

April 2019- PTO General Meeting

Thursday, April, 2019

A.) Attendance Sign in, Food, Social, Fliers
Meeting was called to order at 7:10.

B.) Welcome & Communications Report – Sarah La Torra, sarahlatorra@yahoo.com

Science Night – The evening was held on March 21st and was a big success with terrific attendance.

Superintendent Meeting on 3/25/2019 – Notes from this meeting are posted on the RCSD website.

RCEF Update – Several people from the Clifford PTO attended the fundraising breakfast. Overall, it was agreed that everyone would like to help them and work with them, but hope that they can improve on their messaging overall.

Open PTO Positions for Next Year – There are 16 positions available! Please see the flyers for the complete list and contact sarahlatorra@yahoo.com if you are interested.

Movie Night, Incredibles 2 – Over \$500 was raised at movie night. Eighth graders need to raise more money to cover the cost of buses for graduation activities. They need to raise another \$2,500. The idea was floated that the PTO may contribute to help them meet their goal.

C.) Secretary – Lisa Silberman, lmasilberman@gmail.com

A motion to approve the February minutes was made; the motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

D.) Budget Discussion – Sarah La Torra, sarahlatorra@yahoo.com.

Budget Questionnaire – Very few families responded to the survey that was sent home asking for feedback on the PTO budget. In general, the feedback was in line with how the money is currently being allocated.

E.) Treasurer's Report – Clarissa Holmberg & Leslie Street, holmbergcb@gmail.com & lesliestreet@ymail.com

We have currently raised 141k which comes close to our goal of 150k. Hopefully, the lap-a-thon will raise enough bring us to that number. We've spent 174k with 9-10k still outstanding, so we've overspent by approximately 64k. Legarza is currently costing us 47k, but that number may change as we are in negotiations with them. Ms. Cody asked if it would be possible for PE to be scheduled in the afternoons instead of the mornings because it's much better for the kids to focus on academics in the morning.

F.) Principal's Report – Leslie Crane, lcrane@rcsdk8.net

Prospective/New Students – Leslie is still giving tours to prospective families for next year. Right now, we currently have 558 students and our enrollment is at 641 for next school year. We will have 3 kindergarten classrooms in the fall. Overall, there is a lot of positive energy out there about Clifford!

Testing – Testing is about to begin in the older grades and then will roll out into the younger grades finishing up mid-May. A request was made to provide snacks again this year for the kids during testing. Lauren Zalabak offered to organize the snacks.

5th Grade Promotion Ceremony – This will be held on May 31st in the late morning.

8th Grade – They have a lot of fun events planned that last week of school: speeches, practicing the ceremony, bowling, Great America and finally graduation which will be held at Canada College.

Calendar for Next School Year – Planning can start in May.

SEAL Training – PTO is currently funding this training which aims to improve literacy in students. The training this year was for Kinder & 1st grade teachers. Next year, it will cost more because 2nd and 3rd grade teachers will also undergo training. The bulk of the 21k which the PTO paid for covers the cost of substitute teachers when the teachers are away at training sessions.

Music for Minors – We will possibly be able to do 12 more weeks this year in TK-3 for only \$550.

G. Family Fun Night – Hannah Walbridge, hannahwalbridge@gmail.com

This event will be held at SportHouse again and is for the whole family. It will be on April 27, 4:30-6:30 and is \$40 per family. Food can be purchased separately.

H.) Lap-a-Thon – Kathryn Snow, nursesnow@sbcglobal.net

This event will be held on May 24th from 8:30-12:30. We are hoping to match up the older kids with the younger ones again.

I.) Middle School Update – Arlene Little, arlenep.little@gmail.com

It's spring and a big time of transition for a lot of middle schoolers.

K.) New Business

Energy Cube Challenge – Alex Otis introduced this exciting new program that she's bringing to Clifford for the first time this year. It will take place during the month of May from April 29th - May27th. It's a school-wide contest to get kids to move and exercise and for them to encourage their whole family to do so as well. For every 15 minutes of action, you get to fill in a cube. Every kid will receive a booklet to take home and posters will be in every classroom to inspire action! This will be the pilot year for this program and we'll be able to launch it with more build-up next year. The winning school can win a cube full of sports equipment. There is no cost for this program.

Staff Appreciation – Organized by Lauren Zalabak, this will be the week of May 20th.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:19pm

Minutes recorded by Lisa Silberman (lmasilberman@gmail.com)