

## 9-23-2013 PCO Meeting

Christy Fitzpatrick-Burns (moderator) read the mission statement.

### **Moderator Report:**

Christy announced that PCO Committee recaps were sent out and she distributed them to the attendees.

### **October PCO Mtg Speaker** – Dorothy Devlin will talk about the Olweus Bullying Prevention Program

Part of the funds from the Blooming Bash held last spring were used to help fund a music curriculum for Mr. R (Lower School music teacher). \$2,500 was given to partially fund the Quaver Program and will be used for grades K-8 over the next 6 years. Funds were also used to help pay for the Program from Mr. R and Ms. Lovely's music budgets.

Christy read a note from Mr. R thanking the PCO for their contribution.

**Fund Raising** – this year the PCO will eliminate some of the smaller fund raisers. The hoagie sale will be for the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders to raise money for McKeever Camp. The coffee sale will just be at the Holiday Market Place. The salsa sale will be eliminated.

Christy highlighted the success of the PCO fund raiser asking for families to donate to the PCO. If every family gives an average gift of \$20, we will be able to meet half of our fundraising goal with donations and we'll be able to reduce the number of fundraisers the PCO traditionally conducts throughout the school year. So far \$1,783 has been raised.

Christy handed out a summary from the Board of Trustees.

### **Guest Speaker – Mrs. Cook (Lower School Principal)**

Mrs. Cook announced that the Coaches will be at the meeting in October.

**Grade Level Reps** – Mrs. Cook announced that she and Dr. P are seeking to find one-two parents/per grade to meet with them on a monthly basis. This meeting would include any types of updates from the Home Team, faculty, and other school related news that each Principal would relay to the Grade Level Rep. In addition the Reps would convey any parent concerns to the Principals. This would allow for a good way to pass information between parents and the Principals. Email Christy if you are interested in being a Grade Level Rep: [parents@ecspco.org](mailto:parents@ecspco.org).

**Neighborhood/Bus Family Meetings** – Mrs. Cook announced that she and Dr. P would like to create pot luck gatherings for families across each bus line. These would be small gatherings held at parents' houses to get to know your neighbors. She mentioned that since we have families from all over the area it would be nice for them to get to know the parents of the kids that ride your child's bus. Mrs. Cook has a list of the buses and kids and would appreciate one or two volunteers to help her coordinate these events.

Mrs. Cook shared the school organizational structure. This can also be found in the school handbook.

**PCO Business:**

**Compost:**

Christy announced that The PCO newsletter, comPOST, needs several volunteers to produce this year's publication. **The 2013-2014 issues cannot be produced without more help.** Several options have been considered and a brain storming conversation/Q&A took place to help determine how to keep the newsletter going.

**Summary:**

Question: Could funds be taken from the PCO to pay someone to work on it?

Answer: That could be very costly.

Question: Could it be a club for the older students?

Answer: Yes it could, but it would no longer be comPOST, if this were the case then it would be a student newsletter. The hope is to maintain the current newsletter.

Question: Is it all one job?

Answer: The Chair coordinates everyone and everything but the jobs are broken up amongst several people. Currently there is a good group of editors.

**Suggestions:**

Have room parents send a note out seeking volunteers.

Place a notice in the Wednesday Word seeking volunteers.

Are there new parents with these skills that can volunteer?

Lenore said she may know of someone who could do it at a discounted rate.

The compost Committee members will put a list together of the specific needs they're looking for.

We could reduce the number of issues to help cut back on production cost and efforts.

Email Christy at [parents@ecspco.org](mailto:parents@ecspco.org) if you have any suggestions or would like to volunteer.

**Girl Scout Troops**

**Service Project** – There are several Girl Scout Troops that hold their meetings at ECS and they would like to give back to the school. An example would be to clean the classrooms. If you have any ideas that her troop could do for the school, please contact Christy - [parents@ecspco.org](mailto:parents@ecspco.org).

**Event Updates:**

**WaterWorks movies** – 80 people turned out see Smurfs 2.

**Walk to School Day** – once all of the kids are at school, they will walk to the field at Frick Park. This will take place October 9<sup>th</sup>.

Question about the Board of Trustees – a question was asked about how the Board members are chosen. Answer: Members are solicited. The Charter is up for renewal every 5 years.

Anyone is welcome and encouraged to attend the Board of Trustees meetings – these take place on the third Wednesday of each month at 6:30 in the Upper School.

**Fall Festival** – the Fall Festival will be held on Saturday October 19<sup>th</sup> from 2:00-5:00pm.

Highlights include:

- Collaborative pottery projects for Empty Bowls event contribution
- A visit from the Roving Art Cart-Bicycle Spin Art
- Live cooking demonstrations with food sampling
- Pumpkin painting, gourd weight guessing, games and more!
- Bake sale/apple sale
- Get to the Roots of Hunger Can Hike
- Friendship hike
- Folk music/DJ by Mr. R

Volunteers welcome! There are many ways to volunteer--more details coming soon. Students can work with their parents/caregivers to help run grade level booths. Contact [fallfestival@ecspco.org](mailto:fallfestival@ecspco.org) if you are interested in helping.

**Treasurer's Report** – the report is in part of the agenda.

**PCO Committee Sign Ups** – the PCO is seeking volunteers for different Committees