



Cottage Street School PTO Membership Meeting Minutes from February 1, 2018

Meeting began at 7:04p.m., adjourned at 8:00p.m.
12 people present

1. **Welcome and Introductions**
2. **Approved December 2017 meeting minutes by voice.**
3. **Treasurer's Report:** Aparna reviewed income and expenses, report distributed.
4. **Committee Updates:**
 - a) **Winter Dance, Roller Skating and Cultural Festival thanks and feedback:**
 - Winter Dance—Thank you to Meg for organizing the Winter Dance! The DJ didn't deliver on the product that they promised for the second year in a row. Should we look for another vendor? Pro's are that they are economical and easy for the organizer to work with. Con's are their customer service, starting late, and playing inappropriate music and games. The consensus was that we should shop around for another vendor.
 - Roller Skating—Thank you to Lisa for organizing Roller Skating! The date was switched from Sunday to Saturday after some miscommunication—hard to know which day works better. There was still a perfectly good turnout. Some parents asked why we don't serve food even though the concession stand was open for food for purchase as the flyer indicated. Some of the songs played there were also inappropriate. We need a new chair for Rollerskating.
 - Cultural Festival—Thank you to Zainab, Linda, Flo, and Sushma—it was amazing! It was great to have the extra space in the gym and the cafeteria. They are waiting for feedback to find ways to improve and hope the event continues as long as there is an appetite for it. One thought is to better promote the idea of adopting a country and having a Peace Corps table. Someone shared that they thought it was nice to have it on a Sunday. The chairs are trying to assess whether a week night or weekend works better. They hope to set a date earlier next year so it is on the calendar from the beginning and to still have a snow date set just in case.
 - b) **Programs:** In December and January, Kindergarten had yoga, and then dance with Krazy Tracie. The 4th and 5th grade had Wind & Energy from the Museum of Science. The whole school had the Visions of Peace assembly,



which staff and students loved. Mary asked Mr. Madden to send an e-mail home about assemblies, as we all get different descriptions of what the programs are from our kids. It would also be a good way to remind families that programs are sponsored by the PTO.

- c) **Yearbook:** Aparna made a plea for pictures, particularly candid. Mr. Madden will ask teachers for photos. Any pictures can be sent to cottage.yearbook@gmail.com. The final product goes to the printer at the beginning of April, so we need all pictures collected before then.

5. Principal's Report:

- a) Girls on the Run program will be starting for 4th and 5th grade girls, organized by Andrea Pannone. They meet every week before school with a set curriculum and time to run. The program culminates with a 5K run.
- b) It is a busy time of year for programs and activities, such as the Visions of Peace assembly.
- c) On February 14, the redistricting options will be presented to the School Committee. There was some discussion about the feasibility study and whether that is related.
- d) Hopefully, there will be no more snow days, in which case the last day of school will be Tuesday, June 19th. The last day of school is a ½ day.

6. New Business

- a) Fun Fair—Volunteer signups will be coming soon, so stay tuned. Book donations are already being accepted as well as Raffles (classroom and family donations). There will be signups for Café food, cake, and baked good donations after February vacation. Meg has classroom donation ideas from all classes at this point. Room Parents can also be working on connecting with classroom teachers to decorate the backdrops.
- b) Committee and Board Vacancies for 2018-2019—Board Positions, Popcorn, Coupon Books, School Pictures, Gift Cards, Roller Skating, Fun Fair Committees (Raffles, Café, Pretzels/Slush & Face Painting/Glitter Tattoos)—Liv will be stepping down as President and the rest of the Board will be making decisions about next year. Lisa advises not to continue with Coupon Books. Jacqueline will chair School Pictures.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00p.m.