

Clifford School Parent Teacher Organization
General Meeting
November 8, 2012

- I. Attendance: See Attached attendance list.
- II. Called to order at 7:13 PM by Tia Knuedler.
- III. Welcome: A light dinner was provided by Amy Stanbery and served by Aoife McEvoy.
- IV. Treasurer's Report: Copies of FY13 Budget P&L Reports were distributed. Heather Maire reported that direct donations of \$36K (goal \$50K) have been received. Come Out and Play Night grossed \$430 and netted \$220. Read-a-thon expenses noted on the P&L Report were expenses incurred from last year's event.
- V. Secretary's Report: Minutes from the October, General PTO Meeting were motioned for approval by Niki Kolokithas, seconded by Katherine Schembri and approved unanimously. The new PTO bylaws were discussed at the October meeting and posted on the PTO Website for member review. Katherine Schembri motioned that the bylaws be approved, Niki Kolokithas seconded, and were approved unanimously.
- VI. Hospitality Report: 2nd Annual Cookie Exchange will be on Thursday, November 29th from 7-9PM at Amy Stanbery's home (256 Timothy).
- VII. Fundraising Report: 1) The 3 in 1 fundraiser grossed \$37K (\$28K from Genevieve's and \$9K from Mrs. Fields) and netted \$13K (that does include on-line orders). Product will be distributed by early December. 2) March 16th is the date for the 70's Groove Fundraiser. 3) Tia reported (for Julie Thall) that the first box tops drive has been completed and that the school made \$712 (a portion of that was from box tops that had been collected last year). Prizes were to be awarded on Nov. 9 to the classrooms that returned the most Box Tops (the two top winners were Ms. Smith's room and Ms. Lundy's room). 4) Pooja Mehra announced that the Read-a-thon packets have been distributed to the classrooms, so parents should be watching for those packets to come home with their students. Last year the Read-a-thon brought in \$10,000.
- VIII. Volunteer Report: Tia reported that there are still some volunteer positions that need to be filled: Beautification and Recycling Volunteer (possibly to take on the ink cartridge recycle project), an Art Show Curator for the spring art show,

- Fathers' Club Coordinator, and someone to organize 8th grade fundraising.
- IX. Communications Report: 1) Tia reported (for Krissy Haslam) that the directory is planned to be ready for distribution at the end of November. E-mails have been sent to those families who have not returned a consent form, informing them of a November 13th deadline for the form. Advertising space is still available. 2) Clifford Logo Magnets are \$5 each and now available. 3) Aoife McEvoy is working on a "Bumper" December Issue on the Dolphin Newsletter. She would like a volunteer or two, who are proficient with design software, for work on web and/or layout. Also, Aoife is building a team of translators who can review documents after she has passed them through the Google translator.
- X. Events Report: Kim Faus reported that auditions were held on November 4th and 7th for the Willy Wonka Jr. school play. About 40 students auditioned (everyone who auditioned will be cast). The cast will be announced on November 14th and a parent meeting will be held on November 26th, from 6–7:30PM.
- XI. Art-in Action: Jennifer Fernandez reported that the cost for Art-in-Action is going to increase next year, from \$150/class to \$200/class (from \$3600 to \$4800 for the school). Once docents have the date for their lesson confirmed, Jennifer will have a cart stocked with the supplies that will be needed. Currently, first grade has 9 lessons planned, second, third, and fourth grades have 4 lessons each planned, and fifth grade has 5. Donations of newspaper, paper towels, and paper plates are always appreciated. She still needs "art curators" to take on the spring art show.
- XII. Middle School Liaison Report: 1) Valerie reported that the Middle School Forum has been rescheduled for November 15th from 6 to 7 in the MUB. 2) Thanksgiving Pies will be held November 16th and includes the 5th grade. Students will be served pie during lunch and pies will also be distributed to middle school staff. 3) Maria Stockton reported that report cards for middle school have been mailed and that conferences will be held November

19th and 20th, in the MUB. Valerie is organizing breakfast and/or lunch for the middle school teachers during the conferences.

XIII.Frog Pond Update: Ms. Minor reported that the next steps are being taken on the frog pond project. Removal of non-native plants is scheduled for this month.

XIV.New Business: 1) Niki Kolokithas suggested making Christmas/Holiday boxes for children who have been affected by recent storms on the East Coast. People liked the idea of helping a “sister” school. Niki will look into details. 2) A question was raised as to whether donations for the 8th grade Washington D.C. trip can be made to the PTO. Since an independent company organizes the Washington D.C. trip, the PTO does not plan to be involved. 3) The yearbook will have a new look this year and published by a different company, TreeRing. Keven Zerber (Clifford Parent and TreeRing founder) explained the format of this year’s book . The cost will be \$24.99 and a 5% discount will be given if ordered by the end of November. Parents can pre-pay on-line and customize 2 pages for their individual child. Parents are encouraged to take lots of pictures at the various school activities. There will be a site where photos can be downloaded and shared.

XV.Meeting Adjourned at 8:15PM.