

Cutchogue East PTA Meeting Minutes:

09/13/2022

The following board members were in attendance at the meeting:

Kerri Chituk – President

Dina Knudsen – Vice President

Amanda Sena-Ayzenberg – Treasurer

Dana Forlenza - Secretary

Kerri Chituk made a motion to call the meeting to order. The meeting was all called to order at 7:07PM. A quorum of members was present via Google Meet.

Kerri Chituk introduced the Executive Board Members and discussed the plans for the PTA to move toward going paperless this year, she also requested that everyone opt in to communication from the PTA via the QR codes provided on the flyers sent home from school or via the new website. She spoke about the need for PTA Class Reps again this year, as well as bi-lingual reps to help push information to families.

Kerri Chituk gave a tour of the new website – www.mc-pta.org - and explained that any communication or flyers sent home from school will also be on the website in both English and Spanish and can be found under the flyers tab. She also explained that all membership will be digital via MemberHub and showed the link to click to become a member. Kerri also advised that the PTA is on Facebook and requested that members follow the page.

Kerri Chituk reviewed the summer projects including the decals that were installed in the bathrooms and stairway. She advised that the PTA is hoping to do the rest of the bathrooms and stairways this year.

The following events were discussed:

- Kindergarten Orientation – Took place at the end of August.
- Open Houses – K-2 took place on 9/12/2022, 3-4 and 5-6 are coming up on 9/19/2022 and 9/28/2022 respectively.
- Shoe Drive Fundraiser – Currently under way and running thru November.

The following upcoming events were discussed:

- Prestige Fundraiser
- Fun Family and Fitness Event – Possible Event
- Wingo – Will take place on the 1st Friday of every month, except April, starting in October
- Parents Night Out – Possible Event – Possibly involving Expert Martial Arts
- Trunk or Treat Fall Social – Opening to UPK – 6th grade this year, adding a pumpkin carving contest.

- Staff Appreciation Lunch – Usually catered by Ammirati’s.
- Halloween Candy Buy-Back
- Teacher Mini-Grants – There will be 5 grants of \$300 each this year – Teachers have to apply via an online form
- Scholastic Book Fair – Used to be Follet, but they have gone out of business, so we are switching to Scholastic for at least this year – Will be open during November PTA meeting.
- Possible holiday event at Santa’s or Shamrock
- Deck the Halls Winter Social – Indoor Movie
- Holiday Shoppe – Will be open during Deck the Halls Winter Social.
- The entire month of January is PARP (Pick A Reading Partner) – Need a theme, calendar of events, and possible assembly.
- Possible Harlem Wizards event – Waiting for Greg Wormuth (Athletic Director at MHS) to give schedule, but would likely take place on a Monday, Tuesday, or Wednesday at the high school. This will pair with the Wiz-Fit Challenge – Kids will sign up and get sponsored by family and/or friends to stay fit for 2 weeks. After the 2 weeks ends, two Wizards are sent to the school and pump the kids up for the event. Ticket sales open shortly after the Wiz-Fit Challenge ends.

In order to make all of the planned events happen, Kerri Chituk stressed that a lot of volunteers are needed and urged everyone to fill out the volunteer form on the website. Kerri also stressed that the PTA’s books need to be subject to a monthly audit and a volunteer is needed to conduct these audits ASAP. It was also mentioned that volunteers are needed ASAP for the Shoe Drive that is currently underway as shoes need to be collected and tallied every Friday. It was also mentioned that Kim Lappe will need a lot of help with Wingo, now that it is becoming a monthly event, and the Trunk or Treat will require volunteers.

The Herbie’s Crumbcake Fundraiser was discussed as it was very popular last year, but may not happen this year as the owner had an accident and may not be able to fill orders this year.

Kerri stressed that the Executive Board is trying to put as much in order this year as possible, as this is her last year as President and someone new will need to take over next year. The election will take place at the Spring meeting.

Kerri Chituk discussed the CE Spirit Wear – She advised that she currently has the Team K shirts in kids sizes for the Kindergarten class, and the Carleton Adult shirts are coming in shortly. She also advised that blue, gold, and white t-shirts and hoodies have been ordered from squad locker and should also be arriving shortly. Kerri also discussed the squad locker website and explained that anyone can order online from them directly and can change the color and logo on all of the items they offer.

Treasurer’s Report:

Amanda Sena-Ayzenberg presented the treasurer’s report. Amanda re-capped the closing of the books for the 2021-2022 school year:

- At the start of the 2021-2022 school year there was a balance of \$40,600.00 in the Checking account, and at the end of the year there was a balance of \$52,100.00 in the Checking account.

- At the start of the 2021-2022 school year there was a balance of \$10,127.00 in the Money Market account, and at the end of the 2021-2022 school year there was a balance of \$10,128.00 in the Money Market account.
- At the start of the 2021-2022 school year there was a balance of \$15,205.00 in the Business Savings account, and at the end of the 2021-2022 school year there was a balance of \$15,206.00 in the Business Savings Account.
- At the end of the 2021-2022 school year, there was a Net Gain of \$11,500.00 in the Checking account, \$1.00 in the Money Market account, and \$1.00 in the Business Savings account.

Amanda advised that the PTA's accountant is reviewing and will advise how to account for the funds to be set aside for the Outdoor Learning Space and where to put the funds.

Budget Vote:

Amanda Sena-Ayzeberg presented the proposed budget for the 2022-2023 school year. The total budget for all incentives planned by the PTA is \$50,499.00. The estimated income for the PTA this year is \$51,325.00.

The floor was opened for budget-related questions:

- Julie Dantes asked if there is any contingency money set aside to help kids who do not have money to shop at the book fair and/or holiday shoppe. It was discussed that it is hard to tell who needs money to shop with and who forgot their money at home – It was also discussed that last year teachers/parents donated money which was pulled for the kids when needed – It was discussed that the PTA will try to figure out a “slush” fund for these events and/or a possible donation of books that kids can take for free.

Once the question-and-answer period was over, Kerri Chituk called for a vote on the 2022-2023 budget. As the meeting took place on Google Meet, the vote was done by a show of hands. Dana Forlenza counted the votes and confirmed that the **2022-2023 budget has passed.**

Principal's Report:

Principal Amy Brennan spoke and advised that this is a year of conversations, celebrations, and collaborations. She advised that the school will be forming a playground committee for the re-design of the playground, which will partner with the Outdoor Learning Space donation from the PTA, and will also be revising the Elementary Report Cards. Mrs. Brennan advised that she would like to have parent input on both of these. Mrs. Brennan also spoke about the school's presence on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter, and advised that they are trying to post weekly updates with photos. She also reviewed the club offerings for grades 3 and up.

Question and Answer Period:

Lena DeSantis asked Amy Brennan: If there were too many kids signed up for a club, could we get extra helpers/volunteers to help out so nobody gets cut from the list who wanted to join. She volunteered to be a parent helper if needed. Amy said that only happened in one club/instance last year and that it shouldn't be a problem this year.

Lauren Antonucci asked Kerri Chituk: Where to go to view the sign up volunteer document for events, and Kerri showed her the link on the website. Lauren also asked if WINGO was a family event or drop-off and Kerri advised it was a fun event for the whole family.

Kerri Chituk made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 8:06PM.

Members and Guests in Attendance:

Julie Dantes

Bryanne Kmiotek

Amy Brennan

Anastasia Cobis

Kelly Collamore

Molly Jernick

Richard Stauffer

Victor Marroquin

Mrs. Green

Lena Desantis

Lauren Anonucci

“Unknown” guest