

Cunniff School PTO Meeting

September 11, 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
Anna Nolan
Carolyn Pipitone
Lauren Stefano
Jackie Airasian
Julie Weeden
Adam Winston
Kathy Martin
Will Stirling
Kelly Marini
Erin Macomber
Sharon Deleskey
Cara Mia Bruncati
Melanie St. Pierre
Georgia Santander

Welcome

PTO Co-President Milton Contreas started introductions.

Event Recaps

Teddy Bear Picnic for Pre-K to 1 had a great turnout. Coffee bar in courtyard and front of school for the first day of school also had great feedback.

Financial Snapshot

Goal: \$25,000
In Reserves: \$6,739.25

Principal's Update

Open House (Back to School Night) is scheduled for September 25. An invitation by School Messenger is to follow. One larger presentation will occur versus two repeat presentations.

Summer reading materials are being collected. 100% attendance is the goal for the celebration this Friday afternoon.

One of the faculty goals is to be welcoming to all Cunniff families. We are up to 330 students this year. It is the largest group we've have in two years. The theme is "all is welcome" which goes along with the book by the same title. All students are making paper dolls of themselves (some in art and some on their own) to make a chain of 330 students holding hands.

Upcoming Events

Fun Run is scheduled for October 12. Last year it was our top fundraising event, raising over \$10,000. Lee said new gym teacher is fantastic. At last year's fun run, students ran around the field. Mike suggested using a police detail and using the road in front of the school with parents lining the street and running down and back once. A lot of volunteers are needed. Mapping the route and incentives are still being worked on. This year we need to work on advertising that cash and check donations are preferred as a percentage of online donations went to the company.

Halloween Party – October 26 (the Friday before Halloween), 6-8pm
Maura needs help with the event. The basement is turned into a haunted house and the kids really enjoy the evening.

New Business

- Homeroom Parents – need parent permission to share email with other parents. A sign-up sheet was passed around.
- Traveling Museum of Science - Mena would like if we can bring grade level hands-on experiences in house (rather than funding additional field trips to avoid bus costs).
- International Night – Anna Nolan volunteered to do it again and is looking for a co-chair and volunteers for the event.
- White tiles for Flag Replacement – we are looking for a way to represent everyone in the school. Mena saw white tiles in a school that all students created to represent their heritage. We would need a work order to line the frame of the school. We are looking into the pricing and possibly looking into donations.
- Winter Social (dance) instead of Movie Night? Milton has talked to DJs in the area. Movies have been hard to find a movie that all kids are interested in watching. We could still have food and juice, but play music instead of playing a movie. 5th graders could come up with a theme. As far as picking a date, movie night was in February (looking at February 8 as a possible date). Carm is happy to help.

Fundraisers

Meadow Farms - Julie communicated with them. Last year it was problematic for some people asking for money for the Fun Run and Meadow Farms around the same area. Changing the date for Meadow Farms depends on whether or not we can change the

paperwork. A problem with pushing back the date would be if the gifts would arrive in time for the holidays or not.

Picture Day (November 2nd) – using the same company as last year as they were very efficient. A retake is scheduled for a couple of weeks following.

Box Top Contest – need volunteer. Online submissions and groups of 50 need to be separated to be sent in. Coming up with incentives is the other component. Lauren Stefano volunteered to work with Carolyn. Every year we consistently make \$1,000 profit. They cut a check for us twice a year so we need to submit by the end of October for a check in December and again in March for a check in April. A form was sent home for Pre-K/K already. Some schools in Massachusetts can make \$10,000. There is great potential to reach out in the community, but we've never gone that route before. Nursing homes or grocery stores are potential routes to consider. We need to look into what happened to Amazon Smile.

Fire Truck Raffle – should we do two? Fire department was happy to do it twice for us. Also we should look into the police department.

5th Grade Update – Erin Macomber and Julie Weeden

- Fund Project Adventure, t-shirts, yearbook, end of year lunch
- The first 5th grade fundraiser is the dunk tank at the Faire on the Square. Last year it raised \$550.
- Other fundraisers include car wash, bake sale
- Starting with \$2,000 left over from last year

Final Thoughts

We are looking for someone to headline the event like Becca Pizzi did last year. We plan to ask Launch if they would donate an hour of jumping to the class who raises the most money.

Venmo is up and running for donations.

Next meeting is the first Tuesday, October 2.