Chatham Elementary PTO
Date: January 14, 2025

Next Meeting: February 11, 2025 @ 6:00 p.m.

Attendance:
Rebecca Hobek, Jennifer Coffey, Laura Edwards, Angie Sears, Bri Schriner, Joy Jordan, Jennifer Kelly, Danielle Tolley, Elizabeth Packard, Brennan Finnegan, Casey Bindig, Alexis Mahon

Door Prize Raffle: Congratulations to Danielle Tolley and Bri Schriner who won our two raffle prizes tonight for attending our meeting. (Bracelets from Jackies in Chatham)

General Discussion:

1. A gentle reminder that if you wish to volunteer at any PTO activities this year you need to have an update CORI. This is a very simple process.
2. Future Meetings: 2/11/25, 3/11/25, 4/8/25, 5/13/25
3. Minutes from our November meeting were reviewed and approved.

Orpheum Movie Fundraiser Update:

1. A HUGE thank you to Kevin at the Chatham Orpheum as well as Christopher and Ignacio Mortel for hosting and organizing this fundraiser.
2. A HUGE thank you to the members of the Monomoy Key Club for volunteering to help with this fundraiser.
3. A HUGE thank you to parent volunteers Laura Edwards, Brittany Jatkola, Jennifer Coffey, and Rebecca Hobek for their assistance.
4. The Fundraiser was a success and well attended. We had 66 children attend and raised $660 in ticket sales.
5. Our expenses for the event totaled $123 (snacks and snack bags for each child)
6. Total to deposit to the bank is $537
7. Kevin from the Orpheum commented that the choice of the movie “The Grinch” seemed to attract more children with a larger age range.
8. Thoughts for next year:
    a. We need a minimum of 5 parent volunteers in addition to the Key Club volunteers

b. Could we charge for adults? We had many parents choose to stay in order to allow their young children to attend. Maybe a $5 accompany fee
c. Discussion to possibly change from the gluten free pretzels to another gluten free options such as Cape Cod Potato Chips.

Upcoming Family Activities & Fundraising

1. Family Skate at Charles Moore
    a. This event will be on Sunday, March 23 from 11:00 to 1:00 p.m.
    b. We will know closer to the event if the Charles Moore Snack counter will be open. If it is not open, we will take advantage and do a bake sale.
    c. This is not a drop off event and parents/caregivers do need to attend.
    d. Harwich families are invited to attend this event. Joy Jordan let us know that Harwich is hosting their family skate on February 17th from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. and Chatham families are welcome.
    e. Thank you to Rebecca Hobek for organizing this event.

2. Cupcake Sale
    a. We will partner with Cup Cake Charlies in Mashpee and sell cupcakes. This is a new fundraiser and is replacing the fudge fundraiser.
    b. Students/Families can begin collecting orders on February 10th, forms and payment will be due March 5th, cupcakes will be delivered to school on March 19th.
    c. When the orders arrive, the pickup for the cupcakes will be on the same day at the “family shop” for the bookfair.
    d. We discussed having the PTO purchase additional cupcakes that we can sell at the bookfair/cupcake pick up.
    e. We need to be advertising this event on our social media, shark news, etc.

3. Book Fair
    a. Schedule for the week of March 17th
    b. We will organize a sign up as we get closer to the fair
    c. There was a great discussion this evening regarding changing the book fair for 2026. Instead of partnering with Scholastic could be partner with a local bookstore. Jennifer Coffey did some initial research with schools located North of Boston that have started this initiative.

i. Positives – supporting a local bookstore, having more control over the quality of books that are offered at the fair
ii. Negatives – will this allow us the same fundraising potential for the school? Will the books offered be as affordable as Scholastic books?

d. Danielle Tolley has agreed to do further research which will include talking to local bookstores.
e. Dr. Kelly will gather details regarding how much money we have earned in the past years etc.
f. We will continue this discussion at our February meeting.

PTO Room Parents

1. This year we would like to have PTO members coordinate as room parents for each classroom. The room parent will act as a liaison between the PTO and the classroom teachers. This will help the PTO better understand and support the classroom teachers.
2. We have had many parents sign up to be room parents. We are currently just trying to fill three classrooms before we launch this initiative.

Social Media

1. Brennan Finnegan has graciously agreed to head up our social media. We do currently have Instagram and Facebook.
2. We discussed trying to have the old Instagram from Chatham PTO removed. This is an account that has not been active since 2018. Joy Jordan said she would attempt to contact previous members of the board and see what we could do.

Monomoy Shark Merchandise

1. We currently have limited Monomoy merchandise available.
2. We will display this merchandise at upcoming events (i.e. Family Skate) and try to sell the remaining items.
3. There is an interest among families to continue to have merchandise available to purchase.
4. We discussed the possibility of partnering with a local printer for a pop-up shop of Monomoy Shark Merch. Liz Packard has agreed to investigate this option and report back.

Membership

1. We discussed ways to reach more parents and increase involvement with the PTO.
    a. Flyer to distribute at Kindergarten registration
    b. Table set up at Curriculum Night
    c. Information at the Fall Ice Cream Social

Housekeeping Items

1. Joy Jordan has volunteered to post our minutes on the district page. Jennifer Coffey will get the minutes to Joy to post.
2. Dr. Kelly will set up the Google Meet for the next meeting. We will send the link out to the committee a week prior to the meeting.
3. VENMO – discussion regarding the need for a PTO Venmo account.

Before Next Meeting…

1. Danielle Tolley will begin to look into local bookstore partnership for 2026.
2. Liz Packard will talk to the local printing company regarding a pop up merchandise store.
3. Rebecca Hobek will let us know if we will have the opportunity for a bake sale at the Family Skate
4. Jennfier Coffey will finalize and coordinate the Sales for Cupcake Charlies Fundraiser.
5. Jennifer Coffey will coordinate with Dr. Kelly to set up a Chatham PTO Venmo account.
6. Brennan Finnegan will coordinate with Deb Gebhardt to take over our social media accounts
7. Dr. Kelly will put information regarding the PTO meeting in the Shark News.