

COTSWOLD SCHOOL
Minutes – PTA Board Meeting
September 30, 2016, 9:30am

Call to order

Stacy called to the meeting to order at 9:37am

Board Members Present: Stacy Beard, Ali Hoce, Morgan Cromwell, Emily Petersen, Kelly Catanese, Alison Tennent, Natalie Meek, Jena Holoman, Mandy Price, Michelle Abels, Kathryn King, Susie Wilcox, Jody Para, Katy Burge.

Staff Members Present: Alicia Hash, Genny Murrell

Board Members Absent: none

According to the bylaws, a quorum consists of a majority of Board Members (8/15). With 15 out of 15 Board members in attendance, a quorum was present.

Approve Meeting Minutes – September 1st Minutes- approved

Principal's update – Ms. Hash - No updates.

Teacher update- Ms. Murrell
No updates.

Budget Review – Kathryn King

-The following budget items have been added to this month's report:

- The 3rd and 4th grades purchased weekly reader magazine subscriptions.
- Teacher Gift Cards
- Staff Seminar/Professional development books
- Teacher grants

-There should not be anymore deductions for Clare's Garden or Cougar Courtyard at this time.

-We have a balance of approximately \$32,000.

Committee Reports

- **Admin Support-** Mandy Price
 - Staff Appreciation is going well
 - We have one nomination for October Staff Appreciation
 - Next clean-up day is scheduled for October 15th. We will offer extra recess for class with the most participation. Going to use budget to provide some snacks for the volunteers.
 - Lost and Found was moved back to Parent room and we don't know why. Will look into it.
 - Clare's Garden: Kelly was with the landscape and design crew last weekend while they got a lot accomplished. Depending on the weather, the statues will be moved on Monday. The rocks will be removed if the right equipment can be found. There will be a Rededication Ceremony in the Spring with the Porters present.
 - Mary Barlow's role as interior beautification is vacant now and it will not be filled at this time since her projects are all completed.

- **Enrichment-** Susie Wilcox
 - Mr. Fruendt will be conducting tutoring training Oct. 5th. 27 parents and community leaders were invited to attend.
 - Girls mentoring program is finalizing schedule.
 - Friday enrichment clubs are in their 6th year and going well. There are some exciting new offerings this year.
 - There will be a Reading Rocks celebration on 10/13/16.
 - There is grant from Wells Fargo that will be utilizing for our K-2 classrooms. 10 books per classroom will be donated as long as a volunteer will make plans to read the books to the class. We will try to loop it into our Read-a-thon day.

- **Events-** Jody Para
 - The walk-to-school days will no longer offer remote meeting locations due to construction and low attendance when using remote meeting places. They are looking for volunteers.
 - The 5th grade Dance and End-of-School party will be on the same day. This will keep everyone here for the pizza lunch and the parents were sent home survey to help make this decision. Most were supportive. 55 out of

110 kids have returned their forms to purchase 5th grade t-shirts. Hopefully that number will improve.

- o The next Meet and Eat is 10/18/16 and Mexican food will be served.
 - o The Mother/Son Event chairs have met and come up with 3 ideas for this spring's event: (1) Charlotte Hounds game, (2) Charlotte Independence Game, (3) Laser Tag. The board voted on the Charlotte Hounds game.
 - o The Parents Night Out website is live and taking RSVP's. It will be held at Improper Pig and we need about 150-200 to breakeven. The restaurant is being very accommodating to our needs.
 - o The sign-up genius for the book fair is live and taking volunteers. Please help if you can. Flyer is going home first week in October for scholarships.
-
- **Fundraising-** Alison Tennent
 - o Commit to Cotswold Update - We are on target, but not close to 100% participation. We have collected \$38,000 according to an update made during the meeting from Laura. We are considering an Out-of-Uniform day for classes with 100% participation to encourage more donations.
-
- **Marketing/Comm-** Emily Peterson
 - o MSA participation is lower than hoped, at about 50%. Ms. Hash will add a message in her next Connect Ed phone call to encourage more people to sign up.
 - o To submit Cougar Bite blurbs, please use and encourage chairs to use Media Submission form in Google Docs.
-
- **Community Partners-** Jena & Natalie
 - o We received \$25 from the last CFA Spirit Night. The relationship seems to not be going well from both sides. Spirit Nights are hard for them to manage because of the volume.
 - o We will look into partnership with Salsarita's next year who is eager to be involved.
 - o Beginning in October, Smashburger will donate 10% of all Tuesday sales to Cotswold, all year!
 - o We need to find a way to recognize our Community Partners since we will not have a printed directory this year. It was suggested that there is a monthly spotlight in the Cougar Bites.
 - o Pridemore and Smashburger are our top 2 partners.
 - o Rashida is going to reach out to Publix to see what opportunities we have to build a Community Partnership with them. They have a good reputation of being very supportive of local schools.
-
- **Advocacy-** Michelle Abels
 - o Michele had a conversation with Valerie Truesdale on the CMS Management team and said that she got the impression that Billingsville

will be a STEM Magnet. It will take 50-60% magnet spots. This choice will need support from the community in order to be successful which would be beneficial for everyone.

- o The lottery will likely be changing to a socio-economic model. Students with lower income will get higher priority for spots.
- o Final recommendations will be released on October 25th and the vote will happen in early November.

- **Auditing-** Kelly Catanese

- o No report

- **Nominating-** Morgan Cromwell

- o Several updates to filled positions as follows: Celebrate Cotswold, Enrichment, Teacher Grants, Community Partners.
- o We need to fill Boosterthon, Marketing (MSA), Cougar Kickback, both Mentors and Enrichment need someone to shadow starting mid-year.

New Business:

- Men of Cotswold are very interested in bringing Stop Hunger Now project to Cotswold. A representative from Samaritan's Purse would like to discuss details with board. It would require a high number of volunteers and we would need to raise \$1000 to fund the project. It is an important service opportunity to consider but it was decided that it would be better to not go through the PTA. The MofC can pursue this outside of the PTA and utilize the resources of the National Honor Society.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:09am.