

CES PTO General Meeting Minutes September 8, 2015

Attendance: Dyane Arnn, Susan Berlew, Lori Davidson, Cassie James, Susan Curtis, Pam Hubik, Monica Mehta, Alyssa Martin, Annette Holland, Mandy Graves, Stephen Webb, Karen Shafer, Steph Richardson, Lindsey Baines, Laura Drap, Karen Bowman, John Denk, Stephanie Vierus, Julie Danc, Daphne Romen-Taylor, April Hince, Ashley Harris, Amy Hinkel, Michelle Copeland, Gitta Winberg, Sarah Higgiston, Ashley Nadeau, Lenora Nielson, Jenn Baldwin, Ann Vincent, Lisa Chamberlain, Michelle Moore, Ginger Forst, Cheri Johnson, Fanny Dunagan, Shawna Wilson, Shelley Story, Lisa Moreland, Aya Robin, Donna Nystrom, Kathy Alvarez, Daphnie Pilgrim, Michelle Perry, Michelle Peritore, Flavia Araujo, Dawn Green, Cecilia Ceroveira

Call to Order: 12:16pm

I. Welcome/Call to Order/Introductions - Ms. Wagnon welcomed everyone and introduced Susan as the PTO president. Susan thanked the hospitality ladies for the lunch they provided. We went around the room and everyone introduced themselves giving their name, child's grade and teacher. Ms. Wagnon introduced Stacey Gillis as the new 3rd grade teacher who was hired last week because of the large number of third grade students. She has five years of experience and a Masters in Reading. She will team with Ms. Hammond who will teach math/science.

II. President's Report

a. PTO Registration Underway – Please visit cespto.com to register. We have had a great turnout so far. Registration ends this Friday, September 11. All volunteer opportunities are online as well, and volunteer registration will stay open beyond the Friday deadline. Special thanks to Shelly Shuga who updated and added new information to the website.

b. Volunteer Background Check (annual) – If you plan on helping in the classroom whether with Wednesday folders or copies, you must have completed the background check. It only takes a few minutes and can be found on the district website. Just go to the Parents tab and then Volunteer Program. You will get a confirmation email and then you can come help.

c. CEF Event – The Culinary Celebration is this Saturday at the Hilton at 6:30pm. The money raised by CEF goes back to the schools in the form of teacher grants and scholarships. Teachers have already begun to fill out grant applications, and the deadline is September 25. CEF patrol goes school to school with the Carroll Drumline giving out grants. The CEF website is southlakecef.org.

III. Ms. Wagnon's Report –We've had a great start! Kids are ready to go, and we have great fall events coming up. Thursday is curriculum night for PreK, 3rd, and

4th. Boosterthon and Book Parade are coming up as well. Fall is busy but fun! The administration has been busy forming the sixth 3rd grade class.

IV. Executive Reports

a. VP Report – Disbursements and Volunteer Recognition – Michelle Moore facilitates the disbursements for our fall (Boosterthon) and spring fundraisers (Gala March 5). We go through a disbursement process, and last year gave \$50,550 to the school. We bought two iPad carts bringing the total at the school to five so there is one for each grade level. There have been many changes in the math curriculum, and we dispersed \$10,000 to address those needs. The iPad carts should be here soon. As you see needs across the school or in your classroom, please email Michelle or anyone on the executive board so we have parent suggestions. Voting for the disbursements is done online. Volunteer recognition – Please nominate those around the campus that we don't always see. We did not get a lot of nominations last year, and we will now do them once each 9 weeks. You can nominate through the PTO website.

b. Secretary Report – Approve May Meeting Minutes – Casie Couch moved to approve, and Lisa Chamberlin seconded.

c. Treasurer Report – Present and Approve 2015-2016 PTO Budget – Karen Shafer went through the 2015-2016 budget in detail. She also mentioned that the Birthday Marquee is no longer outside. Susan said fall fundraiser contributes to our operating budget... field trip buses, teacher grants at the beginning of the year, etc. Ann Vincent moved to approve the budget, and Lisa Moreland seconded

V. Committee Reports

a. Membership (Lisa Chamberlin) – Please go online to cespto.com if you have not registered. Registration ends Friday.

b. Homeroom Parents (Amy Armstrong) – This is Amy's third year in this position. Please sign up to help in your child's classroom. It's very fun to be the party mom or dad. Amy also spoke for Lisa O'Donnell who is in charge of the volunteer coordinators. She will be holding copy machine training sessions this Friday at 9am and 10am. They are also still looking for volunteer coordinators to organize teacher copies and Wednesday folders. You just make a Sign up Genius or Volunteer Spot for your classroom. The Party Coordinator is also super fun and easy. Teachers will give you a list of what needs to be donated, and you just send out the Sign Up Genius or Volunteer Spot. The Party Coordinator is also in charge of buying teacher gifts for holidays, birthdays, and end of year. Please donate to the teacher gift fund. Amy also asked for a replacement for next year. Ms. Wagnon again

encouraged everyone to fill out the volunteer form. Parents can only eat lunch with their child if they have not filled out the volunteer form. Parents cannot go on field trips without the volunteer form.

c. Programs (Sabina Menezes) - We will have five programs this year: Mother Goose for K and PreK, High Tech, High Touch, Morris Brothers, Nana Pudding, and Dinosaur George. Morris Brothers will be on October 30. We will be spending \$10,000 on programs.

d. Student Activities (Alyssa Martin and Ginger Forst) - Student Activities coordinate volunteers for the library – shelving books and checking them in and out. Help is especially needed when kindergarten visits the library. They will need volunteers for the Book Fair as well – you can sign up to help students shop for books. They are also in charge of birthday books and provide name plates for those books. They are new books to the school and the birthday student gets to be the first one to check it out. Summer birthdays books will be done on the half birthday. Volunteer hours are flexible, and you can also just stop by to see how you can help. Mrs. Baxter is the new librarian.

e. Hospitality (Cheri Johnson, Jolyn Potenza, and Shay Morse) - Teacher luncheons are the first Wednesday of each month. Half of the lunches are sponsored, so we will be able to have something extra special for Teacher Appreciation Week. The committee will distribute a Sign up Genius for desserts which will be needed every month. Instead of centerpieces, we are giving a \$25 gift card to one teacher each month.

f. Directory (Lisa Moreland) - When you sign up for PTO, you will receive a directory. The information in the directory comes from Family Access. Please register at cespto.com before the 11th if you would like a directory. Kim Taylor is getting the advertising for the directory.

g. Outreach (Casie Couch) – We will be collecting donations of toiletries in the next couple of weeks for USO. On October 13, there will be an afternoon activity that the kids can participate in for Dragon Pride. We will be making goody bags for Food for the Souls. The next Outreach project will be Christmas Is For Children.

h. Spirit Shop (Alicia Kennedy) – The Spirit Shop sells Dragon spirit gear and will be open this year on Thursdays from 10-1pm. They will also be open on Curriculum night and various special events during the year. They have a new location between the gym and 2nd grade hall. Spirit shop is really fun to work in, and they could use volunteers on Thursdays when the classes come through.

i. Community Partners – Breanna Downes sent out a note that Boxtops

collection is getting started. In September, we will be collecting Boxtops from the fourth graders. Donna Clarin handles the Community Partners side...Chick Fil A, Speedy Bee Carwash, Kroger, Target, Tom Thumb, and Amazon.

j. Teacher Appreciation (Steph Richardson) – TAW will be May 2-6. They are looking for volunteers, and it is not a huge time commitment.

k. Beautification (Kathy Alvarez) - All are welcome to pull weeds and water. The pond is now working, and they will be adding fish soon. We appreciate all the work the committee has done so far.

l. Spring Fundraiser (Michelle Perry) – The 80s themed spring fundraiser will be held on March 5. It is adults only, and there will be a dj, silent, and live auction. We are looking for businesses to donate at different levels of sponsorships. We would also like to have parents donate to sponsor a teacher/spouse. We would love any donations ... airline miles, tickets to professional events, etc.

m. Fall Fundraiser (Michelle Peritore) - Stephen Webb has been a tremendous help with this fundraiser. Boosterthon kicks off two weeks from tomorrow. The Pep Rally will be on September 23. (K, 1st, 4th at 1:15; 2nd and 3rd at 2pm) The Fun Run will be October 2. (PreK and K at 8:30; 1st and 3rd at 9:45; 2nd and 4th at 11am) The fundraising goal is \$26,500. We will be raising money for student programs, teacher grants, etc. Michelle introduced Carson Smith who is the program director for Boosterthon. Boosterthon has been here 8 years in a row, and Carson appreciates Ms. Wagon's support for the program. The fall fundraising team spent time over the summer working on the fundraiser. Boosterthon raises funds and also has a character development piece. This year's theme is Big World Recess, and the students will learn about character with the initial lessons being about humility and endurance. Over the last 7 years the partnership with Boosterthon has helped CES raise \$167K. This year there will be a "Kiss the Pig" challenge for Ms. Wagon – we need pledges from all fifty states. Susan mentioned the great decorations that the fundraising committee has done to promote the theme and thanked them for all of their hard work.

VI. Special Guests

a. Cassie James (President of CISD PTO for Special Programs) – The CISD PTO for Special Programs was started to raise funds for the 40% of CISD students who are serviced through Section 504, Special Education, and ESL. They are currently doing a membership drive. They want parents to know that they are here to help them. The PTO is open to everyone – you don't have to have a child in special programs. They do various fundraising events throughout the year including an event at Barnes and Noble. On September 17 from 5-

7:30 at Eubanks, they will be hosting an open house for teachers who work at multiple schools. This is for parents who don't always get a chance to meet the specific teachers while they are on their home campus. (Speech therapists, occupational therapist, diagnosticians, etc.) You can register for the event through the Carroll eBlast. They will have SASO students there taking care of the children with games and pizza. Special Olympics and Miracle League will have representatives there as well. The CISD PTO for Special Programs tries to help the teachers who aren't necessarily covered by the individual school PTOs. For example, they recently bought iPads for the occupational therapists. Andi Stone is also looking for someone to replace her for fundraising for the PTO for Special Programs. Their motto this year is 26:1. \$26 dollars and 1 hour of your time does so much.

b. Julie Thannum was unable to make it to the meeting. Michelle Moore spoke about the new Dragon App. You can access the lunch menu, Twitter, the district calendar, Lunch Money Now, #SAFEdragon announcements, Dragon Tipline, etc. Ms. Wagnon also spoke about CES having a Twitter account: @CESSouthlake. We have a CES PTO Facebook page as well.

VII. Announcements

- a. Curriculum Night – PreK, 3rd and 4th on Thursday, September 10th from 5:30-6:30pm
- b. Online PTO Registration closes Friday, September 11th
- c. CEF Culinary Event – Saturday, September 12th
- d. 1st CES All Pro Dad's Breakfast – Friday, September 18th at 7am
- e. CES Family Fun Night at Skate Town – Sunday, September 20th from 6-8pm. CES students are paid for. There will be a raffle to go to a Dragon game with Ms. Wagnon.
- f. Boosterthon Fun Run – Friday, October 2nd
- g. Spirit Shop – open every Thursday 10am-1pm during football season
- h. Next PTO Meeting – Tuesday, November 10th at 6:30pm

VII. Adjourn – 1:40