

CFES PTO MINUTES – JANUARY 14, 2026

Quarterly Meeting – 6:30 PM at CFES

- **Welcome:** Call to order at 6:32 by Jessica Eldridge and Steph Maurer, PTO Co-Presidents.

- **Principal's Report with Mrs. Clark:**
 - Expressed gratitude to the school community and PTO for the winter holiday gifts to staff. The handwritten notes were especially meaningful and greatly appreciated.
 - Thanked the PTO for providing the staff luncheon during conference week.
 - Winter Workshop was a huge success.
 - Kevin Farrell has taken Mr. Craig's position and is settling in well.
 - Ms. Corbett did a fantastic job with her first winter concert.
 - Shout-out to staff for contributing amazing auction items.
 - The band will be performing at a University of Delaware basketball game, which will be televised on ESPN+.
 - January 26 is the first day of enrollment for the 2026–2027 school year.
 - Bocce will be starting soon for interested 5th graders.
 - The 100th Day of School will be celebrated in February.
 - Spring conference emails will be sent on February 23.
 - Families are reminded to keep FID day packets safe in case they are needed.
 - Master Gardeners are working with kindergarten students on seed sowing and insect observation and are also collaborating with Ms. Doyer in the greenhouse.
 - The Science Fair is underway. Judging will take place on January 20, and CFES may send up to 10 students to the county level.
 - The Spelling Bee is scheduled for the end of the month.
 - Student Wellness Day will be held on April 10.

- **Treasurer's Report with Sam Johannessen:**
 - Finances through the end of December were shared.
 - \$40,000 has been raised toward the annual \$65,000 budget, placing the PTO in a strong financial position.
 - Financials were approved.

- Funding was requested by Ms. Price for an author visit. The PTO voted to approve the request in full for \$1000.
- **Martin Luther King Day of Service:**
 - Day of service will be held at Hillendale Elementary.
 - Many organizations will participate, each hosting a table with a service project.
- **Bingo Night:**
 - Scheduled for January 23.
 - Buddy the Elves will serve as MCs.
 - The high school will sell cotton candy.
 - Capacity is 240, with over 120 tickets already sold.
- **Winter Auction:**
 - Opens January 21 at 5:00 PM and closes January 23 at 9:00 PM.
 - Many exciting teacher experiences are available for bidding.
 - 100% of proceeds benefit the PTO and support school events.
- **Yearbook:**
 - Sales are currently low, with only 16 copies sold.
 - Promotion will continue through the newsletter.
- **On the Horizon and Call for Sponsorships:**
 - **Art Show**
 - March 14
 - Over 70 artists confirmed
 - Sponsorships begin at \$100
 - **Parents' Night Out**
 - April 11, 6:00-9:00 PM
 - Brandywine River Museum
- **Board Recruitment:**
 - Two Vice President positions will need to be filled for next year.
 - Interested individuals are encouraged to email CFESPTO@ucfsd.net.

- **Community Needs:**
 - The UHS Book Sale, the high school's largest fundraiser, is seeking volunteers to help organize books.

- **Final Thoughts:**
 - Appreciation was shared for everyone's hard work and dedication.

- **Meeting Adjourned: 7:27 PM**

Next Quarterly PTO Meeting will take place Wednesday, April 15 at 6:30.