

Tuesday, September 14, 2021

## PTO MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by the PTO (**President**) Emma Faasse at 6:31 pm.

### President's Report (Emma Faasse):

- **June minutes approved**, by Amy Minatelli and Cara Goodrich
- **Thank you**
  - **Staff Appreciation Committee, Alysha Johnson & Kristin Borrelli**, who provided a lovely Welcome Back Breakfast for the teachers and staff.
  - **5th Grade Reps and volunteers** who put together a fun team-building event for the 5th graders first day back.
  - **Spirit Wear Committee** for getting orders in early and having the shop available all year long.
  - **Mr. Famularo and staff**
- **Important Dates:**
  - Wednesday, September 15th by 11:59 p.m. **Class Parent Selection Form Due**  
If you are interested in being a Class Parent, YOU MUST register for the PTO and Submit your name for class parent selection on the CoolidgePTO.com website by 11:59pm Tomorrow.
  - Thursday, September 16th: **No School in observance of Yom Kippur**  
Wishing everyone who celebrates an easy fast on Yom Kippur.
  - Friday, September 17th: 8:50 a.m. **Newcomers Meet & Greet (Upper Playground)**  
Please join the PTO Board on Friday at 8:50 a.m. on the Upper Blacktop to learn about ways to get involved!
  - Friday, September 17th: **Class Parent Selection**
  - Week of 19<sup>th</sup> there will be a **committee chair meeting** details to follow.
  - Tuesday, September 21st: **Picture Day**
  - Tuesday, September 21st, 7:30 p.m.: **Class Parent Meeting** (Zoom or Google Meet)
  - September 28th, 6:30 p.m.: **Back to School Night**
  - October 6th, 7 p.m.: **PTO Meeting**
- **Spirit Wear**
  - For anyone that is NEW. Not only is the spirit wear comfy and cool but great to wear for school-wide meetings that our kids attend once a month.
  - Be on the lookout for NEW products to be announced via email and Facebook.
- **Nicholas Market**
  - The Coolidge PTO is happy to welcome back Nicholas Market. Parents can order lunch for their students Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday. All lunches will be

individually brown-bagged. For information on how to set up an account on their NEW website please go to the CoolidgePTO.com website under NEWS.

- **IMPORTANT CHANGE** - All orders need to be placed by Midnight Thursday the week before.
  
- **New Wyckoff School District Facebook and Instagram Account**
  - Please take a minute to follow the **NEW Wyckoff School District Facebook and Instagram** Account **@wyckoffschools**. Please note that there are currently 2 called "Wyckoff School District" the one you want to follow has the blue logo with the cursive white W in it.
  
- **Website Updates:**
  - Newsletters are available on the Newsletter tab
  - FAQ tab has been added
  - Calendar is linked and all events will be posted here first.
  - Additional information can also be found regarding Girl Scouts and Cub Scouts and Code Ninjas.

#### **Treasurer Report (Kristina Fulco)**

- The budget was published on the PTO website and reviewed in the meeting. **The budget was put to vote and approved.**
- The **reimbursement** process is going paperless via a google form. The paper form will still be available, when needed.

#### **1<sup>st</sup> VP Report (Sarah Jacobson)**

- **PTO registration is open until 9/24.** The directory will go to press in October. All class parents must have a paid membership.
- Chairperson guidelines will be emailed prior to the meeting.
- **Open Chair Positions!**
  - Still looking for chairs for the **Wellness Fair** and the **Golf Outing!**

#### **2<sup>nd</sup> VP Report (Kelly Hartevelde)**

- **Box Tops** – see flyer to download the app to scan your grocery receipts and earn money for the school!
- **Fundraising:**
  - **Pizza Love & Tons of Toys** – be on the look out for fundraisers to buy from certain restaurants/retailers on certain days of the week and a portion will be given to Coolidge.
  - **Read-a-thon**
  - **Charlie and the Chocolate Factory** – buy the golden ticket!

#### **3<sup>rd</sup> VP Report (Mrs. Needleman)**

- From Mrs. Needleman:

I hope you all had a wonderful summer with your kids. We are excited for the new school year. We want to thank you so much for our special breakfast last week. It was a great way to start the school year! We really appreciate you thinking of us.

I am still looking for some volunteers for the Media Center (though many slots are filled already--thank you!). It is a great way to get involved and help the school. It's just a 30-minute commitment once every 4 weeks. Stacy Firstman, our volunteer coordinator, will give you all the details. Thanks again for all of your support to help keep the library running. I hope you all have a great year!

Thanks,  
Sue Needleman

- **Media Volunteer Program** sign up is on the CoolidgePTO.com website.

#### 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Reps.

- **INTRODUCTION**-role of the 5th grade reps is to plan all the 5th grade events for the year, goal is to raise money for these events and all of the 5th grade needs
- We had a great 5th Grade **Kick Off Event** on the 1st day of School which included breaking the kids into groups and having them complete challenges that revealed their 5th grade banner and slogan, "Once a Cougar, Always a Cougar".
- We will continue keeping you informed throughout the year with email blasts regarding upcoming fundraisers and needs for the 5th graders. Please remember that your child will eventually be a 5th grader here at Coolidge so any participation in these fundraisers is extremely helpful to keep these traditions going.
- One of our biggest fundraisers for the year is **pizza lunch Wednesdays** which we anticipate being up and running by the end of September beginning of October. Be on the lookout for pizza lunch order forms and confirmed start date to be shared with you shortly.
  - Traditional 5th grade Events for the Year Include:
    - Bingo Night
    - Book Buddy Party
    - June Class Trip –location in the works!
    - Spring Lake YMCA Trip
    - Memory Breakfast
  - **Start collecting pictures for the yearbook.** We will do our best to send email reminders throughout the year to start picture collection.
  - Thank you for your support!

#### Principle Update (Robert Famularo)

- Welcomed everyone to our first meeting in person and via zoom. Requested a round of applause for Emma and the board and requested parents' volunteer!
- Welcomed new families, kindergarten families and new staff.
- Students hit the ground running, nothing unexpected.
- A **remembrance of 9/11** and grade appropriate conversation were had along with civic duty and a focus on community.
  
- **School goals and updates:**
  - **Professional development** for staff and ongoing support for a responsive classroom.
  - **Social and emotional core competencies.** Mr. Famularo is working with aids and special education aids.
  - Re-establishing norms and class rules – **cougar constitution.**
  - Ongoing **formative assessments** in small groups or individual learning. Gathering student data and observation.
  - **Aims K-5 screener**
    - RT1- tier 1 – teacher does ongoing accommodation in class (both deficit and excelling)
    - RT2 – tier 2 – pull out instruction for reading and math
    - RT3 – tier 3 – more intense
  - Mr. Mendez – **math interventionist** (each school has one)
  - Added **social worker**, two for the district. Manages the IEP focus – **Mrs. Noblin**
  - **Mrs. Mapes** taking on role to be more of a **counselor.**
  - Teachers are promoting efforts to **strengthen community**
    - Relationship building – first 6 weeks of school
    - School spirit
    - Student council and safety team return
    - Staff and student moral
  
- **Covid**
  - **Desks** are situation to be 3ft apart
  - **Volunteering** will be allowed, but currently limited to pizza lunch and media
  - All **staff must be vaccinated or undergo testing**
  - **Lunch** will be eaten outside, weather permitting. Card tables will be setup if lunch is eaten inside.
  - As long as students are **masked**, they are **not considered a close contact.**
  - **Recess** outside, masks are not required.
  - **Snack** is less than 15 mins, can be outside or in the classroom
  - **Band** will start for 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade. Singing is allowed with masks on or outside
  - Still working on **PE** – to maintain safety and will be outside and in the gym
  
- **Other:**
  - **Asset testing** for 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade (mini state test) – Oct 10/11 – 50-60 mins each day.
  - **Back to School Night on 9/28** - will be in person and staggered by grade and alphabet.
  - **Theme Day (Cara Goodrich):** Theme this year will be Roadtrip USA (state/national parks) Get together will some fellow parents to volunteer!

**Question and Answers:**

- **Question 1 (Cara Goodrich):** Feels more should have been done in remembrance of 9/11. It was the 20-year anniversary. Nothing significant was done district wide. Towns far away did more and Wyckoff was impacted greatly in losing 3 families. The peace pole was purchased by the PTO and it was not used. Even a moment of silence could have been done.
- **Answer 1 (Mr. Famularo):** Things were done, and it was the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of school. It was discussed in the morning words of wisdom and teachers were asked to also discuss, grade appropriately. Typically, moments of silence are not done due to the age of the children. 9/11 is very important to Mr. Famularo and the point is taken. Mr. Famularo suggested next summer he and Cara discuss and make plans for next September.
- **Comment (Karen Peck) –** Has a 4<sup>th</sup> grade student who was eager to discuss what they had learned about 9/11 in school. The focus was on the heroes and she thought it was a good take on the day.
- **Question 2 (Cara Goodrich):** Does 3<sup>rd</sup> grade no longer have Computers for a special?
- **Answer 2: (Mr. Famularo):** Starting in 3<sup>rd</sup> grade they have world language and do a special push in of computers such as things they missed i.e., tech 101.
- **Question 3 (Karen Peck):** Will students be required to wear masks in the heat? Per Facebook, high school students will not be required.
- **Answer 3 (Mr. Famularo):** Coolidge is air conditioned, so students will wear masks.

Motioned to adjourn by: Beth Vander Emburgh and Cara Goodrich

Meeting adjourned, respectfully submitted by Secretary Megan King [megking83@yahoo.com](mailto:megking83@yahoo.com)