

Costello PTO Meeting Minutes Monday, September 11, 2017 @ 7 pm

Attendance: Laura Saleski, Kristin Cermak, Stephanie Fraser, Catherine Bahouka, Steve Dunneback, Shannon Burt, Chris Tallman, Angela Gnyp-Whitmore, Keri Elliott, Shailaja Daram, Allison Allen, Amy Miller, Katie Monhaut, Paul Tennies, Manish Patel, Ghulam Javed, Melissa Duggan, and Jennifer Thomack.

Mr. Dunneback made introductions and called the meeting to order at 7:02 P.M.

Secretary Report

Mr. Dunneback presented the minutes from the June 12th meeting. Mr. Dunneback made a motion to approve the minutes and Mrs. Cermak seconded. The minutes were approved.

Treasurer Report

Mrs. Fraser presented our current budget and the budget from last year to show where we are. An adjustment will need to be made to the teacher allocation line item due to 2 new classrooms.

President Report

Mr. Dunneback wanted to welcome everyone again and encourage parent involvement. We encourage people to help us make decisions for our school and our children.

Vice-President Report

Mrs. Kobal is looking forward to feedback regarding school supply ordering, delivery and if anything was missing from the kits this year. The distribution of the kits went well and the feedback she has received so far has been positive.

Principal Report

Dr. DiPonio reported we have had a smooth start to the year. Thank you to the parents, arrival and departure are going smoothly. We have 394 students. We are growing and that is a good thing. We had a great celebration on Day 2 regarding the writing project of Mrs. Thudium's 3rd grade class from last year. The entire student body participated. It inspired other students to participate. We had 120 families come to our pizza night. It was very nice. Thank you to the PTO members that were able to participate. We are looking for noon aides and healthcare aides. We love having parents involved and here.

Teacher Representative Report

Mr. McKinney reported we are very excited for the new year. There were lots of pockets of learning with professional development over the summer. Some of our teachers were able to go to Columbia University and study the Lucy Calkins reading and writing curriculum. Our teachers are excited; it will be a great year.

Room Parent Chair Report

Mrs. Monhaut reported the poster boards are being prepared for curriculum night. There are different areas to volunteer. She encouraged parents to please try to get involved as much as schedules will allow. A room parent meeting will be September 21 at 7 PM.

Spirit Wear Report

Mrs. Allen reported a flier will be going home with information regarding the ordering website. Everything is done online and ordering can be done throughout the year. Parents have the choice to keep orders in the office or delivered to our child's classroom. She refreshed the logo a bit, added girl shorts, tank tops for Mom's for field day and car decals will be available this year. There is a sample bin in the office if you need to have your student stop in and try on sizes.

Ways and Means Report

Mrs. Leonard explained what events she organizes throughout the year. Box tops for education contests - U of M vs MSU and a classroom contest in the New Year. We receive money from Kroger and Hollywood Market from doing our grocery shopping. Skate Night will be Thursday, November 16. It is only Costello families at the event that night. We have restaurant nights at Chipotle, BW3, Noodles, etc, a portion of our bill is donated to the school. Square 1 Art is later in the school year. Our kids draw a picture, we pick out something out of a catalog with it on it.

Fun Run/Fair

Mr. Tennes reported the Fun Run will be October 13 from 9:30-12:30 and the kick off assembly is September 27. The school does 2 fund raisers each year. This is a student based fundraiser and it is growing every year. We grossed just over \$18,000 last year. Our usual goal is \$50 per student but this year it is \$55 per student. Preschoolers will be involved this year, not to collect donations but to get them involved and be part of the school. To help build momentum, we will have a Hawaiian theme this year. The motivation behind that is from Costello to Hawaii is 4400 miles. The committee is trying to come up with ideas of how to partner with the community to get donations. Is it possible to sell ads in our Student Directory? If approved, the goal is to raise \$2,000 in ad revenue. Maybe we can add something to our Facebook page or PTO website. The PTO is able to ask for donations, Costello cannot. This year, we will have vendor tables at the event. For a nominal fee they can display their goods. Some schools give a T-shirt back to students but then how much are we raising? We vote was taken, Costello will have a paper directory and the Fun Run Committee can sell ads.

Mrs. Henderson will be chairing the fair this year on March 17th. The fair raises a little bit of money but our yearly goal is to break even. It is a fun day for the families.

Auction Report

Mrs. Thomack reported the auction is an adults only, night out event, usually the first Friday in March, at Petruzzello's. We raised \$14,000 her first year and are now at \$30,000. We usually have 160-170 people there. We receive donations from all over

the country, all over the world. We have gift baskets, Safari, Caribbean, and Mackinaw Island trips. Donor letters will go home in October/November. People will donate items that will go towards baskets. We send about 1100 letters out requesting donations. We are starting to meet this week. We meet monthly until January and then it is weekly. This is a great way to meet other parents.

Community Service

Mrs. Gynp-Whitmore would like to send a flier out to help collect items for hurricane victims. She is waiting for Oakland County to release a letter with what is needed.

Green Schools

Mrs. Miller reported Costello earned the Evergreen designation again last year. She is sending out communication to teachers to see what they are doing and what we can add.

Web Coordinator

Mrs. Schreiber updates the PTO.org website. She added Mrs. Gynp-Whitmore's and Mrs. Allen's phone number and will add a line item for the spirit wear.

Publicity

Mrs. Cermak reported she will create an event on Facebook for the Fun Run so it will be in one spot along with any videos that are created. People can ask questions or make comments or communication on the page.

Old Business

Please don't hesitate to ask questions. We are all a community.

New Business

None

The next Costello PTO meeting will be held October 9, 2017 at 7 PM.

Mrs. Fraser made a motion to end the meeting and Mrs. Thomack seconded. Meeting adjourned at 8:09 P.M