

CFES PTO MINUTES – OCTOBER 3, 2018

Attendance: Joyce Yoon, Jessica Lang, Meredith Petruccelli, Jeff Ellison, Shawn Dutkiewicz, Nichole Scull, Katherine Lombardo, Sara Krausz, Catherine Tucker, Leanne P. Brown-Pasquarello, Leigh Heister, Christina Condelles, and Kara Hyman

- **Meeting Started at:** 9:35 am

- **September Meeting Minutes:** Christina Condelles presented. They were reviewed and approved with no comments or opposition.

- **Review and Approve Budget:** Leigh Heister presented on the September expenditures/income:
Expenditures included: \$845.00 for assignment books, \$405.00 for beautification, \$100.00 for hall banners, \$253.05 for magnet schedules for all families, \$289.78 for Read-A-Thon and \$690.78 in teacher grants.
Income included: \$112.00 in directory and bus note sales, \$3,074.97 from Fall Festival, \$3.68 interest income and \$3,803.88 in PTO membership. 43% of the families at the school have contributed to the booster campaign, an increase from the previous year. The budget was approved with no opposition.
Special vote to reimburse the school for the new parking lot signs approved unanimously.

- **Principal's Report:** Mr. Dutkiewicz presented several updates:
 - (1) Start with Hello Week received a lot of positive feedback and social media coverage on Facebook and Twitter. Results are an uptick in kids saying hello. Plans are for other activities that connect back to this event throughout the year.
 - (2) Planetarium assembly is next week. There will be an inflatable planetarium in the gym and each grade will get 45 minutes for a presentation.
 - (3) CFE is implementing growth journals by grade. This will be a written portfolio followed by a digital portfolio to start next year. This is part of school wide focus on social-emotional growth, stem growth and math growth.
 - (4) CFE will also be rolling out a Problem Solvers program with staff to teach soft skills. It will take a broader look at problem resolution and both encourage and share ways students have worked through problems.
 - (5) Foreign Language classes in Spanish, French, Chinese and Japanese to be starting soon both before and after school.
 - (6) Education Foundation is changing how they award grants, to make them rolling grants of up to \$5,000.
 - (7) Library changes are underway. Over \$2,000 dollars have been contributed for the birthday book program. The money will be used for library renovations, iPad checkout stations and a parent checkout station.

- **PTO Updates:**

(1) Jessica Lang & Joyce Yoon talked about the upcoming Enrichment Grants. They are due October 25th. There is an online form. Grants will be voted on at the November meeting. A vote is also planned to increase teacher grants from \$100 to \$150.

(2) Meredith Petruccelli gave an update on passive fundraising. There are six dates with restaurants planned throughout the school year, including ChickFilA, Not Your Average Joe's, Chipotle, Anthony's Coal Fired Pizza, Bertucci's and Red Robin. Meredith also gave an update on the upcoming Buddy Breakfast on October 26th. The signup is going out today for volunteers and RSVP's. We have four sponsors this year to supply the donuts, fruit, drinks, paper products and coffee. Giant, Wegman's, Costco and Staples are all contributing supplies and gift cards.

(3) Christina Condelles gave an update on this year's 3rd grade Read-A-Thon, taking place November 9th. The theme "Reading is the Sweetest" will be based on the Candy Land board game. The book "The Chocolate Touch" will be purchased for each 3rd grader.

(4) Kara Hyman presented an update on the Book Fair. It will be the week of October 22nd-26th. The theme is the "Enchanted Forest." There will be a school wide coin challenge for the two weeks before the fair. The winning class gets a pizza party and money raised will help purchase books for sister school Mitchell Elementary. There will also be a poster contest with gift certificate rewards for the top three students to purchase items at the book fair.

(5) Nichole Scull presented an update on the Art Show. The featured artist and donating artist have been chosen. Still need chairs for positions in decorating, food donations, volunteer coordinating and publicity. The next planning meeting is in November. We are also looking to do something special for the 70th Anniversary.

- **Meeting Adjourned at: 11:00 am**