

## **MINUTES**

### **DECEMBER 14, 2011 PTO MEETING**

This meeting of the Colfax A.L.A. PTO was held in the school cafeteria at 7:00 p.m. The meeting was led by PTO President Jenny Ganger.

Jenny let everyone know that because we have such a full PSCC meeting agenda, the PTO meeting will be kept to 15 minutes. The meeting will be informational only, and we will not take questions. If anyone has any questions or comments for any speaker or board member, they may email it to [jennifer.ganger@gmail.com](mailto:jennifer.ganger@gmail.com) or complete the form at the bottom of the Agenda and return it to any board member, including Diane Condie or Adam Sikorski, and we will respond.

1. Party for Play (Sat. February 18) (Sukanya) Jenny introduced Sukanya as the Co-Vice President Special Events and the Co-chair for Party for Play. Sukanya announced that Party for Play, our adults-only big fundraiser, will be February 18<sup>th</sup> at the University Club in Oakland. It is our 6<sup>th</sup> year for the event. We are in serious “ask” mode: please ask community members and businesses for donations for the auction. Don’t be afraid. Most will say yes! Sukanya listed some examples of donated items, and ask people to consider donating their own special skills. There will be a live auction and a raffle. An “ask letter” has been prepared to present to businesses. People may get some of these to present to businesses with their donation requests or view our website for the same information. Businesses are more willing to donate if you give them some lead time.
2. Teacher/Staff Holiday Lunch (Tues. Dec. 20) (Abbie) Our holiday lunch for Colfax faculty and staff is Tuesday, October 20 beginning at 10:45. We need main and side dishes, desserts and drinks. Bring anything you can. Also, sign up on the sheet being passed around if you can help.
3. Ice Skating Night: Jan. 23 (Abbie) Ice Skating Night is scheduled for Monday, January 23 from 7:00-9:00 at the Schenley Park Skating Rink. It is for K through 8. (The middle school does have a separate middle level skating event.) The cost will be announced at a later date. Admission will probably be free but not skate rental.
4. Budget (Shannon) The up-to-date budget is presented on the reverse of the Agenda. The major expenditures have been for Grow Pittsburgh, the purchase of two ELMOs, Food is Elementary, cheerleading uniforms for the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade cheerleaders, and the novice chess class. The main income so far has been from the Ask Letter. Please email if you have any questions.
5. Other Fundraising Updates
  - Memory Tiles: We have between 75 and 80 tiles so far. Adam spoke with the facilities manager and there is an excellent chance that the tiles will be put up

over break. They may be purchased for \$26 each. Shannon presented some examples.

- Ask Letter: (Tamara) Thanks to everyone who contributed to this extremely successful fundraiser. We have been blown away by people's generosity. So far, we have raised \$13,183. It is easy to donate and not too late. Parent Sara Segel has created another solicitation letter extending the request for donations to grandparents, special friends and other extended family. All contributions are tax deductible, so consider asking people before the end of the tax year. Thanks also to Sarah Galusha, who helped develop the initial letter.
- T-Shirts: (Ellie) We have Spiritware for sale, including adult small, medium and large in navy and grey. Ellie has a lot at her house, so email her if you would like to make a purchase. Tamara suggested buying shirts for teachers.

6. Decision on lunch-time ice cream sales (Jenny and Principal Adam Sikorski)

- The Executive Board voted to stop selling ice cream after February 10, 2012, which is the last pre-scheduled sale. We will work to help groups find alternative low cost items to sell to raise money. We also understand that these types of low cost item fundraisers are helpful for families. We will also help with the school's fruit sales.
- Volunteers are needed for Tuesday fruit sales. Anne Marie Kuchera is leading the effort for lunch time fruit sales, a school fundraiser rather than a PTO. Fruit will be sold Tuesdays every second week. Anne Marie and the others involved are still working out the kinks with the help of the school food service. The fruit will be sold for 50 cents apiece. Anne Marie asked for volunteers willing to help with the sales, which will be held from 10:46 a.m. to 1:01 p.m. She will send out an email about it.
- Jenny encouraged everyone to contact her by email at [jennifer.ganger@gmail.com](mailto:jennifer.ganger@gmail.com) or use the question and comments section on the bottom of the Agenda if they have any additional questions, comments or concerns on this or any other issue.

The next PTO meeting is Wednesday, January 11, at 7:00.

Secretary Marjorie Minkler