

General Meeting of Luther Conant Parent Teacher Organization

Thursday, April 14, 2022 @ 7:00 PM

Notes



April 14, 2022, 7 pm -PTO General Body Meeting Notes

Attendees, Principal Val G, Jaime Roberts, Andrew Jones, Jenna Zmary, Erica A, Karina

Welcome- Meeting led by Andrew Jones

Principal Update: Lots to update, make sure people are getting her email newsletters as some people weren't getting them, is email the best way to communicate? Twitter? Facebook or blog post on website.

-ELA MCAS wrapped up and went smooth, first time in 2 years we had 2 sessions. Math MCAS in May and 5th grade does Science/tech as well.

-Field trips coming up, Wingmasters came in the 3rd grade, Polar Pride, 6th grade graduation and the Carnival.

-Staffing updates-coming out in newsletter but hired Alison Lahey as Assistant Principal for next year, 20 years' experience, is currently, Special Ed Coordinator was at Conant and MCT, 18 years at MCT, thrilled to have her in this new role. Currently hiring certified library and media specialist , currently only an assistant role. Adding a 3rd Connections teacher in the LC for next year as 34 students and 2 educators, need more staffing. We are hiring a BCBA for Gates/Conant and a School Psychologist in process. Sabrina Collins moving to 6th grade next year.

-3/23 was a school council meeting , notes Val will post on the website, working on school improvement plan and the purpose of the committee is to be collaborative . Currently 2 parents, 2 teachers and Val and hoping to expand to more people. Next meeting 4/27 and want to recruit more interest and following Peter Lights goal of feedback and action steps of 1)SEL 2) Cultural responsive practices 3) multi-tiered system of support

-Budget update, change in approach of teaching assistant model to educational instructional specialists/coaches(literacy, math, stem) , working in small groups for teachers, what will that look like. Master

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schedule next year MTSS model geared towards specialists ELA, intervention during WIN block so specialist is available per grade. Implementation on co-teaching model, what does that look like? What can the PTO do to help, can parents fill the void? Fall PTO meeting agenda item, what can parents do to volunteer, make copies, put materials together? We will lose 72 hours a week 1st to 6th of assistant hours at Conant, across district policy change. We need to think creatively on how to use admin assistants, parents donate hours to help

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: notes and agendas on website and was approved

Treasurer Update: Annual Appeal \$1428 to date , stripe takes a portion of it \$2.50

- Library-we will pay Mrs. Weir back for silver unicorn gift cards for 4 students who did the contest
- Nurses, approved the \$200 per year, how does she want it? Reimbursement or us by the supplies? Andrew reached out to her
- we approved \$500 in birthday books more as we need to order more on amazon
- We have one account currently \$45,000 and another \$37,000
- We just paid the \$3000 for Sweetblackberry event and deposited \$2000 for 3rd grade field trip to Plimouth Plantation

Update on Events:

-Spring Community Events :

- 2022 Conant Carnival Update and Request for Help)
- Flyer copies in backpacks after break
- RSVP went out around 100 people so far, 17 staff members
- We need grade level help per grade, room parents Help per grade (email needs to go out week after break)

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- committee meeting after break
- Games are set up per grade (drip, drip, drop, limbo, obstacle course, target board, ball toss) Mrs. Zamary will share the document and get the Polar Pride map to plot out locations for set up
- We have a lot of the supplies in the closets but will let us know what else we need
- create index card with what the game is about so anyone can volunteer to help
- Slide will go on hill by the picnic tables where the Conant sign is need extra extension cords, need to go on grass
- Dunk Tank can go on the black top
- High School Helpers Mrs. Mastrolia face painting sign up went out
- Parking and Transportation (Val) all set up as well as extra hours for custodians

- Teacher Appreciation Week --May 2nd to 6th (room parents do things for teachers)
- May 3rd from 11 to 1 a coffee truck will be at Conant for teachers
- We need room parent email to have donations of coffee cake, donuts, breakfast foods (sign up genius), juice, etc. for May 3rd drop off and set up in teacher lounge by Nurses office door

- April 27th professional day PTO Will sponsor lunch for faculty and staff (a week early due to everyone being there and Val will order and we will pay for it)
- parent help needed

- Polar Pride- t-shirts for all grades approved, ordering one color for school for this year , Mrs. Bardsley will order and Mrs. Zamary will get back to us on distribution date/sizing

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-Spring Gardening Clean up update: Olga F coordinating with Ann Lack as well as Olga purchasing new flowers for school, looks terrific. Thank you to Olga!

New Business:

Survey coming out- next year events, volunteers, parent/teacher evening presentations on May 22nd or so in newsletter and on facebook , other surveys from district as well coming out

Book Fairs- we can do it during the day per Peter Light if every child can get a book, ticket system like other schools, blue ticket, flat fees, by one ticket, give a ticket system

- do instead of bday books next year, each child can donate a book to the library-giving back to the community and write why they donated the specific book

-Time book Fair in fall around Back to School Night or Open House

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-PTO Board Positions Open and Chairs for event volunteers-

End Meeting: 7:55 pm

Meetings Notes taken by Jaime Roberts

Next Meeting: May 19 and June TBD