

Clifford School Parent Teacher Organization

General Meeting

Thursday, March 14, 2013

- I. Meeting was called to order by Christina Sullivan at 7:14 PM.
- II. Attendance: Twenty-two people were attendance, see attached sign-in sheet.
- III. Hospitality: A light dinner was provided by Amy Stanbery.
- IV. Principal's Report: Jammie Behrendt reported that parent/teacher conferences will be held next week followed by a two week spring break. STAR Testing will begin shortly after spring break. Practice tests can be found on the California Department of Education's Website.
- V. Finance Report: 1. We recently had two large expenditures, Physical Ed and Middle School Enrichment. 2. The frog pond fundraising has generated \$4464 to-date, with the money from the stepping stones still to come. 3. The school play numbers aren't final yet, but currently the profit is \$500 instead of the budgeted -\$1000. 4. E-script is down from last year (\$1932 vs. \$6000). Remember to update your e-script account, this is an easy way to bring money to Clifford.
- VI. School Play Update: Jerry Schembri reported on the success of the Willy Wonka Play. It was a great production that included all the students that auditioned. The play was produced by the San Carlos Children's Theater and performances were held at the San Carlos Central Middle School (the location was generously provided by the San Carlos School District, waiving their typical facility fee). The play provided the students with a huge opportunity for growth. Aoife McEvoy did a great job with the marketing, Sunday's performance was sold out.
- VII. The executive board proposed that we return the budget line item for the auction (that has been cancelled) back to \$2500 from the approved increase of \$6000. Bunny Morrow motioned that the line item be changed and Elaina Pitre seconded the motion, it passed unanimously. The name for Silent Auction line item will be changed to Spring Raffle.
- VIII. The Spring Raffle -- a tiered raffle -- will be held during the week of the 2nd to 8th grades' Open House (May 30th). The classes will put together baskets and the class with the most raffle tickets will get a prize. Costs associated with the raffle (banners, signs, and raffle item packaging) will be covered under the line item for the Spring Raffle. The raffle will be held at

the Open House, and the library will be open on the Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday prior to the Open House so that people can preview the raffle items and purchase tickets. The kindergarten and 1st grade Open House will not be on May 30th, but the raffle could still be promoted to those families (“Come meet the 2nd grade teachers.” “See the Spring Art Show”). Possibly, the kindergarten pickup those days could be scheduled at the library. People will also be able to preview the raffle items on our website. Donations can be brought to the drop-off circle where Bunny will be collecting items. Donation forms will be sent out in the Wednesday folders. Raffle winners will be notified the night after the Open House.

- IX. Secretary’s Report: The minutes from the February meeting were circulated, Katherine Schembri motioned that we approve the minutes, Tia Knuedler seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.
- X. Lap-a-thon: Lap-a-thon will be held on May 17th, with a theme of “Run for Funds”. A volunteer sign-up sheet was circulated. This is intended to be a fun, community event for K-8 students. There will be raffles to entice more students to participate. One possible prize will be a Clifford magnet after obtaining \$40 in pledges.
- XI. Direct Donations: The percentage of families participating in the direct donations campaign is very low (approximately 26%). A suggestion was made to change the Dolphin Banner from Dollar Total to Percent Participation with a goal of 100% participation. Letters will be sent out in the Wednesday folders thanking the families that have contributed to the PTO in 2012.
- XII. New Volunteer Positions: People who have held executive board positions for two years will be stepping down at the end of the year. Also, Valerie Bioc will be leaving her position because of family obligations. Contact Tia or Christina if you are interested in PTO volunteer positions.
- XIII. Moms and Margaritas: Event will be held at Carol Donnelly’s home of May 4th. The cost will be \$50/person with Tia’s Dad once again cooking.
- XIV. May Day Parade: Julianne Lindars is coordinating this effort. Flowers and notes will be placed on Clifford Neighbors’ porches. The current plan is for this to be a kinder/1st grade event. Permission slips will be needed for students to leave the campus.
- XV. Staff and Teacher Appreciation week is May 6th – May 10th. Anjanette Lundell has a themed week, “A World of Difference” planned, with food from different parts of the world and a chance for a little pampering

(possibly massages). She has held two events this year and has a “You Rock” breakfast scheduled for next week.

XVI.Christina would like to discuss an advertising policy for the PTO website. Should we allow outside vendors to advertise on the PTO website? Talk to Christina if you are interested in participating in this discussion.

XVII.Yearbook: Maria Martin announced that the last day to provide photos for the yearbook is April 19th. A question was raised as to whether students can bring cameras to school to take photos. No one was sure, so Jammie Behrendt will be asked. If you intend to purchase a personalized page in the Yearbook, you need to buy your book on-line. Additionally, the books are cheaper on-line with more options available.

XVIII.Multicultural Festival is very organized, with banners already on display.

XIX.Father Daughter Dance will be held on April 12th. The theme is Hollywood Glamour and tickets are \$15 each/ \$30 couple.

XX. Frog Pond Update: The cement has been poured and the wood is scheduled to arrive for the deck this weekend.

XXI.GATE Program Committee: A GATE Program Committee is being formed and it should include some K/1st grade parents. Clifford needs permission from the district to test all the Clifford students for the program. If enough students qualify, we could bring the program to the Clifford Campus. People can opt out if they do not want their kids tested. Gwen Minor would like to be on the committee (but more teachers are needed).

XXII.Gwen Minor is distributing flyers for a Shakespeare program (approved by Jammie Behrendt). Scholarships are available for the program.

XXIII.Eighth Grade Graduation: Graduation will be June 13th, at PCC. The ceremony will be held in the early evening with a party to follow. Seventh grade parents are needed to chaperone the party and clean-up afterward. There is a limited budget for the event, so transportation costs are being cut.

XXIV.Middle School Update: Valerie Bioc reported that there will be no BBQ this year. Middle school will have a small appreciation lunch for staff and teachers on April 25th, catered by Merce Carroll. Valerie is going to ask the middle school teachers for a wish list (supplies like tissues, possibly plastic to cover bulletin boards) that she will bring back to the PTO.

XXV.Tia mentioned that RCEF is contacting the school PTOs to help in funding the middle school music program.

XXVI.Electronic Sign: Paul Haas reminded people that if they would like a message on the electronic sign, contact signoperator@gmail.com.

XXVII.Meeting Adjourned at 8:15 PM.