

Colonial Park PTO Meeting Minutes
September 20, 2022
7 PM, Colonial Park Library or Virtual
to join: <https://meet.google.com/nqj-dtcg-iof>

The mission of the PTO shall be to promote communication and cooperation between parents and teachers; and to work for the constant betterment of the school community and the harmony of its members through enrichment opportunities and educational support for students and teachers.

1. Welcome & Introductions
2. Principal Report
 - New staff eg Laura Degelmann STE, two interventionists this year (Jean Mayo and Jacqueline Freeman, especially useful for WINN blocks). Two pregnant preschool teachers but we managed to find long-term substitutes Courtney Bartlett for Miss Jean with Pam Gill and Tina Giachetto. Kate Daly with Miss Kelsey's class. Ally Sears (maiden name jennett for emails) Sped Coordinator. New OT Kelsey Colbert.
 - District committed to literacy this year. All three elementary schools have introduced What-I-Need-Now WINN blocks. Interventionists will come in during these blocks. Assessments will help determine what children need. Data judged every 5-6 weeks.
 - Work with 'Hill for Literacy' non-profit for at least two years. Needs assessment, teacher focus group interviews. Identify strengths and weaknesses.
 - 'Think SRSD' partnership. Structured approach to writing. Kristine Donovan is the coach. 4 days of professional development.
 - Social-emotional and mental health grant thanks to Superintendent Ljungberg. \$5000 for calming supportive environment for the library. \$1500 for the building e.g. murals. Training for responsive classroom, especially classroom management. Mrs Isibor and Mrs Crowley trained this summer. It's a four-day professional development so it is a lot to manage.
3. Treasurer's Report
 - June. Fun Run made a lot of money. 22,500 donations but spent around \$5000. Net just under \$20,000. Fourth Grade class gift Bose Bluetooth speaker. But there is the expense of books, t-shirts and party that PTO covers. Ice Cream Social is a large expense.
 - Sensory Path in the corridor looking on to the playground.
 - September: Some Fun Run expenses. We got most sponsorships so we had to share those back to Robin Hood and South. We bought new Goldies. Old Goldies are \$20, new ones will be \$25. Teacher appreciation breakfast.
 - Budget: Field trips are back, planning two school-wide enrichments. Each grade will also have a budget for a classroom enrichment. Buses are separate. Currently have \$19,000, need around \$45,000. We might try to offset bus costs.
 - Motion to approve 2022-2023 budget. Mandy moves to approve. Josh seconds, everyone is in favor.
4. Goldie's Group and Room Parents
 - Goldie's Group is new this year because we have recognized that many people can't attend PTO meetings. So we are going to get the word out about volunteer opportunities by sending out an email to this dedicated list.

- Rosa explained the importance of school safety. Mrs Faughnan is using Raptor to keep track of people in the building. First time you will need your license. Volunteers also need to complete CORI forms. Also needed for room parents. Some classes still need a volunteer.
 - Linsey George asked what time all the doors are locked. The front door is never unlocked anymore. The recess door is propped open and immediately shut when the last line goes in. Same with Kindergarten/Preschool door (10).
5. Open Volunteer Opportunities
- We need help with a Half-Day coordinator for early release days, e.g Roller World, Ceramica.
 - We also really need help with field trips and enrichments, because we haven't had many such events for three years. Coordination with teachers, researching opportunities.
 - Room Parent Coordinator
 - Grant Writer: Josh Magee
 - Sunshine Committee e.g. treats for teachers at Thanksgiving, or Valentine's/end-of-year gifts for students. Tiffany Dennen
6. Upcoming Fundraisers
- Calereso's Fall and Spring, 25% given back.
 - Student Support Fund: Waiting for Giving Tuesday this year (Tuesday after Thanksgiving)
 - Apparel Sale this year through Christine Carpentieri, online store live in October, possibly in before the holidays but shipping delays could affect.
 - Book Fair Karine Dalton, parent-teacher conferences in December. Looking for volunteers! Linsey will help again this year. Using the Book Oasis again.
 - Passive: Sue Palmacci said you don't have to use the 'smile' link anymore, just set up preferred charity in your account
 - Bay State Textile Bins
 - Box Tops
7. Halloween Events
- Halloween Committee. Looking for interested volunteers.
 - Pumpkin Patch October 27 in the library , every student picks their own. Some teachers do crafts with them with the help of room parents. Sponsors needed, trucks needed.
 - Halloween Party October 29 with Trunk or Treat, candy given out there from candy donations. Sometimes charge \$5, \$10 family cap. NO donuts or cider (bees). Raffles.
 - Halloween meeting Tuesday September 27 7pm virtual
8. Questions/Comments
- Ryan made a lovely year in review video which we will share.

Present: (Online) Karine Dalton, Linsey George, David Heiman, Elizabeth Almeida, Jessica Korecki, (In Person) Jenn Khodush, Ryan Tollefson, Mandy Magee, Elizabeth Benbow, Joshh Magee, Rosa Flynn, Tiffany Dennen, Nishanth Selvam, Sue Palmacci

Next meeting Tuesday October 18. Meeting link will stay the same all year.