



December General Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, December 10th, 2025

Start Time: 9:30 AM

End Time: 10:45 AM

Location: Administration Building

Administration

1.) Dr. Garibay 2.) Dr. Beck 3.) Dr. Reynolds

PTO Executive Board

1.) Kim Kaufman 2.) Kara Brick 3.) Amy Linquito 4.) Jess Dudek
5.) Linda Kraszewski 6.) Jennifer Mulé 7.) Kristen Denora 8.) Penelope El-Dalati
9.) Alana Ventrice 10.) Sereena Gill

Attendees:

1.) Philip Livoti 2.) Tara Edgette 3.) Nicole Ireland 4.) Rosalie Mannarino

Opening:

The meeting was called to order by our President, Kim Kaufman and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Administration Reports

Dr. Garibay (Superintendent):

- Color-Run was a great event, Frosty's went well
- Field test this year was new for us, but went well
- Thinking about '26-'27 budget and '26-'27 calendar is being developed (late Labor day next year)
- Making effort to bring town's 250th celebration into schools
 - One of our 5th graders won the poetry contest for the county, will be highlighted
- CDMS Band concert coming up
- This year's calendar was amended for Feb. conference days - 2 half days instead of 3
- New program for reading/writing is well underway, have received positive feedback so far
- Friday's assembly with Secretary of Education was a gameshow style history lesson, remained non-partisan and provided an opportunity to highlight our school district
 - Communication regarding the program was heavily regulated by federal government including public announcements
 - Had to be advertised, as per public meeting acts but general population was not allowed to attend
 - More statements will be made at the board meeting next week

Dr. Beck (Director of Special Services):

- Nominated teachers of the year

Dr. Reynolds (Director of Curriculum and Instruction):

- Happy holidays and thank you for all your support
- Looking forward to the gala



Executive Board Reports:

Kim Kaufman (President):

- Gala:
 - Theme is PJs and Prosecco
 - 58% of surveyors plan to dress for “comfort”
 - Sponsorship and donation emails sent out to businesses, quite a few have responded
 - Secured primary spots in program, have sold out middle page spread, back cover, inside cover, inside back cover, another 2 page spread, platinum sponsor and swag bag sponsors
 - ~6k in sponsorships so far
- 8th Grade Dance:
 - Theme has been secured, will be released at March meeting
 - We always have high attendance
 - Teachers and 7th grade parents will be chaperones
 - Email us with any questions
- Trunk or Treat:
 - One of our most successful, had ~30 cars (doubled from last year)
 - We need to push for more donation of candy
 - Partnered with the Business Association and CN Flag Football, money went towards prizes for best cars, and all volunteers get a DD gift card
- Blankets & Squishies:
 - Still for sale, link is in the newsletter, make great holiday gifts
 - May not be offered again for a while

Kara Brick (Vice President):

- Mini Grants:
 - Last month the mini grant committee met to finalize the projects for this year
 - Full list is on website
 - Author visit for Mrs. Frick
 - CRPS getting new outdoor recess equipment, 1st & 2nd grade is getting a geography and earth science assembly
 - CRES is getting animal assembly (3rd grade), Liberty Science Center field trip (4th grade), Six Flags (5th grade), entire school is getting a “decompression space”
 - CMDS: archery program, Boston Tea Party event (6th grade), peer mentor program (7th grade), new cafeteria sound system, American Revolution Museum field trip (6th grade)
 - Human Trafficking and Raising Resilient Children talk for parents to be offered
 - Tentative dates are March 5th (Human Trafficking) & May 5 (Raising Resilient Children)
 - Highly encourage all parents to attend
 - The first wave of applications totaled ~\$18k. We have \$25k to spend, so we will be opening up for a second wave of applications. Encourage your teachers to submit

Amy Linquito (Communications Director):

- Book Swap:
 - Will be held on Feb 25th
 - Book collection will take place from Feb 2nd - Feb 20th



- Will collect at CRPS and CRES, sorting will occur daily
- Newsletter:
 - Last one of 2025 will go out next Wednesday and resume again on Jan. 7th

Kristen Denora (Digital Media Director):

- Social Media Numbers:
 - FB was 804 in Sept, now at 807
 - IG was 850 in Sept., now at 880
 - X was 120 in Sept., now at 123
- Event Photos:
 - Please tag us in photos so they can be posted or email Kristen photos
- No reminders on social media for grade-level events for safety reasons

Penelope El-Dattali (Student Activities Director):

- December: 8th Grade Holiday Breakfast
- January: Pre-K and Kindergarten Events (K is Jan 22)
- February: 3rd Grade event (Trivia Night, on Feb 5th), confirming for 4th Grade, Valentines Day Pizza will still be happening (new owners)
- Volunteering info: must be a PTO member and it's not too late to sign up
- Refer to the website and newsletters for grade-level event info

Jessica Dudek (Treasurer):

- Summarized the financial reports for September, October and November 2025

Jennifer Mulé (Membership Director):

- School Store Update:
 - Sold \$2,100, profited \$1k
 - Had a Fall Friendsgiving theme
 - Next one will be second week of March
- Frosty's Update:
 - Successful event, Parks & Rec set up a craft station, CNTEA set up hot cocoa
 - Close to ~200 children shopped, middle school students came over to help students shop
- Membership Update:
 - We are currently at 345 parents & 193 teachers
 - We want to get to 500 parents by end of year

Alana Ventrice (Fundraising Director):

- Spiritwear Update:
 - Holiday Shop brought in \$700, beginning of the school year brought in \$2,100
 - Holiday Shop delivery should happen right before winter break
- Shake Shack Update:
 - Brought in \$350
 - Hoping to do it on Weds. before Thanksgiving next year, maybe for a longer time period (lunch-dinner)
- Bang Cookies Fundraiser:
 - Uses premium ingredients
 - Link is live for ordering
 - Order for coworkers, teachers, bus drivers, staff, etc.
 - We will receive 40% back of total sales



- CNTEA purchased cookies to give out at Frosty's for a sampling
- Turkey Trot:
 - Raised \$2,600
 - Look forward to doing it again next year
 - Thank you to Alana and Samantha and all those who helped and attended

Approval Reports

- Approve September 2025 Treasurer Reports (Nicole Ireland, Rosalie Mannerino)
- Approve October 2025 Treasurer Reports (Tara Edgette, Philip Livoti)
- Approve November 2025 Treasurer Reports (Rosalie Mannerino, Nicole Ireland)
- Approve Minutes from September 2025 General Meeting (Philip Livoti, Tara Edgette)

Questions/Comments

Q: *What happened to the "Parent Academy" offerings (School Technology, Cyber Bullying, etc.)?*

A: Kim to find out

Comment: *Small description of events on website would be helpful (ex: Color Run, Bang Cookies)*

A: Great feedback, will include

Closing:

- The next general meeting will be on March 11th. The meeting is adjourned.