

PTO meeting

September 12, 2012 - 7:00 PM

Colfax Cafeteria

Abbie welcomed everyone and introduced herself. Shannon Ewing was unable to attend.

Told about staff breakfast PTO hosted before school started. East Hills community event was successful; had a great showing. 30-40 teachers attended. People were very appreciative of the event. The only negative was that they received 271 positive RSVPs and 140 people showed up. As a result of the no-shows, the PTO paid for food that was unneeded. Abbie introduced Barbara who runs the East Hills Community Center, where the event was held.

Upcoming calendar dates were displayed on the ELMO.

COMMUNICATIONS

Sarah Sirlin introduced herself. Everyone should be receiving Camille's updates. If anyone is not, please contact Sarah or Camille. Sarah's e-mail address is sarahsirlin@sarahsirlin.com. Leslie Grodin has been compiling directory forms for those who want to be included. If anyone hasn't received a form, let Sarah or Leslie know. Forms should be turned in to the student's homeroom teacher or the school office. The Colfax Communicator newsletter will come out five times this year. Submit articles or photos to Sarah. September 17th is the upcoming deadline for submissions for the October 1st newsletter. There are also "shout outs" in the newsletter. They are 100 words or less, a way to congratulate people or say something nice. They are a fundraiser for the PTO. The cost is \$2.00 per shout out. Shout outs can be submitted to Sarah via email or in writing to the office; hopefully Ida will handle them.

FUNDRAISING

Darcy Gordon introduced herself. Kidstuff books will be going home in backpacks next week. They are coupon books. PTO will earn half the cost per book (the cost is \$25.00 per book, and the PTO earns \$12.50 for a certain number of books sold initially and then more thereafter). If you don't want the book, just return it to the homeroom teacher. Alona Bloom is heading the fundraiser.

Shoebox recycling boxes have been set up in the front entryway for walkers and in the new building's glass entryway for busers. Shoes must be paired, they can't be heavy winter boots, and they can't be mildewed or worn through. Colfax will earn .50 per pound. Shelly Pietro is coordinating Shoebox.

On 9/27 there will be a dinner night out at Uno. Coupons will be sent home with children. If you go to Uno on the day or night of 9/27, 20 percent of your bill will go to the PTO.

Party for Play started as a fundraiser to support the building of playground. The PTO raised more than 250,000 to build the playground. PFP has continued beyond the playground. It is the PTO's major fundraiser of the year, and is a party for adults only. It is planned for 2/23/13. The first official planning meeting will be next Wed. at 7 pm, at Crazy Mocha in Squirrel Hill. Still looking for chairpeople for the event.

EVENTS

Ida Simpson was not at meeting, so Abbie went over what Ida would have spoken about. Family Fun Night will be the last Tuesday of every month. The schedule is subject to change if no school that day. Fiesta is tomorrow. Melanie Weisbord is heading up Fiesta. Bring a dish; remember your water bottle. Churros for sale for \$1.00.

VOLUNTEERS

Jenny Ganger introduced herself. She handed out volunteer forms. She is recruiting not only for PTO events and fundraising, but also for the Volunteer Committee that is seeking volunteers for broader school needs, such as recess. Clearances now expire after three years. You can go to the PTO website (colfaxpto.org), where there are links or instructions for getting clearances. You can't volunteer at the school without the clearances.

RUN SHADYSIDE EVENT

Annamarie Kuchera introduced herself. Colfax is teaming up with Run Shadyside and Boys and Girls Club to raise money for Colfax and B & G Club. Colfax would like to recruit as many people as possible to be part of Team Colfax. When you register and pay for the one mile run/walk, your fee goes to the Colfax PTO. If you register for the 5K, PTO gets half of adult registration and all of child registration. The only way to be part of team Colfax is to fill out the paper registration. Do not register online. Return the form and payment to your child's homeroom teacher. The event is on Saturday, 10/6 at 8:00 AM. There is a free pancake breakfast following the event. There is an effort being made to recruit Colfax volunteers to help at the event. There is a space on the registration form for volunteering. The form is available on the PTO website. You can

also contact Annmarie with questions or for extra forms, and her contact info is on the PTO website. Kids who don't want to run or walk can also be involved by cheering or playing an instrument, or in some other way. Yard signs are available here at the meeting.

Submitted by Secretary Anne Salzman Kurzweg