



General PTO Meeting Minutes
Friday, November 3, 2017

8:00-9:00am - Cottonwood Creek Elementary Cafeteria

Attendees: Marnie Kamensky, Jennifer Feingold, Darcy Kinnersley, Lisa Farr, Rachel Schmela, Stacy Johnson, Amy Shineman, Sandy Biley, Susan Mui, Melisande Holohan, Tina Nagamani, Jennie Preece, Holly Hancock, Paula Hruska, Jennifer Bub, Josie Hamm, Winnie Chang

I. Welcome, Call to Order, Introductions: The meeting was called to order by Marnie Kamensky, Co-President, at 8:08am. Everyone in attendance was asked to quickly introduce themselves and their role to the community.

Updates - Kathleen McCrohan, co-chair Volunteer Coordinator (3-5 & GT) with Carrie Ripes (K-2), addressed the community regarding upcoming winter/holiday parties. Class parties will take place on Dec. 22 and will have a winter theme. Parents will get an email from the party parents with a sign up genius to help. School-wide giving for specials teachers will go through Volunteer coordinators via cheddar up. They are trying to minimize checks & cash so hopefully parents will utilize the convenient cheddarup link to contribute.

II. Jennie Preece, Community Service Committee Chair

Jennie Preece, Community Service Committee Co-chair (with Mimi Skeehan) addressed the community to update everyone on the new committee focus. Cottonwood has had a tradition of service. Some community service activities include helping hands, book drives, treats for troops, etc. The new co-chairs have considered how to move the committee forward to include tradition and more hands-on experience from the kids. It's important that the kids be involved. There is no meaning and depth without student involvement. They have made an effort to connect our service and giving projects to school & curriculum. Service learning is important. The teachers have been approached. The goal is to have a grade level focus so students can own their service project. This is totally voluntary and the committee will help organize projects or events. This year's "Treats for Troops" posters were made by Second Grade students during their snack/recess. They know what is going on and are a part of it. We could even incorporate a service component in PTO sponsored happenings/parties. Grade 4 is focusing on the environment. Grade 5 is trying to combine their passion for animals and serving the elderly. Kindergarten has chosen to focus on Puerto Rico hurricane help. Mimi & Jennie will send grade level emails. First & Third grade have not chosen anything yet.

Helping hands is still going to happen. It will be led by student leadership. In the past, people have adopted families. It was suggested that we could break families up into individuals to make it easier for everyone to participate.



Stacy Johnson reminded the community that “Santa’s Helpers” accepts used toys. They take many items that people think aren't good to anyone but they donate them to Maker’s Workshops where they make new things with them. If you are clearing out before the holidays, consider donating to a reputable charitable organization. Paula Hruska suggested third grade might contact this organization and do a used toy drive. Another idea would be to partner with Meals on Wheels. Students can write letters to be delivered with the meals.

III. Winnie Chang - not yet present. Susan Mui spoke on her behalf. The Cultural Connections committee is preparing for it’s 6th annual Holiday Potluck on November 15 at 6-8pm in the Cottonwood Creek Elementary Cafeteria. Everyone is encouraged to come. You are welcome to bring any food you like. It can be from any holiday celebration.

IV. PTO Co-Ways & Means, Stacy Johnson

Fundraising Updates:

Carnival was very successful despite the change in date.

Evereve shopping day & Tea collection online shopping event were both successful fundraising events.

Papa John’s Pizza on Halloween was also a success.

Upcoming Events - no PTO sponsored events/parties in the near future.

V. PTO Co-Treasurer, Lisa Farr

Lisa Farr distributed a profit & loss sheet. She highlighted a few noteworthy items:

Caller sales - amount sold to community brought in \$3,510.

Caller Sponsors brought in \$5,475.

Carnival Revenue was \$16,391.90 The expenses were under budget.

Run for Funds brought in \$48,099.69.

School wide enrichment expenses (“Inside the Orchestra” presentation & 2nd grade author visit by Kathleen Kelly) have totaled \$650 to date.

Parents are encouraged to ask their employers if they participate in Employee match programs. Parents should also be reminded to please keep using their reloadable King Soopers cards. It’s an easy way to support the school - we get 5% back on each purchase. Overall, we’re doing great in terms of budget for this time of year

VII. PTO Co-Secretary, Darcy Kinnersley

Darcy Kinnersley informed the community of the following upcoming dates:

November	6-9	Book Fair
November	7	PIN Presentation 9:15am
November	8	District Accountability Meeting 6pm
November	9	Special Education Advisory Meeting 9:30am
November	9	Veteran’s Day Program 1:45pm
November	9	Chick-fil-A Restaurant Day



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November	10	No School/Conferences
November	13	Board of Education Meeting
November	15	Cultural Connections Family Holiday Potluck 6-8pm
November	15	PIN Meeting 7pm
November	16	CCCLN Committee Breakfast w/ Legislators 7am
November	16	1st Grade Program 1:45pm & 6pm
November	22-24	No School/Thanksgiving Break

VIII. Q&A

There were no questions.

IX. Meeting Close

Marnie adjourned the meeting at 8:44.