

**Central Elementary PTA**  
**General Membership Meeting Minutes**  
**September 3, 2013**

1. Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm. 64 Members in attendance.
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Reading of the Mission of the Parent Teacher Association
4. Principal's Report - Jan Haberlein
  - a. Mrs. Haberlein informed Membership that Mr. Gruber was transferred and he sends his regrets that he was not able to be here in person to say good-bye; Ms. Susan Barrie is the new Assistant Principal and comes to us with 2.5 years experience as an Assistant Principal; Mrs. Lynch also took a new position as Department Chair of Guidance at Bates Middle School and Mrs. Susan Young is our new Guidance Counselor
  - b. Appropriate Transportation protocol was reviewed: each student has a set after-school dismissal procedure; a note must be sent in with a student if their routine dismissal procedure is changed for a day
  - c. CES was a pilot school last year to test the online program, ParentConnect, for Elementary schools; this program is currently used for middle and high school students as a way for parents to be able to view students' grades and academic progress online; ParentConnect was initially scheduled to be implemented this August at CES, but is behind schedule and will hopefully be available after 10/15/13. As soon as we learn the date, parents will be informed via CES EBlast.
    - i. Question was asked if parents will have to obtain code to log into the site by going in person to the school to pick this up as they must do in Middle school; this is uncertain, but parents will be informed of procedure once we know after 10/15.
  - d. Volunteer Orientation is scheduled 9/13/13 at 9:15; Video will be shown and volunteers only need to watch this one time; Background checks must be performed every 2 years for parent volunteers to attend field trips.
  - e. MSA scores discussed: CES students did excellent!
    - i. 100% of Alternative MSA
    - ii. Students scored over 96% in every MSA test
    - iii. Reading: 200 students scored in advanced; 138 scored in proficient; 12 scored in basic
    - iv. Math: 218 students scored in advanced; 121 scored in proficient; 10 scored in basic
5. Officer's Reports
  - a. President – Sherry Madden
    - i. Membership
    - ii. Extracurricular Programs: Discussed programs offered this year:
      1. Lego club: Grades 3-5 offered in Fall; K-2 in Spring
      2. East Coast Martial Arts: 3 week program starting 10/8, 2 days per week; students will have opportunity to earn white belt at the end of the class
      3. Spanish: Starting 10/1; Grades K-1 meet on Tuesdays from 3:30-4:30; Grades 2-5 on Thursdays from 3:30-4:30
      4. Chess: 14 week program for K-5 on Friday mornings starting 10/4
      5. Yoga offered again this fall
      6. \$5.00 one-time refund provided on one extracurricular program for PTA Members only
    - iii. Parent Coffee meetings will be offered again this year—roundtable discussion of general issues,

such as Common Core Standards, MSAs; if parents have items for discussion, they can email Sherry Madden at [president@mycentralPTA.org](mailto:president@mycentralPTA.org); the first Parent Coffee is on 9/18/13 at 9:15 am; also asked parents to email if requests for a different time.

- iv. Class T-shirts: K-4 T-shirt order forms are out and due by 9/13/13; Grade 5 T-shirt forms will be sent separately this next week; sweatshirts will also be available this year and those forms will come home later in September.
  - v. New events being considered this year are a dance for students and their parent/guardian or special “grown-up”—this will likely be held in the Winter; also considering a Fall Festival—anyone interested in volunteering to Chair either event, please contact Ms. Madden
- b. Vice President – Melissa Wanner
- i. Tiger Trot was discussed as CES PTA’s biggest yearly fundraiser. Past funds raised have gone to enhance technology at CES, including supplementing cost of smartboards in all classrooms. Spring date for Tiger Trot has not yet been determined; still need a volunteer to serve as Sponsorship Chair—many volunteers available for guidance of this position
  - ii. Volunteering opportunities were discussed, including the need for an Extracurricular Program chair to oversee the PTA-sponsored before and after school programs.
- c. Treasurer – Susan Merkel
- i. Hard copies of proposed 2013-2014 CES PTA Budget were circulated to the Membership; Highlighted specific areas, including \$12,000 to fund PTA events, \$5400 for student enrichment fund, \$9000 for cultural arts programs, \$2000 for extracurricular programs;
  - ii. \$20,000 will be given to CES in grant form; Options for use of this money will be to enhance the sound system in cafeteria and/or to obtain ipad/tablets
  - iii. Only \$10,000 was given to school last year because of uncertainty about effect of redistricting; this left \$26,000 cash from last year’s budget, which will increase amount being paid to CES in the 2013-2014 CY Budget
  - iv. Ms. Madden asked for a motion to be made to approve the 2013-2014 Budget; Carla DeWitt made the motion to approve the budget; Kate Jones seconded the motion; the Membership unanimously voted to approve the 2013-2014 Budget
- d. Secretary – Melissa Schweitzer
- i. Fall Fundraising update: Pamela Murray, Fundraising Chair, was absent and provided a summary that Ms. Schweitzer presented: Based on 2013 Survey results, the fundraiser will start later this year—Monday, 9/30- Friday, 10/11; Based on survey results, options this year include Mixed Bags, Razen gift catalog and frozen food, Square 1 Art and Kidstuff Coupon book—Grades K-1 will receive books to review; all other grades will receive order forms; Coupon book will be in office for review; Credit cards will be accepted by calling Pamela Murray or writing number of form—no walk-in service.
    1. Question was asked if families can provide a monetary donation in lieu of the fundraising options and Ms. Schweitzer said yes, this is always an option—families are not obligated to participate in the fundraiser
  - ii. Committee Updates
    1. Clothes Closet will be holding a fall and spring clothes drive; Syndy Kucner is Chair and is coordinating this; look for details to come in the Eblast
    2. Reflections Program: Glynis Lisiewski, Reflections Chair, provided an update on this year’s program: theme is “Believe, Dream, Inspire” and it is a voluntary program to expand students’ participation in the arts; every CES student participant will receive a medal and participate in the party in November; Top 3 entries from each category will

be forwarded to compete at the AA County level, and then to the state for the winners at County; Levels include “primary” for K-2 and “intermediate” for grades 3-5. Elizabeth Ramirez Mack of Whimsey Cove Frames will provide complimentary matting for each visual art piece; Ms. Lisiewski will be talking with students about the program and participating during lunch periods for the next 2 weeks and packets will be coming home in Backpack mail. Deadline for submission of entries is 10/14-10/16. More information is included on mycentralpta.org.

6. Questions from General Membership:

- a. Will 24 Club be offered again this year? Mrs. Haberlein said yes—Mrs. McMahon is coordinating this and the goal is to again go to County competition.

Meeting adjourned at 7:36 pm.

**DATES TO REMEMBER:**

9/3 – Back to School Night 5:45-8 pm

9/5 – Schools closed: Rosh Hashanah

9/10 – PTA Executive Board Meeting

9/13 – Parent Volunteer Orientation 9:15 am

9/18 – Parent Coffee Meeting 9:15 am

9/18 – 2-hour early dismissal

9/30 – Fall Fundraiser starts and goes until 10/11/13