

Cornwall Elementary School PTO Minutes

March 6th, 2025 @ 6:00 p.m.

Attendance: Jessica Laspino, Jaime Hansson, Rachel Brunner, Mike Brunner, Brad Hardisty, Jessica Siegel, Gina Ceresini, Liz Finch, Elizabeth Surmacz, Zara Zerman, Jackie Smith, Allison Clements, Robert Kovach, Michelle Forker, Kristi Rodriguez, Jim Serafin, Dana Risser, Katherine Simmens, Ellen Kim, Sarah Conville, Nate Artz, Melissa Monk

Call to Order @ 6:00 p.m. by Mike Brunner

Introduction of Board Members and attendees, including new office staff-Zara Zerman & Amanda Kijowski

Board Reports:

Secretary Report

- o Motion to approve minutes by Brad Hardisty, 2nd by Jaime Hansson

Media Secretary Report – Jess Laspino

- o Photos of events needed
- o Fundraisers have been posted on social media
- o Extinction notice went out this week to attract engagement in PTO
- o Continue to advertise recruitment for Board positions for next school year

Treasurer Report – Jaime Hansson

- o Moving to E-checks has been “amazing”-saves time and is convenient
- o All teachers received their classroom reimbursement
- o Ledger balance reviewed, no concerns

Principal Report – Nate Artz

- o Mr. Artz thanked everyone in attendance for their participation in tonight’s meeting
- o Music in Our Schools-March 17th
- o Kindergarten Orientation-April 10th (PTO officers to attend if able)
- o Spring Soar Fest-April 11th
 - Rock painting stations (rocks will be utilized to fill-in mud pit)
 - Brad to contact Zimmerman’s to purchase 1-3in. size rocks
 - Relay races are planned
 - Snow cones
- o Arts Week May 12th-16th
 - 5/12-Chorus concert
 - 5/14 & 5/16 Book Fair with food trucks, including milkshakes
 - Ryan & Friends event on 5/16 will cost \$2k-down payment has been sent
 - Everyone is welcome to attend
- o PSSA’s – 4/23-4/25 (ELA); 4/29 & 4/30 (Math); 5/1 & 5/2 (Science)

Yearbook Update – Dana Risser & Liz Fitch

- o Orders will be taken from 3/16-6/9
- o Cost is \$16.00

- o Cover contest is ongoing for students to create this year's cover-winner will be chosen anonymously
- o Teachers received a link to upload pictures from their classrooms
- o Each grade will get two pages for a collage
- o Special events will get one page for a collage
- 📄 **Fundraising Report** – Mike Brunner
 - **Restaurant night**
 - Mancino's Dine-In was on February 20th – no profit information available
 - Funck's gift card sale is currently happening March 3rd-14th – 20% profit to Cornwall; last year profit was \$12.9k – need 2 staff gift cards for retirements at the end of the school year (Shhh) 😊

Teacher Update: Mrs. Forker & Mrs. Smith expressed gratitude for the PTO's contribution to CORNWALL READS. The book was well received and enjoyed by many families.

Scholarship Update:

By-Law Update: Motion to amend two articles by Brad Hardisty, 2nd by Jamie Hanson.....Motion carries-all in favor

Article I Section 2: No part of the net earnings of the PTO shall be to the benefit of its members, trustees, officers or other private persons “with the exception of any funds raised and offered to an alumna of Cornwall Elementary through the scholarship program.”

Article V Section 3: An adjustment in the minimum number of meeting attendees (from 9 to 5) for a quorum, as our numbers diminish we wanted a number we know we can achieve for a quorum month after month for any votes

New Business: Parent and Teacher Engagement

- o How do we get parents engagement?
 - Is virtual meeting an option?-Many opposed d/t lack of participation in discussion when on-line vs. in-person (Decision made to table this)
 - Cater a meal during meeting? (Decision made to table this also)
 - Many in favor of having the meeting at another location where PTO covers the cost of Appetizers and members pay for their beverages.
 - Non-School age childcare offering was proposed-Mike to reach out to the high school daycare program Director to see if there are any obstacles with Key Club students babysitting.
- o PTO representation as a group for Kindergarten Registration and other events to show support as a whole.

2025-2026 Board Vacancies: Media Secretary & Recording Secretary

2025-2026 Committee Chair Vacancies: Cornwalk & School Garden

- Ellen Kim expressed interest in School Garden

Upcoming Events:

March

6th – PTO Meeting

7th -Falcon Friday

14th – Make-up Snow Day-school in session

17th -Music in Our Schools

21st Falcon Friday

29th – No School

31st – Marking Period ends

April

4th – No school

11th – Falcon Friday

17th- 22nd – No School

20th – Band Concert

24th – Middle School Orientation

25th – Falcon Friday

New Business: None

Adjournment of Meeting: 6:42 p.m.

Next PTO Meeting: Thursday, April 3rd