

Center School Association (CSA) – Monthly Meeting February 8, 2023

Welcome and President's report – Dawn Kaczynski

- January Review: Cyclone Night Out at Jet's Pizza
- Upcoming: Cyclone Night Out at LaVera; One School, One Book; Magic Gives Back show and raffle baskets; Food Drive; Village Trends Boutique
 - One school/one book - One per family to save \$

Principal's update – Kate Rateno

District wide one school/one book. There will be recordings of each chapter from school staff/teachers around the district. These will be available for people to watch at home. Story is about a child entrepreneur. This will begin February 17th.

Construction update: Poured the concrete flooring today - fun to watch. All is going well. The workers are being quite thoughtful with regard to noise and to giving alerts to the school when stuff will be happening. Kindergarten got to go out and watch today and the workers talked to the kids. They will do a little interior work over spring break then also work through the summer. Existing classrooms will ultimately be getting new floors and paint.

Executive Board Reports

- Membership – Erin Lewis, Meredith Turosky
 - Mid-year membership promotion in January – winner: Amanda H
 - 1 new family signed up; we now have 44 member families
 - Discussion on membership - do we want more \$ or more involvement?
 - Idea of committee night to help orient new people. Have this be a summary/orientation for new people.
 - Sometimes people don't come to meetings because they are afraid of being put in charge of something
 - Do you have to be part of the CSA to volunteer for things? - no. Some people may not know this.
 - Summary at the end of the year for everything we have done to encourage involvement next year
 - Hard to get plugged in as a new person
 - Important to realize that people are very willing to volunteer, even if they don't want to come to a meeting. For example, there was great turn out with the teacher appreciation meal
 - General sense that overall groups such as CSA are less well populated than they used to be district wide. This may not be completely true here - Mrs Rateno reports pretty constant numbers at CSA meetings over her tenure.
 - If people miss the 1st meeting they often miss the opportunity to get involved - a follow up email saying people can still help might be useful
 - Consider having one main chairperson for each committee to improve communication
 - Concern that minutes are hard to find. Currently they are on the district website. Consider having them on the Facebook page.
 - Consider restructuring the Room Parent meeting at the beginning of the year - have room parents umbrella under CSA instead of separating them. There were lots of people at the room parent meeting this last year but they left when the CSA meeting began. Consider 3 portions - 1) Intro/mini-lesson, 2) room parents, 3) CSA team/committee opportunities
 - Have a large sign up sheet.

- Conversation about emails to the community - what is most clear, most efficient, and most likely to get clicked on?
- Programming – Ashley Hess
 - Redo of canceled movie night?
- Ways and Means – Jen Lenz
 - Jets - \$317
 - Report that everyone who picked up between 5 and 9 were counted.
 - Cyclone Night Out at La Vera (tomorrow, February 9 – must order by 10pm tonight!)
 - Discuss Marco’s pizza box night for 3-5 grades
 - Will set up for May. Fosters for June?
 - Consider Beyond Juicery for next year. Consider pairing with Village Trends or another event.
- Secretary's Report – Candy Quinn
- Treasurer’s Report – Gina Parotta
 - Gina and Dawn will go over the budget soon.

Standing Committee Reports

- Room Parents – Lisa D, Candy Q, Nicole D
 - Next class party is Valentine’s Day on Tuesday, February 14; treat is ice cream and pretzels
 - Should there be water? Most kids do have water bottles, so ok not to provide. If parents want to bring in water they can. Perhaps in the future we should say “discuss with your teacher” regarding drinks/water. Some discussion about juice boxes - not as healthy, but might be enjoyed by the students. Consider this instead of fruit?
- Staff Appreciation – Michele H, Ashley H, Rachel F
- One School, One Book
 - See above
- 5th grade committee – Dawn K, Lindsay R, Nicole R
 - Fundraiser – Magic Gives Back show, Saturday, February 11 at 2 p.m.; CSA raffling off prize baskets at show
 - This will fund 5th grade activities and extra will come to the CSA
 - So far 300 tickets have been sold.
 - Most of the \$30 tickets have been sold and many of the more expensive tickets as well.
 - Concession sponsor had to cancel, so unfortunately no concessions were sold at the show.
 - Raffle update - 9 baskets created from family donations; \$1/ticket or 6 for \$5, pulled at intermission. Consider a way for people to participate in the raffle even if they are not there in person?
 - Rick Smith has donated two tickets which we will get to the winner of the membership raffle - Amanda H
 - Outing – Nautica on May 30; contract in hand to review
 - Will stop at the Cleveland sign for a grade level picture. This will be given to all the students at the end of the year. Pizza/cookies/pop and a DJ on the boat.
 - T-shirts – aiming for end of February; students wore Mayfield colors for class yearbook pic
 - Mrs Christopher does a logo lesson and one is chosen for the shirts
 - Gift to School – bench to go by the new area is most likely.
 - There is also \$ earmarked in the CSA budget for these activities
- Fundraising February at Village Trends Boutique – Ashley H
 - February 24 in-store (Mayfield and Chesterland) and online; CSA will earn 15% of sales
- Food Drive – Ashley H, Jen L
 - Week of February 13; Center and Lander vs. Gates Mills and Millridge
 - Winning principals will get to “Pie” the losing principals. This will be recorded by high schoolers.

- Mrs Rateno has been in contact with other principals and will continue to arrange details on this with them and Mike at the High School.
 - Paper fliers, Boxes, Announcements, Volunteers, take pictures.
 - Show the video in synergy the next week, or in homeroom.
 - Daily update - send the numbers to Mrs. Rateno and Mrs. Martin and they will distribute to the teachers. Post on facebook as well. Check with other schools to see if they can send updates daily.
 - Make sure we bring the boxes back - either that day or the next day.
 - Set up new boxes just in case needed.
 - March family fun event – discuss ideas
 - Table this idea as there is so much going on.
 - Consider skating parties again. Dawn to call them to set something up maybe around spring break.
 - Read-a-thon – Michele H
 - March 13-17, tied to Captains reading program - will be a Center Night at the Captains
 - Online platform used to collect donations and track reading.
 - Spring flower sale – Elizabeth H, Maureen W
 - Sale begins March 3 through March 17; Pick up scheduled for May 10
 - Catalogs will arrive in February
 - Consider uploading a roster of students to the company (student name and teacher) to save effort of manually entering info for links. Not having a general Center link will make pick up quite a bit easier.
 - Being before Mother’s Day should help with sales.
 - Open House/Art Show – happening this year? CSA support?
 - This will not be happening this year. Instead there will be an evening event for the end of One School/One Book March 7th for this.
 - Mrs Rateno will discuss with Mrs. Christopher if there will be an online show this year. It was a lot of work last year.
 - Testing kickoff in April – Discuss ideas
 - Tabled for next meeting. Consider health brain snacks. There is also a committee within the school that pairs up grade levels for support during that time as well. Mints are very popular.
 - Maturation program – waiting for district
 - No word yet. Mrs Rateno has inquired.
 - CSA committees/chairs for 2023-24
 - See above membership conversation. Encourage people to come to spring meetings to get involved for next year.
 - Ongoing fundraisers – Market Day; Box Tops (AmazonSmile program ending after February 20)
 - Need to decide what goes on the district calendar soon. Will need to know by the end of march/early april.
 - Discussion about Donuts and Dawn - we don’t have the parking for it. Consider doing by grade level. These sorts of events do help get parents involved in the school in general. Bingo night also doesn’t happen anymore. What other events could fill this need? Possibly the open house at the end of one school/one book will help fill this need.
 - Idea about students getting to win to cut the tie off the principal. We could also for tie donations
 - Idea for the future - Incentive for winning students get to ride to school in a fire truck.

New Business

- Comments, ideas, questions?

Adjourn – Next CSA meeting is Thursday, March 9 at 7 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 8:28 pm.