

**Cathcart Parent Organization
General Meeting Minutes
May 1, 2013**

Attendees: Melinda Tutt, Sandy Ropka, Amy Banken, Casey Bowers, Paula Headland, Stephanie Campbell, Megan Sloan and Jessi Brothers

Meeting called to order at 6:35 pm

Introductions

Treasurer's Report:

- Sandy Ropka reported that we the CPO Checking account has \$7,557.73 and Savings \$10,498.01
- Recent credits;
 - \$1,500+ check to Robyn Tapia out of the library holding account to purchase new books
 - \$250 annual contribution to Yes! Snohomish-Citizens for Snohomish Schools
- Recent deposits; \$771 from Box Tops. Those 10¢ labels add up!
- Approved a grant request from Mrs. Ingram to purchase a new 3rd/4th musical program.

Fund Run Update:

- Sandy Ropka updated us on the Fund Run scheduled for Friday, May 10th.
- Fund Run envelopes went home with kids last Thursday, 4/25/13 and information about the Fund Run was also included in the CPO Update of Cougar Tracks 4/25/13. Status updates have been posted on the CPO Facebook page and radio spots will begin to run in classes this week during the morning show.
- It was noted on the distributed information, that if every child could raise \$50 each, we could meet the goal of paying for a track this year.
- Reminder that the student that brings in the most donations will win an iPad mini. Second place will receive a \$100 gift card to the place of their choosing. Teachers indicated that the kids seemed to respond to the prizes being offered. Each child will be receiving a Cathcart water bottle gift after they run.
- Yes, teachers can participate in the Fund Run and run/walk with their classes. Casey Bowers will have the teacher time spot time sheets out shortly.
- Albertson's is kindly donation 500 frozen Otter Pops for the event and we have GPHS football and cheerleading teams coming to support and cheer the Cathcart kids.

President's Report:

- Melinda received an email about a request from Mrs. Ingram for cups for drinking water in her portable. Casey Bowers will arrange with Gaye to have the school supply these cups.
- The CPO has signed a contract for a 2013 Fall Fundraiser with United Fundraising
 - Same associates as last year, but Elliott was purchased by United. Same products as last year, which we heard was a nice variety and quality products to choose from.
 - We will attempt to have the fundraiser run earlier than Oct 10th, so that the students can have the products in-hand before Thanksgiving.
 - NEW this year; each child who sells just one item, will receive a "coupon to adopt a pet". Basically, at the end of the fundraiser, United will be making a certain percentage of the sales to be designated donation. Cathcart Elementary will choose the local pet charity of our choice (Homeward Pets, Pasado Safe Haven, etc), and a check will be presented to that organization on Cathcart Elementary's behalf.
- Lutherwood experience for 5th/6th grade
 - All 5th/6th graders that signed up to attend are financially covered thanks to the parents that paid, parents that made add'l donations to cover other child, and all the fundraising efforts with Rice Krispy sales and McTeacher night.
- Question was raised about Group Class photos about when students should have paid for those. Class pictures are free to all students whether they purchased an individual photo packet or not. Part of contract with Dorian.
- CPO Board Elections



- CPO elections for Board positions will take place at the June General Meeting. We have a few current board members that will not be returning and a few that may switch spots. At this point, we have tentative names for nominees for all the positions, but we are looking for more to share positions or as backups for the nominees. We are excited about the new parents looking to be on the board!
- At the last CPO general meeting in March, someone asked about the absence of Food donation bins in the office. At the May CPO Board meeting we discussed it and food bins will not be placed in the office on a regular basis, but rather provided at events for donation. It was found to be in the way in the office and had limited activity. Community members that would like to donate food items other through school events can do so by dropping it by Maltby Food Bank directly, or the food donation bins located at the Clearview Albertson's.

Hospitality Report:

- Melinda reported on behalf of the Hospitality members that there are fun things planned for the Teacher and Staff Appreciation week May 6-10. A potluck lunch is planned for Friday May 10th. With staff present at the meeting, no further details were shared!
- Casey Bowers mentioned that with the sudden passing of Dutch Hill's Resource Teacher, Solveig Anne Vinje that the CPO may want to reach out with a card. Casey also mentioned our own Resource teacher is out ill this week and probably next and we may want to consider a card as well.

Family Events report:

- Melinda reported on behalf of the Family Events that the annual carnival "Summer Kick-Off" is on track for Friday, June 7th. We have food vendors and activities scheduled and paid for.
 - Events planned include inflatables, photo booth, cow train, as well as new event such as Lego building contest, cookie baking contest, etc.
 - We expect this to be profitable this year. Last year students received free punch card with food donation; we received a lot of donated food, but not many punch cards were purchased.
 - There is no plan this year to recruit teachers and classes to sponsor and support a booth/activity at the event.
 - Reminder though, that volunteerism has been low the last couple of years and we will really need parent support to make this event successful.

Community Liaison report; no report

WatchDogs report; no report

Principal's report by Casey Bowers:

- **Track update.** Casey was last in touch a few weeks ago with Ralph Rohwer, Executive Director of Facilities and Operations for Snohomish School District. Since Seattle Hill also wants to do a track similar to ours, Ralph obtained a quote from a local contractor. Ralph felt the bid at \$36,500 seemed unexpectedly high and was going to go back to the contractor about looking at revising the bid. Cathcart has \$11,000 from NFL Play 60, and approximately another \$7,000 that could be used. However we have a lot more to make up. Casey is expectedly going to contact Ralph Rohwer in the next week to get an update on the bid situation.

Other comments:

- Stephanie Campbell commented that the Science Fair was a great success and appreciated all the hard work that went into preparing for the Fair. Megan Sloan also offered a thank you to the mentors. They were definitely utilized by some of the students in her class and others, and that was such a great thing to be offered.
- Megan Sloan commented that thanks to her SEF grant, that they now have new biography books. It's a great set and the kids seemed to be very interested in using them.
- Casey Bowers that she will be receiving more information about the Common Core State Standards which implemented for the school year 2013-2014. This might be a good item that she could discuss at a future CPO General Meeting; maybe 20 mins at a general meeting next fall. This information will be a great resource for parents to help understand the new standards and expectations for their children's success.

Meeting adjourned at 7:13pm

