

Costello PTO Meeting Minutes Monday, April 11, 2016 @ 7 pm

Attendance: Laura Saleski, Jennifer Thomack, Raquel Schriber, Kristin Cermak, Colleen Moebus, Stacy Barnes, Lisa Holzknecht, JoAnn Dunlap, Amy Miller, Debbie Ballios, Veronica Pala, Steve Dunneback, Nithya Niranjana, Irene Christy, Stephanie Fraser and Tammy DiPonio.

Mr. Dunneback welcomed everyone to the meeting and made introductions. The meeting was called to order at 7:06 pm.

Secretary Report

Mr. Dunneback presented the meeting minutes from the February 8th meeting for review. Mrs. Fraser moved to approve the minutes and Mrs. Moebus seconded. The minutes were approved.

Treasurer Report

Mrs. Fraser reviewed Bank Transactions, Income Statements and the Budget Report. Dr. DiPonio will inquire about the bench donation. Mrs. Schriber made a motion to approve the reports and Mrs. Thomack seconded. The reports were approved.

President Report

No new report.

Vice-President's Report

Mrs. Moebus reminded us PTO Chair Positions still need to be filled. The positions will be listed in the next newsletter. Vice President's is responsible for the Parent Directory, Principal and teacher/staff appreciation weeks. Nomination forms will be in the office. There was a discussion on how to get more people involved in the PTO. One idea is to have parents sign up as a PTO representative for each classroom at Curriculum night. Another is to market the PTO more on the website, maybe a brief synopsis of the meeting minutes and budget. If the chairs know what will be discussed at the next meeting, post that as well. Mr. McKinney mentioned Barnes and Nobles is looking for a school to host a release party for Harry Potter on July 31 at midnight.

Principal Report

Dr. DiPonio reported that the Auction was amazing. Losing our current PTO members is a big deal. The Fair was awesome. Costello invited 2 other Oakland County schools to observe our Cultures of Thinking. Mrs. Holzknecht opened her classroom to be video taped. The student leadership was amazing; each classroom had a couple of student volunteers. There is a video on the website of how cultures of thinking has changed over the years. She really appreciated Principal week. The book was her favorite part. She went into almost every classroom and read *Going Places*. M-Step testing and is being done on the iPads this year. The state said testing will not be as long as it was last year. Our Nesting is going well, our last feature was greeting people, acknowledging people, paying attention, etc. Please explore around the website.

Teacher Representative Report

Mrs. Holzknrecht reported our all school Field trip will be held on Friday, May 27. We may be able to bump up budget so kids won't have to pay. The school is arriving in ½ hour waves. DNR Outdoor adventure, just opened in July, we will be there from 10 am to 1pm. She has split the classrooms so the Kindergarteners will be with their 5th grade buddies and one class with their 4th grade buddies, 6 teachers 6 classrooms on The Diamond Queen. The Diamond Belle will hold 1st, 2nd, 3rd & 2 of the 4th grade classes. Chaperones will pay their own way. There are limited spots on the boat for chaperones. It was decided that chaperones will be chosen on a first come, first serve basis. 22 spots for the Diamond Queen, 44 for Diamond Belle.

Fun Run Dodgeball game will probably be held the end of May during the school day. There will be 8 students participating and each will receive a special team shirt.

Safety patrol pizza lunch is Friday. Tuesday is parent orientation for Larson Middle School. April 20th, we have the Smoke house, Cardinal nests, blood drive, 1st grade musical and Swirl N Dipity. 5th grade field trip to the Charles H. Wright museum was just added to the calendar and will be on Friday, April 22. May 3rd safety orange bowl at Troy Lanes.

Room Parent Chair Report

Katie Monhaut is the Room Parent Chair for the 2016/2017 school year. On curriculum night, there needs to be at least 3 volunteer spots for the 5th grade Tea/celebration,

Ways and Means Report

No Report.

Fair Report

Mr. Dunneback reported that everyone did a great job. Thanks again for coming and volunteering. We spent a little bit more this year on the wax hands, but it seemed to have been better than last year.

Auction Report

Mrs. Thomack reported that we did a couple of things different this year. First, we hired an auctioneer, Charlie. Last year, we had 24 live items and made \$9370. This year we had 13 live items and made \$11450. Last year, we made \$7514 on the Silent part and this year we made \$9039 with almost the same amount of items. The Wagon of Fun went up \$100, but the Jokers Wild went down \$100. Total for the night \$22000 last year versus \$25420 this year. Last year at the Fair Silent Auction, we had 70 items and made \$1400. This year we had 20 items and made \$750. Classroom baskets, we made \$2800 last year and \$3400 this year. Grand total between the Fair and the Auction night – Last year \$26,500 and this year \$30,060.

All of the thank you cards have been sent. We may need to revisit the budget for next year's auction. We are budgeted to spend \$3000 and we spent \$4800. A large part of that was postage. We had 800 letters, 400 invitations, plus the thank you cards.

Community Service Report

No Report.

Green Schools Report

Amy Miller is the Green Schools Chair for the 2016/2017 school year.

Web Coordinator Report

No report.

Publicity Report

Costello is holding a Blood drive on April 20th from 2-8.

Hospitality Report

No report.

Old Business – We have not heard back on the Butterfly Garden. The slide should be installed soon. Everything has been processed and we are waiting for preschool play structure too, this is being paid by the preschool for PAL.

We have received lots of thank you's for the black top. The kids would like more 4 squares and we can probably do that ourselves versus having to hire it out.

Have we decided anything more regarding Picnic tables or benches?

New Business – TSD Diversity & Inclusion Council-Beyond Black & White event April 16
First time District has sponsored the event.

Stacy Barnes Volunteered to lead a Beautification committee. We can ask The Boy Scouts for volunteers. The District obligation is very minimal. There is a District Standard list in the works. School beautification has been submitted and is under consideration. It was requested for Stacy to put together what is needed so it may be placed on the budget as a special allocation for this year.

Mrs. Holzknicht would like to bring Science Alive to Costello as an indoor field trip next year. We will need to book this ASAP – budget item for next year.

The next Costello PTO meeting will be held May 9, 2016 @ 7 pm

Mrs. Schriber made a motion to end the meeting and Mrs. Fraser seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 pm.