

December General Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, December 19, 2023

Start Time - 9:30am

End Time - 10:10am

Location - Colts Neck Library

Administration -

1. Dr. Garibay
2. Dr. Reynolds
3. Dr. Beck
4. Phil Capasso

PTO Executive Board -

1. Kim Kaufman
2. Samantha Amato
3. Rebecca Roach
4. Penelope El-Dalati
5. Jennifer Mule
6. Monika Kocicz
7. Amy Linquito

Attendees -

1. Stephanie Collura
2. Tara Edgette
3. Elisa Spade
4. Allison DiSimone
5. Linda Kraszewski
6. Kristen Stark
7. Rosalie Mannarino
8. Erin Culotta
9. Lena Nicholson

This meeting was called to order by our President, Kim Kaufman and the pledge of allegiance was recited.

Dr. Beck

- Was not at the last meeting and recognized he was late to the game in signing up for the PTO so he quickly signed up after being called out after our last meeting.

- Excited for the Special Education meeting to happen after the New Year. Erica Kerns will be sending out notifications and will help through the pto parent committee.

Dr. Reynolds

- Very excited about the roll out of the new report cards and has heard only positive feedback. She has received no questions since the report cards were released. She asked the board if we heard anything to let her know any feedback we receive.
- New Literacy Coach was board approved on 12/13 and are now looking for a replacement for the switched rolls that will take place.

Dr. Garibay

- Can not believe how fast this year is going. 2023 is over!
- Great initiation of the new report cards and is very proud of that
- Parent Academy in full swing. Great things to come from this. For example, one parent suggested something and was changed and implemented in 3 days.
- Parent Advisory - had 21 parents who wanted to be a part of it. Covid distanced things, then things changed so with this we are able to break down those walls and bring parents back together with engagement through the schools.
- Competitive Grant of \$38,000 which funded Summer Bridge in the past and will continue to fully cover in the Summer again this year.
- Dr. Garibay spoke at the Board Meeting last week about how she worked with other Superintendents in the state at the NJ Association of Administration of Schools for more funding for the task force at schools, especially those districts who do not have a police department in their towns.
- Beautiful signs outside the schools and new landscaping (which Kim Kaufman spoke to - \$15,000 worth of labor and landscape around the new signs from Scenic View Landscaping at CN Nursery).

Phil Capasso

- Please reach out if we need anything and if we have and he hasn't replied, he will!

Kimberly Kaufman - President

First half recap:

- Goal set of 500 new members, we met that goal! (Rebecca will report later)
- All chairpersons have been chosen for events
- Extremely successful chairperson meeting, thanks to Jen
- All 3 BTS night had EB presence & handed out free packet from PTO Today
- Mini Grants came and went. Opened early in August and did not need to extend it.
- Dispersed approximately \$30,000 to teachers and staff
- Monika has been on top of finances with support from Danielle
- Spiritwear picked up and dispersed in one day. Sam will elaborate more later.
- Social Media on point with constant reminders on Instagram. Thanks to Penelope.

- Fundraising - not much to report, Joanne not at the meeting but will be an instrumental part of gala

Second half Highlights:

- All events have been planned, Jen will cover later. Pay close attention to the Newsletter, Social Media will not give specifics on these events. Mr. Capasso then sends it out but PTO members get first hand knowledge.
- Implemented new Spirtwear Blankets. PTO sold 130. Still have a box and a half left. Made \$650
- Next meeting is a night meeting in March, please come. Some parents can't make the day meetings, so hope for a good turn out. Gala info to come at the meeting, you can drop off your RSVP there.

Gala

- 4 Chairs
- Been in the works since Summer
- Theme - No Place Like Home, Ruby Red (40th Anniversary)
- Donations underway, actively getting sponsors (CN Nursery purchased ADs already)
- New VIP hour to Gala sold online, will include ticket, VIP bag, extra hour of cocktail hour
- 94 DAYS TIL GALA!

Monika has been on top of finances with support from Danielle

Spiritwear picked up and dispersed in one day. Sam will elaborate more later.

Social Media on point with constant reminders on Instagram. Thanks to Penelope

Samantha Amato- Vice President

Mini Grants -

- \$30,000 available to disperse to staff in the District. Had 30/48 apps funded. Some were not applicable because the request was already in the works through the school. All were notified and working on fulfillment.
- Tried to separate \$10,000 to each school and to reach as many kids as possible.
- Applications totaled \$72,000
- Thanks Monika for funding them

Spiritwear -

- Thanks to Jen, Linda and Amy
- Thanks to all who purchased

- Took a little longer than expected but there were 500 orders
- We are working on opening up again. Please know all orders are custom. They are no exchanges and there are no extras. Any questions about sizing please reach out to Sam or Jen stateel BEFORE ordering. There are size charts on the website when ordering as well but please ask it's not a bother.
- Will open again in the Spring

CRES School Store

- School Store was held last week, Dec 12 and 13th. Kids had the opportunity to buy some fun school supplies and gifts for their friends
- School store will happen 2 more times this year. Late Winter and Spring.
- Thank you to all the volunteers and the Chairs Danielle Stropoli and Danielle Alpaugh.
- CRES School Store
- We raised \$1,722. In the 2 days

Recap Board Game Drive

- Mrs Barr had requested Board Games for indoor recess
- Parents would love to donate so we denied her mini grant and asked for donations
- 30-40 games dropped off to Primary then moved some to Elementary because of the age level of the games
- We are still collecting for the Board Game Drive at CRPS. There is a sign up genesis available if you would still like to donate one of the games needed.

Minted

- Thank you to those who use the code FUNDRAISE COLTS NECK for Minted. Great way if you are late for Christmas Cards you could use it for New Years. It is all year round. Can use for party invites or thank yous. Free money to school. Raised \$100 last year with the code.

Rebecca Roach - Communications Director

Membership

- Goal of 500 members set in the beginning of the school year, we have 506 members
- You can join throughout the year, you need to be a member to volunteer at events
- 153 teachers joined, 56% of membership is staff
- Part of giving back to the community
- Thanks to Mr Capasso for his support in sending out all communication and for the partnership with the district to spread the word
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Penelope EI-Dalati - Digital Media Director

Social Media Update

- All social following is going up
- Facebook 728 followers vs 748
- Instagram 642 followers vs 570
- X 110 followers vs 96
- All grade level events will not be posted on Social Media

Jennifer Mule - Student Activities Director

- All chairs set up, if you have any questions you can view details on website
- Frosty's was successful, kids had a great time. Profited over \$6,000, still waiting on exact profit numbers.
- Almost all set with dates for all Grade Level Events
 - 12/22 8th Grade Breakfast
 - 1/19 Pre-K Bluey Storytime Theme
 - 2/8 Kindergarten Winter Wonderland Theme
 - 2/22 3rd Grade Game Night
 - 2/23 4th Grade Bowling
 - 3/7 1st Grade Fun Fitness
- Looking for Grade Level representation for Grade Level Baskets for Gala for Kindergarten. Most tickets get a pizza party for their grade.

Monika Kozicz - Treasurer

- September 2023 Treasurer's Report, October 2023 Treasurer's Report, November 2023 Treasurer's Report reviewed at meeting
- 3 pages of detailed report of profit and loss attached

Motions for Approval

- September 2023 Treasurer's Report (Linda Kraszewski, Stephanie Collura)
- October 2023 Treasurer's Report (Linda Kraszewski, Lena Nicholson)
- November 2023 Treasurer's Report (Linda Kraszewski, Stephanie Collura)
- September 2023 General Meeting Minutes (Lena Nicholson, Elisa Spade)