGB Club to see what they use for their races. An announcement will take place tomorrow congratulating Ms. Tanguay's class for being the first class to meet their goal and freeze pops will be handed out to all the students in her class at dismissal tomorrow. Mena will attach a reminder from the PTO to her Sunday newsletter.

Halloween Party (October 26) – It's a work in progress. The biggest need is getting volunteers. Tony authorized that if we move the boxes downstairs and put them back then we can run the Haunted House in the basement. Milton is getting some high school students to help with moving the boxes in advance so that set up can happen. We were discussing bringing in a professional face painter. Tickets for everything will be \$1 each (entrance, cake walk, face paint, food). We need to start pushing for more cakes than last year for the cake walk. Julie is going to work on making a photo booth and coordinating popcorn pick up to bag from a movie theater. Georgia offered to pick up the popcorn in Cambridge.

Picture Day (November 2) – One or two volunteers is needed. Georgia is able to help and Lee can probably be there.

## **New Business**

Butterfly project – Lauren has been chatting with Mena and Ms. Holden about how to respond to the bathroom incident as a school. This organization has a mission to have a painted butterfly, one for everyone who died in the Holocaust. The plan is that there could be a temporary installation of the butterflies this year and a permanent fixture after renovations. The school is going to develop a curriculum around the subject. There is a children's book called *The Butterfly* by Patricia Polacco to tie into the lesson. It will be the first of four lessons this school year. Modern day implications and how to discuss it with children as parents is something that could be provided by the school to help with these discussions at home.

Winter Social (school dance) – We are choosing a date to hold the event. We are looking at before February vacation and we decided on Friday, February 8. Milton has a DJ contact who is willing to volunteer if he's available.

Scholastic Book Fair is potentially being held the week of November 26. This will be confirmed soon.

## **Fundraisers**

Meadow Farms – (through October 12) All checks made out to Cunniff PTO

Picture Day – November 2<sup>nd</sup>

Box Top Contest – (ongoing) A contest has not started yet. A lot is going on in October. We are going to wait until after events slow down.

Police escort – There will be another raffle to go along with the ride to school in a fire truck raffle that we started last year. We are planning to start selling tickets in November, after Picture Day and before Thanksgiving.

## **Future Business**

Looking for a new Co-Treasurer to join Carrie

Possibly a bake sale for Election Day

A computer has been donated to the PTO.

Lauren and Carm submitted a request for field trip funding from Target (up to \$700) for the 2<sup>nd</sup> grade trip.

**Next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 13 (the 6<sup>th</sup> is Election Day).**