

General Meeting of Luther Conant Parent Teacher Organization

Monday, September 13 2021 @ 7:00 PM

Notes



September 13th 2021, 7 pm -PTO General Body Meeting Minutes

Meeting Commenced: 7:05 pm

Board Members Present for General Body Meeting; Vicki Tardif, President, Erik Larson, VP, Jaime Roberts, Secretary, Andrew Jones, Treasurer, Erica Abbrusese, Exec Board

Teachers, Parents, Guests Present for General Body Meeting; Abigail Dressler, Interim Principal, Debby Lee, Jimmy And Catherine Reichert, Heather Tortola, Walter Rodriguez, etc.. 38 total people on zoom

Welcome, Vicki Tardif welcomed the group and introductions were made

Approval of May 27, 2021 minutes-the minutes of the May 27, 2021 meeting were presented for review and approved without edits

Motion to approve Minutes- Vicki Tardif

Seconded- Erik Larson

Principal Update: Update by Abigail Dressler. she taught kindergarten, 2nd grade, at Conant approx 20 years at Conant. Long time assistant principal and became acting /interim Principal when Mr. Sugrue resigned in Feb 2021. We welcomed back remote families, all back 399 total kids this year to date. Great start, kids are fabulous at wearing masks, so happy to be back. Transportation was a little bumpy at the start but thank you for the patience with the buses. If you have any questions about Covid, the nurse, Mrs. Chudik can answer questions. If you didn't do consent for testing please consider it , if you are a close contact if you consent to testing, you can come to school, test and if negative, stay in school, if pos-go home. We have the rapid tests in school. AB has the tests as some districts in the state don't have them yet. Email or call Mrs. Dressler if you have any questions.

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Recent Events: Vicki Tardif gave the update. New Kindergarten and new students to move into the district orientations, purpose of PTO to support staff and to build community. Last year difficult to do events but we did the Ice Cream Social at West Side Creamery, we sent Flowers to retired staff and Loretta Crumlish said thank you. We did a lunch for staff, PTO Sponsored. 9/12/21 PTO family playdate on the playground. We are trying to think of creative ways to get together this year.

New Business: Vicki Tardif called to vote Dan Birchall (4th and 1st parent) who volunteered to be on the school council. No one voted to oppose Dan and Debby Lee is the 2nd volunteer but since she did it last year, we didn't have to revote her in.

Approve Spending: Abigail Dressler explained her Birthday Book Program Years ago the PTO paid for the library assistant for 10 hrs a week. Past few years we discontinued and can't fund the position per the school committee. The account has \$673.70 and the district can't use it so the Birthday Book Program is a great way to use it. Each kid on their bday would get a book inscripted with something in it and called down to the office to get it. June-summer bdays would get it too. The PTO Voted and approved it. Erik Larson commented that will we have enough money for this and Abigail said she has more left over funds to fully fund it. The kids who have gotten it already loved it.

Pride Wear: kids are asking for Conant pride wear, tshirts, sweatshirts, Conant Swag: Mas and Walter Rodrigues did it for the past few years and they kept them in a closet at school. Orders were taken on website or emailed Board to take it and then either shipped or put in the backpacks of the kids. Walter said he printed 50/60 shirts and has the templates to redo or start fresh. Looking back, tshirts were the most popular and we can resurface on the web. Mrs. Dressler thanked the Rodrigues family for the help and since we can't have visitors, office staff is happy to help with the orders if we do it again. Maybe look at other Vendors as the vendor wasn't the best. Debby Lee had a vendor she used, former Conant Family Annette Lockey, Leli used 4Im print and

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Catherine R recommended Custom Ink. We didn't make money on this per Jimmy Reichert in the past and The Rodrigues family fronted the money and got reimbursed. We didn't need approval for this as it wasn't a profit in the past, not a revenue maker. Inventory wasn't in the PTO closets but Mrs. Dressler said there are approx 75 water bottles we can advertise and sell as kids are asking about it. Maybe order adult t-shirts, kids t-shirts, sweatshirts and flannel PJ pants were a hit years ago for Holidays and Bdays, sell those soon? Very popular in the past. Walter can flip it on the website for people to order. Send a link to Abigail so she can put it in her email.

Volunteers: Don't need to be on Board to volunteer.

We need picture Day, 6th grade Yearbook and book fair (Heather Tortola volunteered for Silver Unicorn Nights)
-creative /looks different
-Companies pay \$ to charities/organization if you do certain hrs (16 hrs or more) or for every hr you do, the org gets \$10. Check into that for other companies

Open Discussion: Pool testing, why are people reluctant. Mrs. Dressler thinks that people haven't done it yet but hopefully will. Should we post a video on the PTO website on what it entails? Sign up on Powerschool if families didn't do it yet. Mrs. Dressler will send a blast out to remind families again. PTO communication is on the website, facebook, through emails. Sign up to receive all communications if you haven't yet. Silver Unicorn, hopefully we can work with them again to do a book night where teachers read and it isn't a money maker (\$100 last year but maybe over a week instead of a day like other schools this year. Jenna Zarmy did a lot of work last year on it. Summer 2020 we did well with it but it fell off in the fall and spring due to zoom fatigue maybe Per Jimmy Reichert. Other schools did multi day events at Silver Unicorn. Online period, Conant Code. Heather Tortola said she can help again. Teacher reps: Jenna Zarmy and Megan Spencer, will get teachers to take pics of bulletin boards for facebook, email to Jaime Roberts . More questions on Pool testing, how does it work. Mrs. Dressler said we are working with a company this year and she doesn't know yet. Last year the Nurse walked all classrooms through it. There was a new family asking about kindergarten screenings and what that entails and

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Mrs Dressler explained it is speech, hearing, coordination (fine and gross motor) it is like a game to the kids to see if kids need any support. Reach out to Mrs. Dressler with any questions. And last was Pictures. Mrs. Dressler wants it to be outside or if bad weather, individual inside. No class pictures or something like last year where it is individual since outside no closer than 3 feet without masks.

Meeting Adjourned: 7:52 pm

Minutes Typed by: Jaime Roberts