

## Minutes of CES PTO Dec 10, 2024 Meeting

**Officers:** Aaron Zain, Heather Cobb, Jen Rice, Mia Park, Tyson Stoddard

**Attendees:** Aaron Zain, Jen Rice, Mia Park, Evin Liljengren, Allison Abramson, Laura McGuire, Brendan Mahoney

Motion to begin at 6:00 pm.

### **Approval of March Meeting Minutes (Mia Park)**

- Motion to approve minutes 6:00 pm by Jen Rice and Aaron Zain seconds.

### **President's Report (Aaron Zain)**

- ½ way through the year and amazed at all the parent volunteers that stepped up to make events happen so far.
- Future events: Have a chair and committee for spring fling with tentative date, and folks stepping up to lead and willing to volunteer for bingo and basket raffle night
- Need to make a list of remaining events and send out a blurb
- Happy holidays!

### **Principal Report (Aaron Z)**

- PTO needs a teacher/staff representative to attend meeting

### **Holiday Craft Night (Allison Abramson)**

- Great community event, thanked volunteers 9 tables, all materials donated
- Planned for 50-100 students and worked well, seems to be
- 6<sup>th</sup> graders who did the bake sale were grateful and raised just under \$350
- Allison suggested we account for printing color flyers for each event. The craft night budget doesn't cover the cost of decorations and printing. Allison was happy to donate the decorations. Printing 200 copies at Staples in color was \$145 including tax.

### **Spring Fling**

- Thank you, Caitlin Calder and Meg Stewart for co-chairing!
- May 17<sup>th</sup> Spring Fair
- Have volunteers interested in helping

### **Bingo Basket Raffle**

- Thank you, Brendan Mahoney, for chairing!
- Old sign-up genius will be sent to Brendan; Allison volunteered to forward whatever emails she had and mentor when needed.
- Date set in February – Aaron will check exact date

### **Cultural Arts (Laura McGuire)**

- January-February: If any teachers want, they can invite Hartford Stage, but if not then teachers expressed interest in Eli Whitney Workshop - with wood structures that students build.
- Terra String Quartet (March)
- Later in spring: Motoko, Nemo Patel, Tree House Players

### **Treasurer's Report (Jen Rice on behalf of Heather Cobb)**

#### Income

Bank Interest \$2.43

#### Expenses

Table cloths \$96.90

### **Fish Tank Fundraiser (Aaron Zain)**

- School needs to replace existing fish tank
- One idea was to sell t-shirts designed by a student
  - Endless Stitch, Middletown, 1 color \$11.99, 50 t-shirt minimum
  - School Spirit, Online merchant, 1 color \$xx, 24 t-shirt minimum, have an artist resize
  - Aaron Z going to check with a local parent to see if price can be beat.
- Lori Lenz is willing to help but does not want it to be a competition.
- Mia Park suggests having students draw a sea creature, then create CES letters, one large fish, or even just a box with the graphics. Dave Nesdale, graphic artist, has agreed to help.
- Aaron does not have time to pursue grants. Could someone help? Fish tank may qualify for therapeutic grants. Someone who has time to make phone calls and research whether there are grants out there.
- Laura McGuire brought up the idea of doing a crowd source fundraising platform, e.g., YouChoose Fundraiser.

### **Enrichment snack cart for teachers (Jen Rice on behalf of Becca Sinusas)**

- Skipping this month, Dec.

### **Multi-language family night at CES (Jen Rice)**

- Looking for a volunteer to chair this event, preferably someone who is bilingual
- Last year had 4 families
- Jen Rice will send out a blurb and send to Aaron Z.

### **Yearbook committee (Jen Rice on behalf of Adele McAndrew)**

- Send craft night pictures

Next PTO meeting is 6-7pm on Tuesday, Jan 7<sup>th</sup> – note it will be the first week of January due to conflict with CES music concert.

Motion to adjourn at 6:38 by Jen Rice, Allison Abramson seconds