CORL STREET ELEMENTARY
PTO BOARD MEETING

October 1, 2019

In Attendance: **PTO Board Members:** Dr. Kelly Mark (Principal), Jennifer Pencek (President), Jackie O'Hara (Vice President), Emma Jane Rose (Treasurer), Peter Miraldi (Secretary) **Committee Members:** Michelle McMullen (Spirit Nights), **Parents and Guests:** David Hutchinson (School Board), Jill Ross (Kindergarten Teacher), LeeAnna Hooper, Kate Hooper, Kristine Schwab (Book Fair), Becky Mattson (Yearbook), Sam Seidel, Laura Merritt, Nohemy Galinolez, Jennifer Mahle, Charles McMullen, Hannah Carney, Rebecca Thorson, Carmen Vanderhoof, Mike Banning, Samantha Banning, Sonya Miller, Elizabeth Yoder, Emily Perry, Carmen Bilen, Yinkun Xue.

Call to Order: 7:03 PM

I. Welcome/Introductions/Remarks: Jen Pencek welcomed everyone.

II. Principal's Remarks: Dr. Mark reported:

A. Cougar Cat Run worked well at the Borough Fields
B. Thank you to all of the volunteers.
C. We will send out reminders about costumes
D. Conferences are on the 17th and 18th.
    a. All children, except Kindergarteners, attend the conferences with parents.
E. Apologies for the confusion surrounding Back to School Night.
F. The Community Open House will be October 24th from 6-8 PM.

III. School Board Report: David Hutchinson reported:

A. I encourage any questions the audience.
B. The next school board meeting is Monday, October 8th at 7:00 PM.

IV. Approval of Minutes: Postponed

Motion: Kristine Schwab motioned to approve the May minutes; Becky Manson seconded. Motion carries.

Motion: Michelle McMullen motioned to approve the September minutes Kristine Schwab seconded. Motion carries.

V. Treasurer's Report: Emma Reported that:

A. We have collected about $20k from the Couger Cat Run
B. We haven't had many expenses except for a few field trips.
    a. Someone asked about the number of third grade classes.
    b. Emma said she would correct this.
    c. Someone asked about money for the Eisenhower performance.
    d. Emma said she would make the correction.
    e. We need to vote to approve the September budget.

MOTION: Kristine Schwab motioned to approve September budget; Carmen Vanderhoof seconded. Motion carries.

C. Emma presented our proposed budget, including the Discovery program.
    a. Someone asked about the line item for the school grounds.
        i. Emma said that the surplus money could be used for landscaping, trees, etc.
        ii. Jen noted that we will discuss the surplus at next month's meeting.
    b. Someone asked about the storage unit.
        i. Dr. Mark noted that we no longer have storage.

VI. Committee Reports:

A. Book Fair (in the gym): Kristine Schwab reported:
    a. We need to store our coin counter somewhere.
        i. Jen said that we will have a bin for the PTO that we can use.
        ii. Emma mentioned that we should store other PTO items which is in people's garages.
        iii. Jen said that anyone can e-mail her if they have PTO items and she will arrange drop-off of items at her house.
    b. Angie Kemp and I think we should offer all classes a popcorn party which would require $50 more (currently $150).
        i. Emma suggested that we could vote to increase the Book Fair fund or increase this year's designated funds.

MOTION: Kristine Schwab motioned to increase funds for the popcorn party to $200 from the undesignated funds Becky Mattson seconded. Motion carries.

B. Kristine Schwab asked about having doughnuts inside or outside.
    a. Dr. Mark said that the children can come inside at 7:55.
    b. Kristine S. asked about where to place backpacks inside.
    c. Dr. Mark said children could use the stair area for backpacks.
    d. Kristine agreed that inside would be easier this year.
    e. Dr. Mark said that the cafeteria would be a good place to congregate.
C. Cougar Cat Run: Beth Yoder
    a. The weather was awesome (no mud).
    b. We deposited $8,000 on day of run
    c. Another $11,000 came in online.
    d. Total is subject to change based on expenses.
    e. We are still accepting donations.
    f. Thanks to Mrs. Hoopers class ($115 per student).
    g. Jeff Byers was our guest MC; his son is starting Kindergarten.
    h. We have two posters available.

VII. Old Business

A. Playground Update: Dr. Mark
    a. Plans have been revised based on recent feedback.
    b. I can take feedback but cannot guarantee that new feedback will be able to be implemented.
        i. However, I was able to have the pollinator garden moved.
    c. Our blacktop is about the same amount as current.
    d. The dome returns
    e. The small climber will remain.

f. Slide and climb is a Phase 2 idea.
    i. In order for this to happen, all of the elementary schools need to receive their phase 1.
g. The pollinator garden will be moved to the other side of the path so it is not on a slope.
h. Two mounds that connect to a log in-between.
i. The balance beam log connects the two hills.
j. The parkour is number seven
k. There are 10 swings total, one is a group swing and one is handicapped.
l. There is stone seating.
m. A pollinator garden.
n. There is a stepped log area.
    i. Kristine asked if the logs are treated.
    ii. Kelly said the logs are real.
o. Someone asked about ground material.
    i. Kelly said it is a packed mulch that is smooth and allows wheeled access.
p. Mrs. Ross said she appreciates the balance between climbing equipment and play space. However, we were concerned about the proximity of the swings and the balls. Also, we are excited for the field area.
q. Someone suggested a small fence between the blacktop and the swings.
r. Someone said they were excited that the new design allows for open interaction and play. However, they had a question about the equipment that is being kept and the lifespan of the old climber. We could advocate for the replacement of the climber.
s. Someone asked if the lower field would be kept grass without trees that would inhibit soccer games.
    i. Dr. Mark confirmed that this would be grass area.
t. Someone else asked if the green circles were trees. Another concern is that the trees may block the view from the classroom.
    i. Dr. Mark confirmed that they are trees but this could be changed if we need more open space.
u. Jackie asked if the field spot would be hilly.
    i. Dr. Mark confirmed that this would be flat.
v. Someone asked about the time frame.
    i. Dr. Mark said basketball hoops will be added this month.
    ii. The playground will be closed in May.
    iii. The playground should be ready by the fall of next year.
    iv. Teachers asked about the plan during the closure in May.
    v. Dr. Mark said we are still deciding where recess will be.
w. Mrs. Ross asked if the field will be available during the construction.
    i. Dr. Mark said she believed so.
x. Emma asked about space for a garden that could be worked on by parents and kids.

i. Dr. Mark said there is a pollinator garden that will have native species and, perhaps, fruits and vegetables.
ii. Kate Hooper said that there is a strip of land that would be suitable.
iii. Mrs. Ross suggested that we could get started on the garden during the construction.

y. Kristine asked if all of the schools have the same budget for their playground. Why are we keeping some of the older equipment.
i. Dr. Mark said that she thinks Radio Park is repurposing their climber.
ii. David Hutchinson said that the budget is the same for all schools.
iii. Mrs. Ross said that the PTO may have purchased equipment at other schools.

VIII. New business

A. Childcare for back to school night: Jackie O'Hara
a. We had 40 kids
b. We need to allocate for the three sitters.
c. Emma said we need to increase that amount.
d. Jackie said that we should increase it to 4 to 5 sitters.
e. Jackie will set up sign-in and sign-out forms.
f. Dr. Mark suggested that we have a back-up plan for weather issues.
g. Emma suggested making it easier for parents to attend all events by offering sitters.
h. Dr. Mark said that we should have a conversation about how to plan better for events, including back to school night.
i. Jen said that we will continue this conversation for next year's events.

B. American Red Cross blood drive: Laura Merritt
a. I work with biomedical services in our county.
b. I am introducing the pint-sized hero program to develop future donors.
i. Phase 1: Education (2, 10-minute presentations)
ii. Phase 2: Parents are asked by their children to donate blood.
c. We spend time in our schools introducing them to the red cross and what we do for the community.
d. I would appreciate your buy-in.
e. Michelle McMullen will volunteer.
f. We are considering a late January/February blood drive.
g. I would appreciate the blood drive day to include parent volunteers and donors.

IX. Other business.

A. Drying rack for Kindergarten: Mrs. Ross
a. We need place to keep wet paintings.
b. I am asking for one drying rack for $112.

Motion: Michelle McMullen motioned to use undesignated funds for drying rack. . Wendy Stapletom seconded. Motion carries.

MOTION: Emma motioned to adjourn. Jackie O'Hara seconded. Motion carries.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:16 PM

Next Meeting: Tuesday, November 5; 7:00 PM

*Minutes prepared by Peter Miraldi on October 1, 2019