

Costello PTO Tentative Meeting Minutes

Monday, February 10, 2025

Attendance: Jennifer Ford, Keri Elliott, Brandy Cooper, Aimee SooSoo, Kathy Huang, Angie Cheek, Ingrid Peeples, Michelle Tessoﬀ, Brittany Dwyer, Amanda Haverty-Harris, Katie Monhaut, Philippe Cicchini, Carolin Connely, Chris Tallman, Krystle Dennison, Morgan Bowerman, Kristen Northey, Melanie Harper, Jamie Kaniartz, Dr. DiPonio

Call to Order – Jen Ford at 7:02pm

Approval of Minutes- Jen presented the minutes from January. Carolin Connely motioned to approve, and Ingrid Peeples seconded. Minutes approved.

Treasurer Report – Chris Tallman (Treasurer) – Chris presented the current budget report. There were a lot of deposits from Penny Wars. More funds will be coming back out in terms of donations once the charity is awarded. We have raised about \$33,000 this year. Ball for All came out about even.

Budget was also reported, not much movement this month.

Carolin Connely motioned to accept the treasurer report, and Jamie Kaniartz seconded.

President Report – Jen Ford

Thank you to Michelle Tessoﬀ for being our teacher rep for this school year. We appreciate your voice and time.

Thank you to Kristin Northey for organizing Skate World Nights, Restaurant Nights and for helping with pick up for food as we try to treat our Costello Staff! And now, taking over the Costello Fair!

Principal Report– Dr. Tammy DiPonio –

Cardinal Connection holds important information.

Thank you for the Cookie Bar today for staff. The Ball for All was such an amazing event, families had so much fun making memories. Food was excellent. Chicken was a hit!

Thank you to the Auction committee for all of your work.

Anxious Generation interest in book study, possible Zoom sessions for those interested. Johnathan Hate is the author.

Thank you to room parents for Valentine Rice Krispy treats.

Kindergarten round up was held, kindergarten enrollment is open!

Celebrations:

Keri Elliott, Penny Wars Success

Amanda and Jason for the successful Ball for All

Mrs. Waak and her amazing dance moves

Mike Frazier for donating his DJ services

Auction team

Pita Way-donation of lunch for spring conference for all staff

Cookie Bar-thank you to all of the parents who made cookies for our staff today

Morgan Bowerman and Kristen Northey are taking over the Costello Fair. Thank you!!

Jen Ford, our encourager and leader!

Michelle Tessoff-Kindness week has been a success for far. Thank you for the cookie bar and support!

Committee Reports for February

Community Service – Keri Elliot

Penny Wars was super successful, we were so impressed by the amount raised. Third graders were the big winners, \$3600 was raised this year! Third graders voted for the Red Cross Wild Relief. Pizza party will be held next Thursday, Feb 20th.

Aimee SooSoo – Auction

Auction is rapidly approaching, March 7th, adults only, 21 and older. Please share with neighbors and friends, many donations coming in. We need committee members for next year as half of us are aging out. Any and all donations are welcome. Email costelloauctionchair@gmail.com.

Auction Future Considerations: Our goal is to find a chair or cochair for next school year. We are trying to find someone by March 28th. If we cannot, we will need to plan to not have the auction for the 2025-26 school year. Focus right now is to push auction sales, promote attendance. How can we recruit families in younger grades to attend the auction?

Time commitment is about once a month Sept-Oct-Nov. January meet twice, Feb is weekly.

How can we help parents with child care? Black Belt Academy was suggested for a child care offering. Possibly having it at a venue like bowling, something for families to do to promote socializing. Promote prizes in the Cardinal Connection.

Angie spoke about pairing families to help promote community and encourage families to attend events/volunteer. Video for auction by Dr. DiPonio.

Suggestion made for a handout for auction to send home describing the prizes.

Fair-Melanie Harper

April 26th 11-3, info will start to be sent out, save the dates, volunteers, excited to have new members take over next year and transition with us. Lots of same things as last year and some new things.

5th grade celebration March 12th will be next meeting for parents. 7:30 on Teams

June 6th will be 5th grade celebration

Books- Carolin Connely

Troy Public Library donated over 4000 books. Most donated to Hazel Park and Oak Park. She kept some of the best and will be opening them up to the staff and students of Costello. There were also multi-language books donated that she will be passing on to the school.

Known PTO openings for 2025-26 school year:

Auction – need both a chair as well as committee members

Spirit Wear (shadow next year and take over the following year)

Publicity/Web Coordinator (shadow next year and take over the following year)

Trunk or Treat (shadow next year and take over the following year)

Room Parent Chair and Co-Chair (shadow next year and take over the following year)

Board Positions (all voted on, please feel free to submit your name if you are interested)

Treasurer: Carolin Connely

Secretary: Kali Schmitz

Angie Cheek, possibly Jamie Kaniarz following year

Jen Ford, possibly Amanda Haverty-Harris following year

Old Business -

New Business –

Meeting adjourned at 8:01 pm

Next PTO meeting will be on Monday, March 10th in the Costello Media Center. Hope to see you there!