

**CES PTO General Meeting Minutes
November 10, 2015**

Attendance: Lori Davidson, Susan Berlew, Ashley Nadeau, Alyssa Martin, Michelle Harris, Stacy Huisman, Beatriz Villalobus, Dyane Arnn, Luz Helena Arayo, Michelle Moore, Sarah Shaw, Kathy Alvarez, Michelle Copeland, Jenny Vidotto, Kim Richardson, Flora Sanders, Reigan O'Quinn, Lynn Barker, Luann Moffett, Krista Dragoo, Ashley Harris, Karen Shafer

Call to Order: 6:30pm

I. Welcome/Call to Order – Susan Berlew thanked everyone for coming to our evening meeting which allows some of our working parents to attend. We are off to a good start. Registration went well.

II. President's Report

a. Thank you – A special thank you to Heidi Bryan and Sarah Gauch (Publicity) for their work on the PTO bulletin board. Feel free to send field trip pictures to them so they can add them to the board. Thanks to Lisa Chamberlain (Membership) for getting everyone registered for the PTO. Also, thanks to Lisa Moreland for getting everyone their directory, and Kim Taylor for handling the advertising.

b. iPad use in the classroom – PTO recently purchased 68 new iPads from the spring disbursement. We wanted to see how the teachers were using the iPads, so the teachers (with the help of some students in 3rd grade) put together a presentation. Some of the activities they are doing on the iPads...handwriting, ChatterPix app, games, books, ShowMe app to explain mathematical thinking, AirServer (iPads linked to Promethean board), Passion Projects, science lab, PuppetEdu app (which created the presentation), iStation, and Reflex Math. Preschool is using them as well.

III. Ms. Wagnon's Report – This is a busy time of year. We have participated in the Boosterthon fundraiser for eight years, and we have had another successful event. They are very complementary of our school, and Ms. Wagnon and Mrs. George recently attended a luncheon with Boosterthon. Veteran's Day is also coming up. The show choir will be performing, and we will have some special guests. Grandparent's Day is next week.

IV. Executive Reports

a. VP Report (Michelle Moore) - Disbursements and Volunteer Recognition – An email was sent recently to vote for disbursements in the amount of \$16,748. This will meet needs across every grade level as well as Special Services. The Disbursement committee met, and some items will be put off until next year. The committee appreciates the parent requests that were sent. The most expensive item on the list is the water bottle filler stations. The deadline to vote is tonight at

midnight. The results will be posted in the newsletter, and the proposal will be presented at the School Board meeting on November 16. The Volunteer of the Month program was a little challenging last year because we did not receive that many nominations. We have changed the program to one volunteer each nine weeks. Please let Michelle know if you see anyone who deserves special recognition. Please email nominations by Friday, November 13.

b. Secretary Report (Lori Davidson) – We need to approve our meeting minutes from September 8, 2015. Michelle Moore motioned to approve and Sarah Shaw seconded.

c. Treasurer Report (Karen Shafer) – Karen gave us a brief summary of revenues. We had \$25,000 brought in in initial revenue, Boosterthon netted about \$26,000, and the Spirit Shop has brought in about \$20,000.

d. Communications (Dyane Arnn) – Dyane just asked that we be mindful of the 5pm Thursday deadline for the newsletter.

V. Committee Reports

a. Outreach – CIFIC – (Flora Sanders) – We are kicking off the Christmas Is For Children angel drive tonight. CES has 130 angels, and we have an open order for 10 more. 65% of our angels are aged 5-10, and we have some up to age 14. The drop off date for gifts is Monday, December 7. We are also doing a drive for Phillips Wish which benefits the homeless. We will be collecting blankets and outerwear (new or gently used) in the front bins of the school. Ann Breeding from CIFIC came to speak. She told us about Trisha Murphy-Rae who founded the organization in New Jersey 25 years ago this season. CIFIC provided for 1750 angels last year. The angels that CES is providing for come from the Battered Women's Foundation and Passage of Youth Services which is children in foster care. We will be purchasing a want, need, and something educational for our angels. CIFIC is also hosting a food drive up to December 19.

b. Membership – Everything went well. We had 225 families join and many teachers. This is about 50% of the families at CES.

c. Programs – Morris Brothers, our first program, went well. The entire year is booked and we have many fun programs coming up.

d. Student Activities (Alyssa Martin) – Book Fair is coming up next week. The theme is Monster Book Fair. You can sign up to help via the Sign up Genius link in the newsletter. On November 19, Spirit Shop will open 10-1pm to coordinate with the book fair. On November 20, we will have a Grandparents Mingle from 10:30-12:30. They will have some snacks and book raffles. Set up is this Friday at 1:30.

e. Hospitality (Kim Richardson) – They are doing a great job. The next luncheon is December 2. PediaQ will be sponsoring the luncheon, and they will have a Christmas theme.

f. Directory – Directories went home last week.

g. Spirit Shop – They will be open on Grandparent’s Day.

h. Community Partners – The event at Texas U Can Paint made \$200. You can also register with Amazon Smile to donate to the school. More information will come home in Wednesday folders.

i. Teacher Appreciation (Becky Johnson) – The TAW committee is working hard to get lunch sponsored for the teachers every day. They will each get a swag bag. Speedy Bee has already donated a silver carwash to every teacher. If you or a business you know would like to help sponsor a lunch, please reach out to Steph Richardson or Becky Johnson.

j. Homeroom Parents (Lisa O’Donnel) – Amy Armstrong will be sending out information about the upcoming holiday parties.

k. Beautification (Kathy Alvarez) – Kathy mulched and weeded the campus over the weekend. The committee is hoping for some funds to replace the picnic tables that are on the preschool side of the building. Mrs. Fielder mentioned that they use the tables under the awning near the playground more often.

l. Fall Fundraiser – Carson Smith provided Susan with a report on Boosterthon. We had 73% of our students getting pledges from 44 states and 12 countries. The students ran 14,698 laps. We have collected just under 99.9% of the pledges (\$27,076).

m. Spring Fundraiser – (Ashley Harris) – Bidding for Good is up and running, so you are able to make purchases now that might be great for stocking stuffers. There are Buy Now options, and you can also buy tickets on the website. We would also love more sponsors either as a family or business. One fun item will be when Ms. Wagon is taped to the wall on January 9. The committee will be selling strips of tape for \$5. The Spring Fundraiser is March 5.

VI. Special Guests

Julie Thannum (Assistant Superintendent for Board and Community Relations) – Mrs. Thannum came to talk about rezoning. There are handouts and answers to FAQ on the website:

http://www.southlakecarroll.edu/pages/CISD/Depts/Board_Community_Relations/Attendance_Rezoning

The district has been monitoring ongoing growth and will be making short and long term recommendations to the school board. By 2017, CES will be over 106% capacity. There are still 103 empty lots left for future CES families to build on. Walnut Grove and Johnson are all near 100% functional capacity. She went over the current elementary zones. In the 1990s, the growth was all south of 1709. Now, we have just two elementary schools serving the north where the most growth is currently happening. The committee did look at creating a sixth elementary school, but they would need \$1.5 million just to staff the school. Carroll High School continues to grow and the facility has the ability to be added on to if necessary. The projected growth for the student population is 8500, and we expect to grow 1.6% over the next 5 years. We have enough capacity at Eubanks and Dawson to have all of CES attend those schools thus creating a direct feeder system for CES. The district really wants to hear from the parents of students at CES – do the families want the direct feeder system with all students attending Eubanks and Dawson? The other issue we are currently facing involves the preschool. If the preschool is moved, growth at CES could be accommodated. Preschool could possibly be moved to DIS. Another option would be to move the preschool program to Old Union and add 10 classrooms there which would require a bond. The Old Union zone is declining. It is also a possibility to have volunteer rezoning. Transportation would only be provided to the school that your neighborhood is zoned for. Please email questions and input to rezoning.input@southlakecarroll.edu

Ms. Wagon also addressed the issue. We have 577 students this year and are expecting 608 next year. Some of our specialized programs like Language Science will need to take over the PTO rooms.

VII. Announcements

- a. Fall Disbursement Vote deadline is TONIGHT at midnight!
- b. Spirit Shop – Open every Thursday 10am-1pm
- c. CES All Pro Dad’s Breakfast – Friday, November 13 at 7am
- d. Book Fair – November 16th-20th
- e. CIFC Gift Drop Off – Monday, December 7th
- f. Holiday Parties – Friday, December 18th
- g. Next PTO Meeting – Tuesday, February 9th at 9:15am

Meeting Adjourned – 8:06pm