



Cottage Street School PTO Membership Meeting Minutes from April 2nd, 2015

Meeting began at 7:05 p.m., adjourned at 8:17 p.m.
18 people present

1. **Welcome and Introductions**
2. **Approved March 2015 meeting minutes by voice.**
3. **Treasurer's Report:** Elizabeth reviewed income and expenses, report distributed.
4. **Committee Updates:**
 - a) **Fun Fair wrap up:** It was a great success. A big thank you to everyone for their participation and help. Next year, we will need volunteers to shadow Mark and Michele Nelson in the Café and a current 4th grade parent to be the Café Personnel Liaison.
 - b) **Yearbook:** Forms coming out. The hope is that Room Parents will arrange for every classroom teacher to receive a yearbook. Kindergarten Room Parents should consider getting one for the classroom teacher and one for the assistant teacher. If you have more pictures, please send them to Elizabeth.
 - c) **Bricks:** Purchases are ongoing. This is a great end of the year gift, especially for new teachers.
 - d) **Bag2School textiles fundraiser April 9-16:** They will collect anything soft and fabric. Items needs to be clean, but ripped and torn items are okay. It is a great chance to do a spring cleaning and help fundraise for Cottage. Bags will be coming home soon and can be dropped off any time between April 9 and 16 in the bins outside of the office. Parents can bring them when they come to conferences.
 - e) **Programming:** Ben Franklin came earlier this month. The Museum of Science is coming back for the 3rd grade Animal Adaptations program. Bubblemania will be when Field Day was supposed to be, as Field Day will be later now.
 - f) **Pawsox 5-3 1:05pm:** The cost will be \$10.50/ticket. Flyer will go home next week. Tickets will be assigned on a first come first served basis.
5. **Principal's Report:**
 - a) PARCC—Going well. 5th grade will finish ELA on Monday. Then, the shift will be to math. Some students have been logged off, in which case names are submitted to the state.



6. New Business

- a) Nominations of Officers—Haven't heard of anyone yet. The treasurer is specialized. Welcome new leadership. Jen Cooperman nominated the current Board Members. Marla Lonergan expressed some interest, but not necessarily for treasurer. She has ideas of how she could help—help kindergarten parents to better understand the PTO by better marketing and publicity—she will do what's needed. Someone suggested including descriptions of the Board positions for next year. Another suggestion was to have a Kindergarten PTO Meeting. Allison Leichtman said she is available to help over the summer. The current Board Members present accepted.
- b) Beautification Week April 13-17—Need to hear from Hana for an update in plans, keeping in mind the limitations due to the snow at this time.
- c) Cougar Day April 17—Cougar gear—fun activities—Cougar costumes—5th grade volleyball game.
- d) Alex and Ani Fundraiser April 27 6-9—15% of proceeds go to PTO—before Mother's Day.
- e) Teacher Appreciation Week May 4-8—They had to wait to send out the flyer for donations until after Fun Fair. The \$750 from PTO will cover the lunch, breakfast, Orange Leaf, and supplemental flowers, but they don't know how much they will have for gift cards. They received \$640 in donations last year and the donations are used for gift card purchases. Maybe next year they can take advantage of the gift card fundraiser. Staff will be very appreciative no matter what.
- f) Screen Free Week May 11-17—It is not the same as National Screen Free Week, but it is better timing for us. Do we need accountability? They won't require a log, but will provide one you can use. Is there any way to blog onto website with activities that have been done? Maybe use the Facebook page too? Are there any leftover Raffle Prizes? The only possible ones would be the Scholastic book sets. There was a discussion of how to take pledges to participate. Could there be a voucher for Mother's Day Plant Sale or 10 minutes extra recess for the class that has the most participation? There should be some kind of check off or log. All participants will get a Frisbee.
- g) Art Night May 6th 6:45-8:15—Every single student has artwork displayed, matted, labelled. Mrs. Biddle needs help, any time at all and no artistic talent is required.
- h) Book Fair May 5-6—Leandra will need volunteers—Cougar Gear will have a table too.
- i) Mother's Day Plant Sale May 8th—Ward's delivers plants—need volunteers—limit kids to 6 or 7 plants. A flyer will be coming out.



Meeting adjourned at 8:17pm.

PTO Meets the 1st Thursday of the month at 7:00pm in the Cottage Street School Library
Free Childcare is provided
Contact us at: cottagepto@gmail.com