

Costello PTO Minutes

Monday, November 8, 2021

Attendance: Jen Ford, Katie Monhaut, Chris Tallman, Dr. DiPonio, Ingrid Peeples, Kelsey Kavulich, Paul Tennes, Jenni Brozowski, Amy Miller, Michelle Tesso, Kris Griffor, Whitney & Scarlett Northey, Keri Elliott, Jamie Kaniarz, Elizabeth, Lindsey Miller, MG, Kristin Cermak, Jill Flaherty, Angie Cheek, Melanie Harper, Nicks

District Update by Kris Griffor, Elementary Assistant Superintendent of Education Fall 2021 Update:

- Celebrate Return to School/Kids in seat
- Sports, Bands, Concerts, Clubs, Theatre, Activities back in action
- 2 schools awarded Blue Ribbon Schools: Barnard and Leonard
- 2 schools recognized with National Schools Character: Bemis and Troy Union
- Reviewed Four Pillars-World Class by 2020 (World Class for ALL student groups promoting equity and excellence)
- District enrollment down approximately 500 students; on trend with state data and numbers
- Current district challenges include budget, enrollment, COVID-19 challenges, staffing, custodial staff

Jen Ford called the meeting to order at 7:19 PM

Secretary Report

Katie Monhaut presented the minutes from the October meeting. Kristin Cermak made a motion to approve the minutes and Jamie Kaniarz seconded. The minutes were approved.

Treasurer Report

Mrs. Tallman presented the budget report. There has been movement in the savings account, we have \$25,130.13 in savings and \$6,577.28 in checking. So far we have spent about \$2K of our total budget. We have profited \$7300 so far from Amazon and Fun Run.

Katie Monhaut made motion to approve the bank report. Kristin Cermak seconded the motion.

Chris Tallman submitted documents to the IRS which are due 12/11th for our 503 status. She also reported that she recently attended the treasurer meeting for all Troy PTO. There they discussed the possibility and benefits of insurance for the PTO and will look into policies. This would protect from injuries at PTO events, malpractice, etc. Mrs. Tallman also reported they discussed various funding ideas for class parties and other school events.

President Report/Vice-President Report

Jen Ford welcomed all to the meeting and celebrated the success of the Fun Run. Thank you to Paul Tennes and Ingrid Peeples for their efforts. Also a thank you to Keri Elliot for her organization of the Ellie's House event. Thank you to Jamie Kaniarz for her efforts in organizing the classroom fall parties. It feels good to have normalcy!

The directory is finished and in the process of printing. For the future we might consider only utilizing the district directory.

Square One Art: Jen Ford has reached out to Mrs. Myre and art will most likely not be completed in the art classroom this year. Information will be sent home to students and families on how to submit the artwork of their choice.

Gage Ball Pit: Jen has received solid quotes and will continue to research various options (cement vs mulch, composite wood vs wood and longevity, etc).

Principal Report

Dr. DiPonio gave a huge shout out to Paul Tennies and Ingrid Peeples for all of their efforts in coordinating the Fun Run. It was a HUGE success, rain or shine! Mr. Tennies and Mrs. Peeples opened a thank you gift from the school.

Parent Teacher conferences were successful. Teachers are continuing job embedded teacher training. Classrooms have received Apple TV's to enhance instruction. The school and district is still in need of subs, health care workers, noon aides, and bus drivers. Please reach out if you or someone you know is interested. The first delayed start will be this Wednesday and will continue approximately once a month. Shout out to teachers Zach Rondot and Greyson McKinney for leading a community conversation on Bullying.

Teacher Representative Report

Mrs. Tessoff shared the staff's appreciation for all that the PTO does. Thank you for providing transportation to the 5th grader's camp experience. Also, thank you for the funding of the Scholastic news for 3rd grade nonfiction units as well as class allocations for all grade levels. Thank you for all of the Fun Run efforts!

Room Parent Chair

Mrs. Kaniarz thanked the teachers for their aid with party planning for the fall party. All were a success!

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 \$90 from the Hummus Palace fundraiser. We will host the Mod Pizza event on November 17th.

Fun Run Report

SO grateful for all of the work of Paul and Ingrid to make this a success. Mr. Tennies reported that we have grossed \$32,621 with a net of \$29,600! We are very grateful for our generous

community. We are in need of future volunteers for a new generation of Fun Runs to come. Please consider joining this team in upcoming years. The results are a true testament to our Costello community. We had amazing donations this year.

A HUGE thank you to Paul Tennes and Ingrid Peoples for their work on this fundraiser!

Fair Report

Melanie Harper and Jenni Brozowski both expressed interest in helping chair this event. Tentative timeline looks to be late April and held outside.

Auction Report

Mrs. Monhaut reported that plans are in place for a modified auction to be held in March. This year will have a hybrid of online and in person raffle items. The event will be held at McVee's in Troy on March 18th. The committee is always looking for people who are willing to help! Contact Katie Monhaut if interested. More information will be posted on the PTO Facebook page and e-news.

Community Service Report

Keri Elliot reported on the success of the recent Ellie's House outreach event. A huge THANK YOU for all who made donations. It was a great turn out. Kids made cards and 240 bags were made (the organization lead also reached out at that time they were low on bags which was perfect timing to help support). Money that was donated via Venmo was also used to purchase Amazon Wishlist items for Ellie's house (hats, gloves, underwear, etc). Thank you to Keri for leading and allowing our students this opportunity to serve and gather in a safe way!

Green Schools Report

Amy Miller reported that she is in the process of touching base with teachers on ideas and ways to continue. The DTE Energy program will be offered for 4th grade students. The Crayola program has been discontinued this year. We will continue to explore new and fresh ideas and ways to maintain our status.

Publicity/Web Coordinator Report

Kristin Cermak reported that emails have been updated on the PTO website. She will also continue to post events on the Facebook page.

Old Business

Playground Enhancements

New Business

Trunk or Treat: Lindsey Miller expressed interest in hosting/organizing a school trunk or treat next school year.

Moon Beams Walk: There will be a walk hosted by the community on December 10th to support the Beaumont program. Walk the lit arches and make a donation for the Moon Beams drive. More information to come.

Paul Tennes made the motion to end the meeting and Kristin Cermak seconded. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 8:11 P.M.

The next PTO meeting will be held on Monday, January 10th @ 7:00 PM via Zoom.