



General PTO Meeting Minutes

Friday, September 16, 2016, 9 am, Cafeteria

Minutes:

I. Attendees

Marnie Kamensky, Amy Shineman, Stacy Johnson, Cat Sinclair, Jen Feingold, Lisa Farr, Cher Serhal, Melisande Holohan, Sally Park, Lindsey Talaga, Namie Liu, Susan Mui, Sally Wang, Kanchan Kanel, Linda Zhao, Alice Xu, Theresa Holyer, Jenny Ren, Jre Song, Xiuping (Sue) Wang, Darcy Kinnersley, Tina Nagamani, Steph Fisher, Sunny Shim

I. Welcome, Prior Meeting Minutes Approval

Steph Fisher, Co-President, welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 9:05 am. The PTO Exec Board was asked to stand and introduce themselves followed by all attendees.

- Steph Fisher & Sunny Shim - Co-presidents
- Jen Feingold & Marnie Kamensky - Co-Vice Presidents
- Cat Sinclair & Lisa Farr - Co-Treasurers
- Cher Serhal & Darcy Kinnersley - Co-Secretaries

II. Principal's Update

- Julie Jaeger, Principal, introduced herself. She shared that Cottonwood has over 600 students this year. She thanked everyone for attending the meeting and for supporting their children's education. She introduced Eric Parish, Board of Education & parent of CCSD students.

III. Eric Parish, Board of Education, 3A/3B Discussion

- Eric Parish spoke about Ballot measure 3A/3B – it's coming up. 3A is a mill levy override (new money for innovation) that will affect property taxes. 3B is a loan the district needs to borrow for upkeep & overdue maintenance to district facilities.



- He outlined how you can support it and get involved. His reasons for supporting the measure are as follows: 1. Student success – students will be prepared for whatever comes next. 2. There is a high correlation of the success of CCSD and property value. There is a premium that comes with the houses in this district. 3. There is a sense of community that comes with our school district. There is a sense of pride, community & connection.
- He urged everyone to vote for 3A/3B! The ballot will have multiple pages. This measure will be buried at the bottom. Don't get ballot fatigue, go there first and vote yes. You can sign-up to get a yard sign to campaign in your neighborhood. Facebook page (Citizens for Cherry Creek Schools) & website (www.CitizensForCherryCreekSchools.com) has more information. You can volunteer on this site as well. Three mailers will go out. Finally, tell your family, friends, colleagues, co-workers & neighbors to vote yes. The school has information cards, different from the mailers that parents can take and share with neighbors. There was a question regarding the senator's stance on the measure. Eric Parish did not feel comfortable speaking on someone else's behalf. Eric addressed several questions and listened to comments from Julie and other parents. It was stressed that the state is underfunding schools. Schools need maintenance & upkeep and these expenses can't come at a cost to what's happening in the classroom.

IV. Rebecca Peterson, Carnival Food Drive

- Rebecca (not present) wanted to speak about the Carnival Food Drive. Steph Fisher spoke on her behalf. Donations go to Fresh Harvest Food Bank in Lone Tree. Fill the bag and bring it to the carnival or drop it off at Rebecca's house prior to the carnival. Her address will be on the flyer.

V. Ways and Means: Amy Shineman

- Amy Shineman, Ways and Means, spoke about the carnival. Carnival is a great community event. It will take place on Friday, Sept. 23 (non-contact day). Carnival is included in the Cougar Pride package, if you bought that. Come to ticket sales and show your card. Tickets will go on sale Wednesday & Thursday before school & after school & will also be sold on the day of the event. *Dippin' Dots will replace snow cones this year. Dunk tank will be replaced by a "jail".
- Dudes & Daughters Dance is tonight, Friday, September 16! Mother & Son Kickball Tournament is scheduled for Saturday, September 17.
- There will be no online auction in the fall this year. It will be in the spring instead. The online auction is a big fundraiser.



- Spirit wear has been distributed. The committee will try to get a better guess on sizes next year.
- Doggie Dip & Dive fundraiser at CCV pool was a huge success!
- Updates & Reminders: The deadline to order Taziki's is today. The cost is \$30 for a meal for a family of 4. Also, Evereve shopping day is on October 12. Evereve is a clothing store in the Vistas at Park Meadows. Shop online or go to the store and support Cottonwood. A percentage of the sales will come back to the school. *If you shop online, please call the store to place order to ensure that Cottonwood receives credit for the sale.
- Steph reported that Run 4 Funds was a huge success. Last year we made approximately \$42,000 gross. This year we made approximately \$53,000 gross which is \$11,000 more than last year - which exceeded our goal.

Budget Review & Ratification, Cat Sinclair

- Cat Sinclair, Treasurer, gave a report on the budget. She distributed copies of the budget to those who wanted them. She explained the budget can be tricky because we are basing everything on the previous year. Cottonwood has brought in \$54,000 already this year and it's only September. Thanks to everyone for the donations! Big fundraisers will slow down after carnival. Cat thanked everyone for the time & effort they give. The budget funds 6 TA salaries at \$70,000. Overages are voted on at the end of the school year by the Cottonwood community. Budget was approved.

VII. Calendar Update, Cher Serhal

- Cher Serhal, Secretary, spoke about the Trunk or Treat event that was added to the calendar on Monday, October 31. This was done in years past and was very popular with the kids. Parents can buy candy, decorate their cars/trunks and park them in the Cottonwood parking lot to hand out candy to the kids/trick or treaters. It's scheduled to start at 5pm. More information to come. No school next Friday, Sept. 23.

VIII. New Business

- Sally Park reminded everyone that the deadline to put an advertisement in the caller is approaching. We need a few more ads so please contact Sally if interested.
- Steph thanked Nicole Tersch for chairing Run 4 Funds this year. Also, Nicole Tersch & Sara Beckley did a fantastic job chairing school supplies. Amy Shineman & Stacy Johnson were thanked for their efforts with Spirit wear.



- Taste of Cottonwood/Cultural Connections co-chair, Susan Mui, asked the community to bring a dish to contribute to the Taste of Cottonwood Table at the Carnival. Tastes cost 1 ticket.
- Next PTO meeting is November 18 at 9am.

IX. Meeting Close

- There being no further question or additional business proposed, upon motion, the meeting was adjourned at 10:06 am