

CLINTON VALLEY ELEMENTARY PTO MEETING
Wednesday, September 18, 2019, Media Center
Minutes

Attending: Mrs. Rice, Mrs. Strohm, Kristen Murray, Liz Stone, April Wilson, Mrs. Wright, Debbie Spring, Ericka Santana, Christina Scarbury, Ranin Hanoush, Onna Williams, Ms. Bates, Christine Riehl

Presidents Welcome: Kristen Murray will welcome all to our first PTO meeting of the year. New board members will be introduced. We will also take this opportunity for a 5-minute positivity reflection. **If anyone has anything positive that happened to them over the summer, please feel free to share!** (Mrs. Strohm got married, Mrs. Rice's daughter got a job in Texas, Kristen's son expanded his vocabulary in ECSE!!). We will be partnering up with the positivity project. Students are learning key positivity traits each day. Teachers will submit names to Kristen each week that achieved this and they will be recognized at each PTO meeting. They will receive a free crazy bread coupon from Little Caesars and will be recognized on our positivity board. Also, we want to figure out what we can do better as a PTO. Please let us know from past experiences what you liked and what you would like to see.

Principals Report: Mrs. Wright will discuss happenings in the district, PEN night for the Positivity Project, Cardinal Corner (our new school store), and more. We will also have a guest speaker for the Goodbye Toys Charity. **Great to see the turnout this evening. Trying to get more parents involved and build culture throughout the school. Teaching kindness to the kids. PBIS program – We are envisioning creating “cardinal cash” that the students would be responsible for. They earn it from their teachers for exhibiting “positivity”. The kids would be able to purchase items from the school store (Cardinal Corner) with their cardinal cash. Hoping to build a positive environment where the students feel they are winning and learning. Hoping it would become second nature to them. Also, we have received numerous filled backpacks that have gift cards and school supplies. Have asked the teachers to report if any students need anything.**

Title One Report: Lynn Henshaw will not be present at this meeting.

Teacher's Report: Mrs. Strohm (4th Grade teacher) will be reporting any needs the teachers may have. **Mrs. Strohm and Mrs. Rice attended meeting. Nothing new to report as of now.**

Treasurer's Report: Debbie Spring, this year's treasurer, will discuss all transactions that cleared over the summer and more. **Ended last year with \$2,377.68 in the account. Deposited the Spirit Wear check for \$113.42. Beginning balance at 2019/2020 year was \$2,491.10. \$131.14 reimbursed for teacher appreciation gifts. Office supplies \$21.58. \$2,338.38 is balance as of now.**

Old Business: PTO Executive Board Special meetings were held. Also, approx. 3 meetings were held with Mrs. Wright, in order to all be on the same page for the upcoming year. **The PTO wants to remain transparent. We met over the summer but would like feedback on things we decided.**

New Business:

- Picture Day is scheduled for Monday Sept 23rd. We have 4 parents to come help us on that day!!
- Survey Results
 - o -We received back ~~142~~ 147 Beginning of year surveys
 - ☆ 129/142 plan to attend Trunk or Treat/Boo Bash
 - ☆ 105/142 plan to attend Santa Shop
 - ☆ 106/142 plan to attend Spring Fair
 - ☆ 55/142 plan to attend the Fall Craft/Vendor Show
 - ☆ 64/142 plan to attend the Mom2Mom Sale
 - ☆ 65/142 plan to attend Movie Nights
- Amendments to our by-laws **Please note this is a “living document” and can be changed as needed but voted on at the next meeting.**
 - o Please see by-laws sheet (attached) **Vote took place, unanimously voted in favor of by-laws**
- This year’s budget
 - o Please see budget spreadsheet (attached). **Question arose regarding PTO website fee. Hoping to cut that out and be able to get the free Weebly website up and running again. Motion to change freeze pops for field day to \$25. Cutting Edge is actually a \$930 expense. These changes will be made to the budget. Voted unanimously to keep Science Alive. Kristen to discuss Cutting Edge Gymnastics with Mr. Thomas (gym teacher). Will be voted on at the next meeting. Remaining budget voted on and approved.**
- Information about Co Treasurer/Box Tops chair positions available. Along with a historian position. **Since this is Debbie’s last year at the school, will need a new treasurer next year! If you are interested, please let us know asap!**

Fundraising

- **Box Tops:** Changes have come to the program. Box Tops is now not only about clipping but has also gone digital. So please continue to send in your Box Tops for Education. We are currently awaiting district rules to accept dimes in lieu of Box Tops. More information will be provided once we hear more. **Must scan in receipts for the digital Box Tops app within 14 days of purchase. Someone at the school is using the app!! Thank you! More info to follow on the Box Tops app and the ability to notate which classroom you would like to contribute for. If this is used, we will be able to track each classroom and begin monthly contests again!**
- **Shoparoo:** An app we started to use in years past but we are trying to use this to supplement the revenue we believe may be lost due to the new Box Tops program. The app is simple to use. Download app, select Clinton Valley Elementary as your school, and scan your receipts from anywhere for anything. 500 “Roo Points”=\$1.00

Fundraising (continued)

- **Dine Out Nights/Family Fun Nights:** Our first dine out night is scheduled for this Friday Sept 20th 2019 at Chuck E Cheese. We have been working diligently to ensure everyone knows about this event. We will have a visit from Chuck E Cheese at 3:30 on the day of the event. Up to 20% of the money raised from that event will come back to the school. If you are planning to go to the event **please be sure to use the registers to purchase food, to load play card etc.** so that Clinton Valley will receive credit. Over the summer we also contacted many restaurants in the area. Which restaurants/business would you like added to the list? **Other suggestions – Buffalo Wild Wings & Texas Roadhouse. Kristen to contact Chuck E. Cheese to add that people must go to the counter, not the kiosks. Kristen to add it in all future flyers/facebook posts.**
- **Pennywars:** We are still awaiting confirmation from CVS on rules to run this type of fundraising. The concept is for each class to have a “piggy bank”. Pennies are worth one point, dollars are worth 100 points, \$5 is worth 500 points and \$10 is worth 1000 points. However, each class will have the option to “sabotage” another class, by dropping a nickel into another class’s piggy back it will deduct 5 points from their total, a dime will deduct 10 and a quarter will deduct 25. A class reward will be given to the classroom with the most points. **Everyone was in favor of doing this!**
- **Walk A Thon – Starting now to look into businesses/families that wish to donate items for raffle baskets**
- **Spirit Wear – If anyone wants to do any research and find other companies that may be better, please let us know! Would like to offer a few “Chippewa Valley” items vs. only Clinton Valley since the items can be pricey and the Chippewa Valley items would move with you through the years.**
- **Community Sponsorships**
- **Suggestions from surveys regarding fundraisers – Lularoo, Little Ceasars pizza kits, shoe drive (people can donate shoes and then depending on how much they weigh, would get money), Yankee Candle, Cookie Dough, Straight cash donations (everyone seemed to like this. Idea to include on registration forms for events such as the Boo Bash – if you can’t attend but would still like to contribute to the PTO, enclosed is \$X). Bagel day – everyone seemed to like this idea, was tabled until we have more information and guidelines.**

Committee Chairs Openings:

- We are currently looking for fill committee chair positions for the following events:
 - o Trunk or Treat/Boo Bash
 - o Holiday Event/Santa Shop
 - o Movie Night Helpers
 - o Holiday Craft/Vendor Event
 - o Special Persons Breakfast
 - o Mom2Mom Sale
 - o Walk A Thon Helpers
 - o Field Day Helpers
 - o Spring Fair.

Boo Bash information:

- We propose to turn this into a community event. We would invite Seminole students, nearby church members, local area preschool students, and our students would be free to bring any neighborhood friend, cousins etc. to this event. 50% or more if needed of our trunk or treat candy givers will be local businesses (look at Clinton Township's Chamber of Commerce). Businesses would pay \$50 for a trunk or treat spot. They are paying for future advertisement on our Facebook page, newsletter, and at the event itself. Families of CVE who want to participate will pay \$10 for a spot with a chance to win a gift card for X amount for best decorated car.
- Parking will be in Seminole's parking lot and in the church lot. The front of the school, side of the school, behind the school will be where cars will park for the trunk or treating (if cars on the lawn is an issue we can put businesses behind the school with tables and leave the parking spaces open for families of CVE handing out candy). We are still awaiting a meeting with Mr. Lucas (Seminole's new principal) to see if this is possible. **At this point we are still waiting to confirm that we will be allowed to use the Seminole parking lot.**
- Proposed admission is \$7 per trick or treat. This will include Trunk-or-Treating, a temporary tattoo at our tattoo station and opportunity to participate in our pumpkin craft, which will be hung in the school and distributed back to the family after Halloween.
- Proposed: A candy drive that would run from Oct 1st -Oct 16th. To help make sure we have enough candy for all trick or treaters
- Teachers are encouraged to hand out candy if they wish to do so or come and enjoy the event
- Games, tattoo stations and concessions will be held indoors.
- Pumpkins available for purchase.
- Concessions would include pizza, donuts, cider, pop and water.
- Invite fire department for a fire truck to be on site.
- Comments and ideas? **October 18th is the proposed date for this event. Discussed to bring cost down to \$5. Discussed having contests between classes for candy donations. Possible prize – extra recess!! Mrs. Rice graciously offered to be a “fortune teller” at the event.**

Holiday Craft/Vendor Event: Need fire inspection before we can have this. Kristen has left messages for Mt. Clemens fire department. Waiting to hear back.

- Set up approx 100 tables in the school
- Table rental would be about \$800. We have chairs we can use.
- Charge vendors/crafters \$35 to sell their merchandise. We would first offer space to CVE families and open to general public afterwards via Facebook.
- Admission would be \$5.
- Concessions of some sort can be sold.
- Based on numbers provided, estimated profit \$2,700 plus admission sales/concessions sales

- Suggested selling time: Mid/Late November (November 23rd)
- Other - Table space available for Girl Scout Troops and Boy Scout Troops to advertise their fundraising opportunities for free.

Holiday Event/Santa Shop:

- Admission: Free
- Photo opportunities for Christmas cards. Purchase a back drop and hire a photographer to take photos for \$5.
- Santa writing station and students will receive a letter back
- Visit from Santa's Elf to name off children present who have made his "Good List"
- Hot chocolate/coffee/milk and cookies available for purchase
- Crafts available for purchase.
- Santa Shop will be available Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. One of these would also be available during our evening holiday event.
- Playlist of all favorite holiday music
- Any Christmas games.

Movie Nights: Thinking of starting in the spring. Discussed the possibility of having it outside.

- Decide how many movie nights we want to see this year/What movies will we show? **Aladdin? Lion King?**
- No admission to event. Free family event
- Concessions will be available for purchase.
- Movie nights have been dropping in participation for the last couple of years. What issues have you seen with movie nights? 1. Better Seating (adding chairs to event)
- Spirit day to coincide with movie nights to create student excitement for them.

Other:

- Briefly talk about different future events we would like to see - Specials Persons Breakfast **(Revised to be called "Doughnuts with Grown-ups")**, Mom2mom sale, etc.
- Any other thoughts, concerns, questions etc? – **Mrs. Rice would love to volunteer to help since she has more time this year, just needs dates as soon as available so she can plan.**