

Calf Pen Meadow PTA Meeting Minutes 10/20/20 (prepared by Stephanie Kanaan)

Introduction

- Meeting called to order at 6:30pm; Meeting held virtually via Google Meet due to COVID restrictions
- Approval of meeting minutes of September meeting; Motion to approve by George O'Connell; Second by Melissa Lawless

Voting on New PTA Board

- The Nomination committee reviewed the nominations for the new PTA board members: Stephanie Kanaan as President and Andrea Haven as Secretary. Both Erica Eliashevsky and Cyndy Tummins will remain on as Treasurer and Vice President.
- Motion to vote was called by George O'Connell and no eligible PTA member opposed the vote. Motion passed and Stephanie and Andrea will join the PTA board.

President's Report: Presented by Amy R.

- PTA Council Meeting
 - Meeting was held on October 15th; the focus of the meeting was on wrapping up items from the Spring, including awarding Rick George the PTA Council Lifetime Achievement Award; main discussion was centered on how Milford Public Schools continues to focus on the health and safety of its students while recommitting to High Quality Instruction (HQI). Dr. Cutaia emphasized that educational recovery will be through acceleration and not by remediation.
 - The conversation then focused on how emergency drills are being conducted with the new safety measures. Dr. Cutaia then applauded the teachers and staff for conducting successful virtual open houses. She also reminded the Council that hot spots are available to families in need.
 - Dr. Cutaia gave an update on athletics and that most sports are back, except for football. There are no spectators at the sporting events in an effort to keep the student athletes safe. There is a Senior Night being planned in accordance with the Milford Dept. of Health to allow for families to attend.
 - According to Dr. Cutaia, there had been 6 cases of COVID-19 in the school district to date. She noted that Milford continues to keep the 6 foot social distancing in effect and that her plan is to keep students in school for as long as possible.
 - Sue Glennon reported that the Board of Education is currently keeping an eye on district spending as needs have been established for COVID-safe classrooms. The Board has also began developing the education budget for the coming year and that as of October 1st, there has been 187 fewer students than last year. She mentioned that they are still waiting on data to see how COVID effected enrollment.
 - Milford applied for a grant and received \$15,000 which is to be used for mental health training for Milford Public Schools; trainings are in the process of being scheduled.

VP Report: Presented by Cyndy T.

- Cyndy emphasized the need for more volunteers to help chair virtual events and activities. There are still many ways to help out even if we are not in-person.

Treasurer Report: Presented by Erica E.

- Erica gave a budget update; CPM received \$223 from Box Tops; membership dues and No Stuff donations are starting to come in.
- Erica talked about teacher reimbursements and will send that info to Jamie to include in the staff newsletter.

Secretary Report: Presented by Stephanie K.

- Stephanie gave an update on memberships and No Stuff donations.
- Amy recommended that we can post signage on the classroom doors for the teacher's that paid dues. She will look to see if we still have a sign on file.

Principal's Report: Jamie Whitaker and Erin Marschner

- Had a successful Sprit Week last week; shared the recess item list with teachers and they liked the list.
- Will be sending home a paper packet of PTA papers to help boost membership.
- The emergency drills went really well and the kids did great keeping safe while following directions.
- Erin added that drop-off/pick-up has been much smoother.

Committee Reports:

- Charleston Wrap Fundraiser (Amanda Stigers) – Last day for orders is 10/23. The 24-hour Facebook challenge raised \$242.00 in sales.
- 5th Grade Committee – Chairperson is still needed; this is a subcommittee of the PTA focused on 5th grade send-off and other related activities.
- Beautification/Rock Garden (Marin Blake) - The PTA thanked Marin for spearheading the clean-up of the front of the school. Please continue to donate to the Kindness Rock Garden. Marin added that she will be planting bulbs soon.
- Kindergarten Welcome (Melissa Lawless & Traci Gallagher) – The lawn signs are now in storage.
- Freeraising: ShopRite/Stop & Shop/Box Tops – Kathryn Romano volunteered to be chair. Amy to provide information for Kathryn. Jamie confirmed that we can send in traditional box tops into school.

- Recess Items (Melissa Lawless) – Next steps is to order the items based on the budget. Melissa to work with Erica on ordering. According to teachers, sidewalk chalk is a big draw.
- Fall Book Fair – Dates for the fair are November 2-13 and books can be shipped to school. Paula Uscilla to chair and will reach out to Follett to set up virtual book fair.
- Staff Reimbursements 2020 (Erica Eliashevsky) – Reimbursements are \$75 per full-time staff; \$40 for part-time staff for any purchase they need for the classroom. Jamie to include details in her staff email.
- Room Parents (Traci Gallagher) – Have decided to have 1 person per classroom; Traci to send info to Jamie for staff email.
- Class T-shirts (Kristen Conrad) – Shirt design is in the works. Kristen happy to help out again this year.
- Spirit Wear – Scott Tummins to chair. Scott to connect with Jamie on supplier and next steps.
- Family Photo Shoots (Melissa Lawless) – Next shoot is on November 1st and spots are almost filled up. October photo shoot garnered \$90 for a PTA donation.
- Veteran's Day – Erin creating a virtual slide presentation for students to honor our Vets; flyer going out later this week.
- Teacher "Treats" – Amy and Stephanie discussed ways to give the staff a little treat. Stephanie suggested Good Morning Cupcake so CPM PTA can support a local business; Jamie agreed and Stephanie will place the order.
- Virtual Holiday Fair (Erica Eliashevsky) – Erica to look into options and report back.

New Business:

- Community building (Virtually) – Please share any ideas with the PTA. Andrea Haven shared the idea of partnering with Painted Plank as well as a kindness fundraiser opportunity. PTA to take a closer look to see what CPM can do.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:50pm.

