

Clifford School Parent Teacher Organization  
General Meeting  
October 11, 2012

- I. Attendance: see attached sign-in sheet, 46 people were in attendance.
- II. Christina Sullivan called the meeting to order at 7:10 PM.
- III. Introduction: Executive board was introduced and attendees were invited to share the dinner generously provided by Amy Stanbery.
- IV. Treasurer's Report: Barbara Larson reported that the direct donations are a little behind last year (\$31K vs \$33K). The largest expenses year-to-date are from Art-in-Action and the licensing of the school play (see attached budget report).
- V. Secretary's Report: Christina Sullivan noted that the minutes for the September PTO meeting, as well as, the school calendar are posted on the PTO Website. September minutes were motioned for approval by Katherine Schembri, seconded by Bunnie Morrow, and approved unanimously. The bylaws were distributed and Christina discussed that there was an edit made to them to reflect more transparency; focusing on holding the PTO more accountable when it comes to where the donations are distributed. A motion was made by Sam Faus to suspend the vote until the November meeting, giving members a chance to review the edits on-line (located under the "About Us" tab) and the motion was seconded by Christina Sullivan, and approved unanimously.
- VI. Clifford Logo Magnets: Tia Knuedler presented the proposed design (Clifford dolphin logo) for school "spirit" magnets. She suggested that we order 500 magnets (cost of \$830) and sell them for \$5 each (we would need to sell 166 to break even). There was discussion as to where we could sell the magnets, PTO meetings and events, possibly the holiday boutique. A question was raised about having stickers, as well, for notebooks, etc. and it was decided that we start with the magnets. A motion was made to approve the ordering of the magnets by Barbara Larson, seconded by Heather Maire, and approved unanimously.
- VII. Fundraising Report: Elaina Pitre and Bunnie Morrow reported on the 3 in 1 fundraiser, with a goal of \$35K to be generated. If goal is reached, a BMX Bike show will be held for all students. Flyers will go out to students as a reminder that the last day to turn in order forms is October 19<sup>th</sup>.
- VIII. Volunteer Report: Pamela Martin still needs coordinators for the Enrichment Program, Beautification and Recycling, Business

Partnerships, Father's Club, and Middle School Fundraising for graduation, as well as, 2 more crossing guards, and auditors.

- IX. Events report: The Come Out and Play Night has been moved to Thursday, October 25<sup>th</sup>, from 4:30 to 7:00PM. Event is intended for K to 5<sup>th</sup> graders, but no students will be excluded as long as they are with a parent.
- X. After-school Enrichment Program: Lisa Adasiewicz reminded the parents to watch for the packets (in Wednesday folders) detailing after-school classes. Also, make sure the office has a completed Clifford registration form when enrolling a child. Finally, she mentioned that several of the classes are using the garden facilities for special projects.
- XI. Middle School Liaison Report: Valerie Bioc has several events planned for the middle school, starting with a Halloween Field Day (games, cupcakes, and lemonade), and that she needs volunteers. Dates to remember: Middle School Forum – Wednesday, October 24<sup>th</sup> from 7–8PM in the MUB. Dates for students: Halloween Field Day–October 31<sup>st</sup> from 12:23 to 2:35PM. Thanksgiving Pies–November 16<sup>th</sup> from 12:23to1:03PM (MS Lunch). Holiday Party–December 20<sup>th</sup> from 12:13 to 12:53PM (MS Lunch). Valentine Party–February 14<sup>th</sup> from 12:13 to 12:53 PM (MS Lunch). Spring BBQ–April 11<sup>th</sup> from 12:13 to 1:30PM.
- XII.Principal's Report: Jammie Behrendt announced that the results from last year's standardized testing are now available. Clifford's scores were up 12 points (814 compared to 802 for the previous year). She also discussed a new volunteer form and its requirements (finger printing, lifescan, and TB test), emphasizing that this is still a "work in progress". The cost would be \$47 per volunteer. In past years, the volunteer needed to pay \$15 and the district would pay the difference. However, the district is no longer paying this difference. Lots of questions were asked, such as, which volunteers would need to meet these requirement (volunteers for field trips, art-in-action, classroom help)? Parents are under the impression that they cannot be in the classrooms until the requirements are met. Jammie said that she would communicate with the teachers that the policy has not yet been set and that parents are welcome in classrooms even if they have not completed the new volunteer screening procedure. Jammie emphasized that her goal is to ensure the safety of the kids. Finally, she thanked the Traffic Group for their work to keep the kids safe at pick-up and drop-off and mentioned that she has been in contact with the County Supervisor who is organizing a task force to address traffic safety problems.

XIII. New Business: Gwen Minor was been working on the frog pond project (a natural seep that brings frogs to that portion of the campus) and has made progress (awareness of the Pacific Chorus frogs, trash pick up, received a \$3K grant to improve the pond area, ordered a low bridge, engaged the students) but now needs help getting adults involved. Possibly a good project for the Father's Club. Invasive plants need to be removed, interpretive sign installed, bridge placement, etc. Gwen will be at Canyon Inn on Monday, October 15<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 PM to meet with adults who would like to help with the project. More information on the frogs can be found at [savethefrogs.com](http://savethefrogs.com)

XIV. Volunteer Forms were again the topic of discussion and Tia Knuedler stated that the volunteer requirements did not originate from the PTO but by giving our input, we might be able to help shape them. Also, that when volunteers come onto campus, we should sign-in at the office and get a name tag.

XV. Meeting Adjourned at 8:22 PM.