

CES PTO GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

November 7, 2017

Meeting Called to Order: 9:15am

Attendance: Ashley Nadeau, Alicia Kennedy, Lori Davidson, Nicki Hyde, Grace Fong, Sarah Gauch, Shelley Story, Stephanie Vierus, Angie Hodges, Carrie Cary, Michelle Copeland, Blair Sulzer, PJ Heldoorn, Mandy Graves, Katheryn Brensinger, Laura Durant, Jenn Brock, Donna Nystrom, Kim Richardson, Alyssa Martin, Jenny McClean, Stacy Wagnon, Angie George, Jennifer Mitchell & Casie Couch

- I. Welcome/Call to Order
- II. President's Report
 - a. Lori Davidson calls meeting to order. Lori begins with saying thank you to all the committees that have worked so hard this school year and that they have done an amazing job. The Spirit Shop, Beautification, Directory/Advertising, Publicity, Membership, and most recently the Fall Fundraiser committee who just held the 2nd annual Dragon Games, It was a huge success and so far has raised over \$64,000!
 - b. Lori attended that PTO President Meeting in September and included a copy of the bond update that concerns CES improvements specifically, on our agenda. The proposed completion date is at the end of the 2018/19 school year. She also mentioned that new school calendar options would be out around Christmas time.
 - c. The track is almost 100% complete and looks great!
 - d. October was National Principal Month and since we didn't have a general meeting in October, she presented Ms. Wagnon & Mrs. George with a gift today of our appreciation for all they do.
- III. Ms. Wagnon's Report
 - a. All of the elementary principals did wonderful videos that was posted online about their position as principal and about their school. Although she is very shy, she set that aside and did it to honor the kids at CES, whom she genuinely loves and cares about.
 - b. She thanked everyone who donated to the Hurricane Harvey Relief effort and gave grocery store gift cards. She was so thankful that she was able to go down to Houston and present these gifts to the local schools there that were affected. And even though it was a competition between schools and CES came in 2nd place instead of 1st, she was thrilled to represent our school and the generous families that it represents.
 - c. Ms. Wagnon also discussed the ongoing training some of the CES staff receives each year by the Kagan Institute. Over the years, members of the staff have travelled to New York and Orlando and training has also been done here locally as well. This training is budgeted for them to attend. 9 staff members participated this past summer. She provided a video of a classroom of 3rd graders participating in a Kagan training method, which encourages the students to be more outgoing by giving them conversation starters and helping them become more social - especially with fellow students they don't know. It also involves problem solving, coaching and praise to be given to one another for effort and correct answers. She then had all of us in attendance do the same

type of exercise, which was a lot of fun but also reinforced the theory that kids are way easier to teach new things to - lol

- d. There is a top candidate being considered for our new Resource Officer and a final decision on hiring the individual should be made known by the end of the year. Ms. Wagnon is not directly involved with the hiring of the officer.
- e. Ms. Wagnon confirmed that the Thanksgiving feast/Grandparents Day will be held exclusively in the lunchroom again this year and not in individual classrooms.
- f. Her update on the bond improvements confirmed that the district is in talks about what improvements are to be started first and this includes windows being added to classrooms that currently have none, new carpeting where needed, new playground surfaces, etc. She assured us that this renovation process should be a lot less disruptive to everyone compared to the last major renovation the school went through several years ago.

IV. Executive Reports

a. VP Report

- i. Sarah Gauch announced that disbursement ideas to benefit the students, teachers and the school in general are asked to be shared and to do so, please email them to her: sarah.gauch@gmail.com
- ii. She announced the first Volunteer of the Term winner as Nicki Hyde – VERY well deserved! Nominations for the second term are currently being accepted. There is a link to do that in the PTO newsletter.

b. Communications

- i. Jane confirmed that the badges ordered during the PTO membership drive should all be in and to please contact her if anyone has any questions or concerns: jsteffenburg@gmail.com Any additional badges that are needed will be ordered after the new year.
- ii. Please continue emailing Jane with anything you would like to have included in the Wednesday folders and/or the PTO newsletter. Please send the file as a PDF or JPEG.

c. Secretary Report

- i. Alicia asked for a motion for approval of the September General Meeting Minutes. Ashley Nadeau motioned and Casie Couch seconded. All were in favor. Minutes approved.

d. Treasurer Report

- i. Grace provided copies of the current budget, but it did not reflect all of the earnings from the Fall Fundraiser yet.
- ii. She also confirmed that the PTO covers all of the PayPal fees that are incurred if that method of payment is used by any committee.

V. Committee Reports

a. Community Partners

- i. No one on this committee was in attendance today so Lori highlighted some upcoming events: Chipotle is offering a great fundraiser the night of Monday, Nov. 13th from 4-8pm. They are going to donate 50% of the sales to CES, which

is much higher than what restaurants usually donate. This is only applicable at the Chipotle location at Davis & Southlake Blvd in front of Sprouts.

- ii. With Cyber Monday approaching, be sure to take advantage of the Amazon Smile program. Nothing about your account or purchase is affected in any way. It only deposits a percentage of your purchase direct to CES once you set it up as a fundraising beneficiary on your account.
 - iii. Check out the Box Tops App as well for deals on everyday household or food items that offer larger box top rewards. Last month the 3rd grade collected box tops and November is 2nd grades turn.
- b. Publicity
- i. Michelle Copeland and Angie Hodges have been working diligently on the hallway boards with pictures from various school events thus far. They are currently organizing hundreds of pictures from the Dragon Games that will be highlighted on the boards soon.
- c. Fall Fundraiser
- i. Jennifer Mitchell reiterated that the Fall Fundraiser was a huge success and they have so far raised just over \$64,000!! Not all the pledges have been collected yet, but they have received the majority.
- d. Outreach
- i. Ashley Nadeau and Stephanie Vierus brought Christmas is for Children angels available for adoption to the meeting. They currently had just under 40 angels left that needed adopting out of 100. The date to bring in the gifts is Dec. 1st, 7:30am – 10am. **New this year is that you are asked not to gift wrap**, therefore giving the parents or guardians of the children more of an opportunity to participate. A link to adopt an angel is also provided on the Wednesday folder file.
 - ii. Another outreach program that is school wide is to fill 1400 food baskets which is also in partnership with Christmas is for Children. Each grade will be given a list of items they are asked to donate soon and the 3rd grade will be counting and graphing the food brought in as a math assignment.
- e. Student Activities
- i. Laura Durant reminded everyone that the Book Fair will be held all next week. They will begin set up this coming Friday with a preview day on Monday. They have a lot of volunteers signed up, but will welcome anyone else who would like to help. Especially on Monday & Friday of next week, which will be their busiest days.
- f. CEF Liaison
- i. Alyssa Martin said she had attended a meeting that went into more depth about the CEF grants available to the teachers and schools and what some of them had provided so far. Examples are: The preschool programs have received \$2500 that went towards space savers for light boards. Quest has received little robots that can be programmed via an ipad and can communicate with other Quest groups in CISD. All of the P.E. departments throughout CISD have received 140 sets of Spike Ball.

- g. Spirit Shop
 - i. Nicki Hyde confirmed they would be open all day next Friday for Thanksgiving/Grandparents Day. A sign up genius will be sent out for anyone who would like to volunteer any length of time that day.
- VI. Announcements
 - a. Veteran's Day Assembly – November 10th @ 8:15am
 - b. Spirit Night at Chipotle – November 13th 4-8pm
 - c. Book Fair – November 13th – 17th
 - d. Class Pictures and Individual Retakes – November 15th
 - e. Grandparents Day – November 17th
 - f. All Pro Dad – December 1st
 - g. Angel Gifts Due – December 1st
 - h. Holiday Parties – December 20th
 - i. Winter Break – December 21st – January 2nd
 - j. Spirit Shop Open Fridays 10 – 1pm
 - k. Next PTO Meeting – Tuesday, February 6th @ 9:15am
- VII. Meeting Adjourned @ 10am.