

## Costello PTO Minutes

Monday, January 10, 2022

Attendance: Dr. DiPonio, Katie Monhaut, Debbie Ballios, Ingrid Peeples, Amy Miller, Jen Ford, Jenni Brozowski, Courtney Oudsema, Paul Tennies, Jon Harris, Zetter Slappy, Angie Cheek, Chris Tallman, Kristin Cermak, Melanie Harper, Michelle Tessoff, Erin Roenicke, Sarah, Suzanne Powell, Veronica Pala, Katelyn Atkinson, Jamie Kaniarz, Maren Pulchin, Alexander, Mliz Maven

### **Troy Youth Assistance Presentation by Mliz Maven and Zetter Slappy**

- Services for children ages 4-16
- Includes casework service, short term family counseling
- Safe environment to help children on all levels (approx. 14-20 cases per month)
- Presented the various services and resources offered in the following areas: Youth recognition, counseling, skill/experience building, mentoring, family education, youth involvement
- Summer camps offered: they award 95 \$300 scholarships
- Always seeking male and female mentors; stipends and partnerships available
- Girls Stand Strong and Boys Stand Strong programs offered for graded 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>
- Next Zoom meeting for TYA is January 24<sup>th</sup>; all are welcome to learn more

### **Debbie Ballios called the meeting to order at 7:25 PM**

#### **Secretary Report**

Katie Monhaut presented the minutes from the November meeting. Amy Miller made a motion to approve the minutes and Paul Tennies seconded. The minutes were approved.

#### **Treasurer Report**

Mrs. Tallman presented the budget report. We have \$25,133.30 in our savings account and \$27,320.08 in our checking account. The income statement shows we have raised \$31,615.09 so far this year. We have spent about \$5000 this year. Jamie Kaniarz motioned to approve the report and Paul Tennies seconded.

#### **President Report**

Debbie Ballios reported that she recently visited the new Alternative Education building

and was very impressed. She made the suggestion that we hold a future meeting there to give the opportunity for others to see.

### **Vice-President Report**

Jen Ford shared a thank you from the staff for the pizza lunch. She reported that Principal Appreciation week will be February 7<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup>. Teacher Appreciation week will be May 2<sup>nd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>. Square One art was sent home and due by February 10<sup>th</sup>.

### **Principal Report**

Dr. DiPonio had many "Thank Yous" to share. Thank you to Jenni and Jamie for serving hot chocolate at the Winter Wonderland event and to Melanie Harper for her work and coordination. Thank you to Emily Pizak for coordinating the festive music.

Thank you to all who participated in the holiday walk for Moon Beams. Over \$2000 was raised and donated. Thank you for your support to Oxford schools as well.

Important dates:

Teacher of the Year nominations are being accepted through January 20<sup>th</sup>.

January 12<sup>th</sup> will be a late start for students.

No school on January 17<sup>th</sup> for MLK and no school on January 31<sup>st</sup> for teacher professional learning.

March 18<sup>th</sup>: Auction at McVee's

April 13<sup>th</sup>: Kindergarten Round Up-PTO volunteers needed for this event

A message of gratitude and appreciation from Tanya Myre on the prayers, thoughts, and bracelet that was given to her in the loss of her nephew in the Oxford tragedy.

Dr. DiPonio stated she is excited that students are back at school and thanks to all for following safety protocols.

### **Teacher Representative Report**

Mrs. Tessoft shared the staff's appreciation for the pizza lunch. Teachers are excited about the return of field trips and thank you to Jen Ford for coordinating the Square One art and making the video with instructions. Mrs. Tessoft also thanked the PTO for holding the Winter Wonderland.

Students and staff are excited about the possibility of a new gaga ball pit. It might be a possibility for 3<sup>rd</sup> grade persuasive writing.

## **Room Parent Chair**

Mrs. Kaniarz thanked everyone for their help with the Winter Wonderland. Thanks to all volunteers and Melanie Harper for planning.

## **Spirit Wear Report**

Spirit Wear is available for purchase on the website. A QR code was also generated to link to the shop.

## **Ways and Means Report**

Mrs. Roenicke reported that we made approximately \$200 from Mod Pizza night. January 25<sup>th</sup> will be the McVee's restaurant day/evening.

## **Fun Run Report**

Paul Tennies reported that all Fun Run celebrations will be pending in the Spring. The banner was ordered and hung in the cafeteria for our top fundraising student, Abby Cermak. Congrats to Abby!

## **Fair Report**

Melanie Harper proposed the dates of April 22<sup>nd</sup> or 23<sup>rd</sup> for the fair. They will need volunteers from families and NJS. She will work with Jenni to form a committee for this event. The idea of a food truck (pizza?) was also discussed. Possible locations were discussed (outside, Athens?).

## **Auction Report**

Katie Monhaut reported that the auction planning is underway. The event will be held at McVee's in Troy on March 18<sup>th</sup>. We will post raffle items online prior to the event for people who cannot attend but want to participate. Tickets will be \$10 each and sales will begin mid-February. More information will be posted in the Facebook group and e-news.

## **Community Service Report**

Discussed the possibility of collecting pop tabs for a future service project.

## **Green Schools Report**

Amy Miller reported that DTE Energy will be giving their presentation to 4<sup>th</sup> graders in March/April timeframe. Energy kits will also be handed out. She is working with Suzy to compile data on classroom activities to support this cause. First graders will learn about solar power pollution and fourth grade will focus on the environment and energy conservation in classrooms.

## **Publicity/Web Coordinator Report**

Kristin Cermak is continuing to update the PTO Facebook page with announcements and events. She will also be posting the baskets for the auction on the Facebook page. This is Mrs. Cermak's last year at Costello and she is seeking a replacement for this PTO position. Please reach out if interested!

### **Old Business**

#### Playground Enhancements

- Jen Ford presented the information on the gaga ball pit. She discussed the wood chips and the discount of wood from the Millers. We will need to cushion around \$500 for the inflating costs of wood. Debbie Ballios made a motion to approve the gaga ball pit and installation (installation would be an extra \$500-1500). Jamie Kaniarz seconded the motion and a vote was held. All were in favor to proceed with the purchase.

### **New Business**

#### Drive In Movie

- Ingrid Peebles asked for interest in continuing the outdoor movie this spring. The response seemed very favorable. She proposed the end of May or first week in June to avoid the last week of school.

#### Classroom Shirts

- Ingrid Peebles reported that shirts would be ordered for the next school year at the beginning of the year so students can wear them at the Fun Run. She will work with Jenny Martus on this.

Kristin Cermak made the motion to end the meeting and Paul Tennes seconded. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 8:16 P.M.

The next PTO meeting will be held on Monday, February 7th @ 7:00 PM via Zoom.