

Cobbles Elementary PTA Minutes
September 20, 2023

Present: Cara Acker, Robyn O'Grady, Cynthia Ueland, Lisa Tripodi, Lori Morris, Anna Bell, Ashley Lieber, Sara Jane Deisinger, Alisha McNally, Molly Menge Maguire, Nicole Whitehead, Mariana Barry, Reed Sanchez, Joslin Buhrman, Gina Geraci, Amy Kauffman

Meeting called to order at 7:05 pm

Approval of June minutes: Ashley Lieber, Cynthia Ueland

Teacher Report: Reed Sanchez

- Supply Boxes: can each grade level receive 2-5 additional supply boxes next year?
 - more of a district question? Mrs. Whitehead will ask
 - There is an option to donate the pre-boxed supplies that families order over the summer.
 - Sara Jane Deisinger can possibly coordinate a supply drive next year.
- Is the t-shirt van coming back? New staff members are looking to purchase Cobbles gear
 - Family night at the Book Fair Wednesday 11/8: t-shirt van, food truck, coffee truck?
 - Cara Acker will contact Miss Stephen regarding her fiance's coffee truck.
- PJ day for early Fun Run signups wasn't equitable and was a concern.
 - We discussed alternatives and ultimately decided that a school-wide PJ day to kick off Fun Run fundraising would be more appropriate.

Principal Report: Nicole Whitehead, Mariana Barry

- Cobbles has a Twitter/X account. Should the PTA have their own account? Mrs. Barry will crosspost tweets from the Cobbles page. Looking for volunteers as well.
- Can we order a few more t-shirts for new and part-time staff? Shirts are being worn the first Friday of every month.
 - We will order the minimum number of shirts in various sizes to have on hand when new staff are hired.
- Cameron
 - Cameron Challenges will be starting up again. Each class will make their own goals and will have Cameron for a half day when the goal is achieved.
 - Outfits for Cameron? Ideas on how to incorporate Cameron?
 - Girl counterpart will be arriving soon. A schoolwide naming contest will occur.
- Second grade bathroom issues were reviewed with parents. Lights that only turn off with a key have been ordered.
- Excited that Harvest of the Month is back! Great volunteer turnout.
- SDM and DEI Committees
 - Need more parent involvement as only 2 parents have signed up.
 - Time commitment is one hour, once a month.
 - SDM: 4th and 5th graders, character program, plan Spirit Weeks once a month, Cobbles Cares

- DEI: how to bring to life the long range equity plan that was shared by Dr. Putnam
- Appreciative of PTA's support, great energy in building to start the year, glad that the kids are transitioning well into a new school year

BOE Report: Robyn O'Grady for Nicole Doyley

- 2 special reports: summer programs and capital projects
 - Urban Suburban students can participate in summer extended programs (reading, math camp) but have trouble getting to school due to no transportation.
- Professional development occurred throughout the summer.
- Director of Technology conducted cybersecurity and AI/ChatGPT trainings
- Capital projects included new floors, paint and classrooms.
- Superintendent Report
 - Student/Staff honors
 - Solar Eclipse: spring break extended by one day
 - looking to sell school property on Atlantic and Gloria, neighbors were notified
 - long range equity plan: SAT prep is now free for all students

Committee Reports

Fun Run: Can donate through Friday night, all students get shirts paid for by sponsors, smaller laps this year

Movie Night: Changed to Tuesday 10/24 to not overlap with Book Fair, PTA members can sign up earlier than others

Book Fair: November 6-9 in cafeteria

- Students can shop from 9-10:30. The principals will create a schedule over the four-day period.
- Each teacher will have discretionary funds to use as they see fit for students who can't afford books or forgot their money.
- Funds will be donated to SEPTA. Scholastic Dollars may be used to supply a book to each student on their birthday.
- Family night will be Wednesday 11/8 6:00-8:30.

School Pictures

- Is there a way for kids who can't afford pictures to receive them? Yes, principals are meeting to discuss this.
- Confusion with paperwork the photographer needs day of. Robyn and Gina will clarify.
- Teachers will remind parents to send in confirmation form if they ordered online.

Yearbook

- We need a chair ASAP.
- Molly Menge Maguire will contact a Cobbles parent who may be interested in taking photos.
- Lisa Tripodi expressed interest in helping with design.

Website: Cara Acker will confirm with Cobbles parent regarding taking over website duties.

5th Grade Moving Up

- We need a team of 6-7 to begin meeting in January. A tech person is recommended to create slideshow.
- PTA member not in attendance may be interested in becoming committee chair.
- Incentive: Only parents on committee can attend the moving up breakfast.

Make a Difference Day

- Donations for Penfield Food Shelf October 23-27
- Cobbles is responsible for canned green beans and Jello
- Sara Jane Deisinger will coordinate

Treasurer Report

- We will need to adjust our budget after the Fun Run based on our total profit.
- The t-shirts have been our biggest expense so far this year.
- An audit was conducted the end of August. Thank you to Molly, Mindy and Lisa!
- Signors on the bank account will be updated this week.
- 51 PTA members so far with 24 enrolled on Curriculum Night. Thank you Lisa for the QR code idea! Miss Sanchez will email the teachers with the link to signup.
- We are already halfway to our instructional supply budget.
- A teacher raffle could be another fundraising opportunity. Each teacher provides a raffle item (Seabreeze tickets, lunch bunches, extra recess) and students purchase tickets.
- Reminder: Amazon Smile is no longer provided, Box Tops is digital. We have \$21 in Box Tops currently.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Next Meeting: Thursday, October 19, 2022 7:00 pm at Cobbles Library