

# Welcome to Conant School PTO



## November 18, 2015 – PTO General Body Meeting Minutes

Meeting Commenced: 7:35 p.m.

**Board Members Present for General Body Meeting:** Jennifer Jones-Hodgson, Elise Calisi, Shijesta Victor, Abigail Dressler, Loretta Crumlish, Mary Tsacoyeanes.

**Chairpersons Present / Parents Present for General Body Meeting:** Andrea Keenan, Sangeeta Shroff, Rashmi Muralidhar, Sophia Park, Missy LoPorto, Ranjini Reddy, Cini Kannan.

**Welcome** – Jennifer Jones Hodgson welcomed the group.

**Approval of October 2015 Minutes** - The minutes of the October meeting were presented for review and approved.

First motion to approve minutes – Andrea Keenan

Second motion to approve minutes – Loretta Crumlish

**Treasurer's Report** - Shijesta Victor gave the update. Profits are \$1,268 (bowling night), \$10,586 (craft fair), annual fund \$7,895, book fair \$2,888 for leveled library, \$300 for school.

\*The Conant School Directory is almost ready.

**Craft Fair**: Andrea Keenan gave the update—90 vendors (10 more than previous year). Vendors total was \$7,900 + \$300. Admissions net was \$4,600. Vendors made donations ranging in value. Gift baskets will be made for use at an upcoming event. Ranjini has a few donated items in storage. Bake sale made \$1,075. Vendor fees will be increased incrementally in the coming years. Change name to Artisan Fair proposed.

**Book Fair** – Another co-chair needed for next year to help Ranjini Reddy and Stanphenie Yao.

**eScrip** – Flyer for holiday shopping going home with students soon.

**Amazon smile** - made \$35.00

\*Gift Giving policy – Waiting for document from central office.

**Movie Nights** – Honey, I Shrank the Kids (grades 4-6) Drop off event, Pizza, candy, water will be served. December 4. Dec 11 for K-2 (Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory).

**Principal's Update** - Abigail Dressler gave the update. MCAS '2.0' will be implemented in Spring 2016. PARCC will not happen in Mass. but components of this test will be in the new MCAS. Timing and frequency are the issues still being debated.

**Nature Scape** playground is almost ready. A flowering tree will be donated by Mrs. Ganss and will be planted soon. The rest of the plantings will be in the spring but kids will also plant what they find in the fall.

**Newsflash** – There is a problem with e-mails from @conantpto.org that needs to be addressed. E-mails are going into spam or not being received. Ranjini will summarize the problem and forward to Abigail.

\*Conant parent wishes to support the PTO by offering art classe(s). Ranjini will contact ABCE about this.

**Other** - Reimbursements are going directly to Principal going forward. This change needs to be made in the charter (Google Docs). No more FinCom (sp?). Will be presented for voting at next meeting or by board.

**KidStuff coupon books** – Books are ready for backpacks. Two week turnaround. Teachers will be responsible for keeping track of which students return them. We have an extension from the company on return date since we got a late start.

**Games Night** – First Friday after vacation. Gameswright (Newton, MA) is invited in. Children get to test-play the games in classrooms.

**Cultural Enrichment** – December 15<sup>th</sup> performance by Philadelphia Hip-Hop group. 6<sup>th</sup> graders will interview the members. AB Cultural grant of \$300 may be awarded. Japanese mask-making and Improv Boston are upcoming ideas depending on funding.

**Community Service** – Toys for Tots this year. Put R.J. Grey coat drive in the Newsflash. Pinwheels for peace is on Dec. 8<sup>th</sup>.

**ICS** – March 11

Next meeting January 20<sup>th</sup> 8:45 a.m.

Motion to Adjourn: Jennifer-Jones Hodgson

Second motion: Ranjini Reddy

Meeting Adjourned: 8:25 p.m.

Minutes Typed By: Elise Calisi