

February 8, 2024 CHES PTA Meeting

Minutes

Date: Thursday, February 8th

Time: 12:00 – 1:00pm

Location: Virtual

Zoom link:

<https://cornell.zoom.us/j/99521606748?pwd=WUtsQzFVclFwVSs5QlkranY1ZXZCUT09>

In attendance: Kim Anderson, Ryan Kehoe, Maureen Carroll, Mary Ann Huntley, Mao Ye, Christina Figueroa, David DeMello, Nina Kohn, Heather Wells, Heather Beasley, Mark Wells, Elizabeth Parr, Elizabeth Johnson, Rhealynn Pennycook, Sara Garner, Christina Konstantinidou

Call to order:

I. Welcome (5 min)

- A. Intros, new faces!
- B. Mathematizers
- C. 5K will be looking for volunteers soon
- D. Ready to pitch in! No leadership position YET.
- E. Love the 12 o'clock Zoom slot, hear things might not read in an email
 - 1. Lots of different faces - may be effective to alternate times in the future

II. Program Discussion (30 min)

- Recap – Program updates
- Upcoming Events
 - 5K update - Mark Wells (audio problems, ok all set)
 - Last year 199 participants
 - 2024 - May 4th (trying to push to May 5 to avoid NYSSMA)
 - chespta5k@gmail.com to volunteer! Fundraising, promotion, course monitors, planning, t-shirt design, educational portion/space. List of volunteer opportunities will be on website soon. DJ, emcee, Champ volunteers
 - Kim is super organized on fundraising, has template emails and spreadsheet with contacts etc. Some businesses donate money or items (sunglasses, gift cards) - some might be used for online auction this year
 - Mark wants to expand ability to raise money. Has a primary sponsor as well.
 - Remote idea - maybe next year

- Qualifying 5K, officially timed
 - FunRun for younger kids
 - Anyone can come - doesn't have to be CHES community only.
 - Planning committee meetings usually Tuesdays, but Mark can work with you if that doesn't work.
- Online Auction
 - Callout to school community in next couple of weeks - skills or services to be auctioned off
 - 5th grade team - unique need to fundraise 5-7K for class trip. 5th graders will have their services up for auction too (like, teach kids chess!)
- All-School Dance!
 - Committee to be called soon. Please join!
 - Will be at LACS, Friday 3/22
- Movie Night!! Friday 2/16 6-8pm
 - 5th graders voted on movie - My Neighbor Totoro
 - Signup went out this morning. Need volunteers to:
 - Move mats from gym to cafeteria, and move them back
 - Make and serve popcorn, serve pizzas
 - Clean up
 - 5th graders will sell stuff too
- Spirit Wear fundraiser
- Field Day end of June - collaborative event with PE teachers etc.
- Girls on the Run
- Spring Enrichment - will be communicated next week. Sessions start in March.
- Math Fest
 - Math awareness lecture - accessible to all audiences even elementary grades.
 - Math mime event next day (Saturday) - possible family event before/after for kids
 - And if can't piggyback on Cornell event, Heather and Mary Ann discussing a way to do a CHES only event.
- Call to action – volunteers needed for programs
 - 5K - Heather B, Mao, Liz (feel free to nominate people too!)
 - We need a Treasurer and a VP!
 - CHESnuts - literary version of a yearbook - needs a new leader
 - Rebecca S coming back for Ski Club next year
 - Movie Night - the big ask is set up and clean up
 - Use [Jamboard](#) to sign up! Encourage people to take things and run!

- Teacher Appreciation Week in May - need a volunteer to spearhead this! Please volunteer!
- Questions:
 - Does PTA do any literacy support? Could we? Can we get something started now rather than wait to be able to include everyone?
 - Lots of interest in math and reading tutoring/enrichment opportunities
 - Heather - If going to be a part of enrichment program, would need someone to commit to it once a week for 8 weeks and we'd need to know by this weekend.
 - Sara - can we ask one of the reading specialists at CHES to do a reading enrichment? Yes - especially if you have a relationship with someone already. Could we pay them? Yes - \$600 for 8 weeks.

III. PTA Board Updates (15 min)

- A. Principal's Report (Aileen Grainger)
- B. Secretary's Report (Lizzie Juaniza-Saso)
 - 1. Approval of [January minutes](#)
 - a) Voted on and approved
- C. Treasurer's Report (Ryan Kehoe)
 - 1. [January report](#) Jan 5-Feb 5, 2024
 - a) Beginning balance 23251, income 1876, exp 1517, 23610 ending balance
 - b) Highlights:
 - (1) box tops income - thanks to those that contribute!
 - (2) Concessions income
 - (3) Basketball income/expenses
 - (4) Ski income/expenses
 - (5) Teacher discretionary fund was accessed a couple times
 - (6) 5th grade performance expenses
 - (7) StoryFest expenses
 - 2. Is this where we should be? Is it reasonable to maintain this balance or should we be spending down to a certain level.
 - a) Added \$400 library fund, \$200 fund main office, New PTA projects added funds as we've gone.
 - (1) What inspired library fund? Conversations with Rachel (librarian) - district funding doesn't cover all of her ideas, like for a maker-space. Also, Great Escape is fundraiser for

PE staff, but we haven't had them for other specials so we wanted to add support to bolster other programs.

(a) Also, Rachel brought in her own bookcases to accommodate the youngest kids, which is above and beyond.

b) 5K needs to continue at previous level to maintain this level, and we need a couple others.

c) 15,000K would be a great place to end each fiscal year.

d) Find a way to keep membership fee at \$0

D. President's Report (Kim Anderson)

E. Vice President's Report (Maureen Carroll)

IV. General Questions & Announcements (10 min)

Adjourned: