

Carmel Middle School
Executive Board Meeting Minutes
September 14, 2021

Attendance: Deanna Pitman, Laura Roth, Claude Warren, Sarah Galante, Jessica Barrett, Heather Garrison, Bhavna Thapar, Dan Perdun

Principal's Report

- NWEA testing is complete and results will be emailed by the end of the month. There will be a missing data point for last year. Teachers use this information to form groups and identify missing pieces for instruction.
- Panorama Survey - students will take during Core+. Parents could opt out.
- Clubs will be starting. Will work with PTO for funding as needed.
- DC trip - 8th graders had a successful trip over Labor Day weekend. Approx 180 students.
- COVID - Still contact tracing but quarantine is not required for everyone. We've seen an increase in 6th grade absences. Parents receive an email with instructions. Due to HIPAA regulations, schools can't require proof of test results or vaccination records.
- Two grants for board games for teams 8-1 and 8-2, cost \$181.71. Claude motioned to approve and Laura seconded. **Motions approved.**
- Coming soon - 8th grade will be broadcasting the school announcements live.

Cougar Pa's Update

- 198 kids signed up for the tailgate on Sept 22. Might need extra volunteers from 3:30-5:30 for check in process and food. There will be a live band for the first time. Todd Hornsby and Dan Perdun will walk the grounds to confirm volunteer parking and pick up locations and to be certain kids safety will be monitored.
- Cougar Pa's will meet on Thursday to finalize plans

President's Report

- Need to review the by-laws. Please read and provide input to Laura. Need to provide time for the general PTO membership to review. Will post on CaMS website. We will talk about edits at the next meeting.
- Goal to have a marketing poster and video that the PTO can use for the open house and other PTO events. Jessica offered to create a powerpoint that can run on a loop. Use photos of kids with masks to be updated for the times.
- The week of 9/27 is school custodian and maintenance staff appreciation week.
- 9/30 is Thankful Thursday
- Dine Out Nights - Blaze Pizza 9/29 & Fat Dads 10/6

Vice President's Report

- 9/22 will be a new family Zoom call at 7:00pm. Deanna has wording and form for parents to sign up. The form will be used also for questions so the PTO can be prepared to answer.
- 3 sections for Zoom call
 - 1. Extracurricular activities - PTO/volunteers/Cougar Pa's, announcements posted on website, stop it app
 - 2. Academic support - tutoring, powerschool and canvas, student services and Ascension

- 3. How to support teachers - sign up genius for staff meetings, step 1 is talk to teacher and not throw them under the bus by posting on social media (school can't respond directly due to privacy laws) & be kind.
- Updating binder - the only fundraising we do is the \$40 donation as well as dine out days. Performing arts will do separate dine out days as well as butter braid fundraiser. Will update binder to keep current information.

Treasurer's Report

- We have received \$18,137 in PTO donations and \$3,027 in Pantry Packs donations as of last Friday. We are trending similar to last year.
- There is a direct correlation between Deanna's emails and donations for 3-4 days after.
- We do have leftover money from last year but might have an increase in expenses this year with clubs.
- At some point, bringing in \$18K on a \$30K budget will catch up.
- About 30% of donations are more than \$40. We could consider increasing the requested donation amount to \$50. A decrease in students will affect donations.
- If we can bring in more money, that would be great but the budget can be funded as-is.
- PTO plans to fund the Cougar Pa's group for their first year to get it up and going.
- Heather has two reimbursements for pantry packs (\$500) to turn in.

Secretary's Report

- August minutes were emailed for review. Deanna approved and Jessica seconded. **Minutes approved and can be added to the website.**

Communications Report

- Outreach is up by 58% from last month. Will do a post for the tailgate event.
- Excited for clubs to start so we will have more pictures and things to post about.
- Media center post was popular.
- The website has been updated.

Meeting minutes respectfully submitted by Sarah Galante