**Collinswood Language Academy**

**PTA Meeting Minutes**

**Thursday, October 4th - Media Center**

**Attendees**: Carol Rodd, Aida Torres, Vickiana Cummings, Kerry Connors, Brooke Neuman, Sarah Jacques, Sam DeLarosa, Wes Gaines, Zana Lord, Kim Tyson, Becca Kucera, Julie Crawford, Diana Torres, Sherry Sample, Rona Karacova, Sunny Green, Guadalupe Quintanilla, Elizabeth Brackett, Roberta Mason, Suzi Allora, Pamela Palacios, Marta Clarkson, Roberta Cianfrone.

Meeting Welcome 8:31

Minutes Approved

Vote on Budget Correction - Reallocating funds from newsroom to Drama and Heritage Posters

**Principal’s Report**

* Distributed “what would thriving school look like”
* Discussed Student Ambassadors
* School climate/Culture
* Almost fully staffed

Question to Principal regarding parents ability to come in and volunteer, especially regarding new parents. Unclear process - request for clear communication around the procedures concerning this.

**K-1 Social**

* Chairs Elizabeth B & Devan C - things progressing well. Event tomorrow, Friday, Oct.5th.
* OMB doesn’t allow outside food, except desserts, so they’re translating that loosely to incorporate fruit, yogurt pretzels, etc in order to reduce parents having to purchase all their food from OMB.

Discussion was raised regarding socials for older grades, grade specific.

**SOL Update**

* Raffle tomorrow for the participating students as they leave the cafeteria from lunch
* Celebration next Thursday October 11th

**Invest Fundraiser Update**

* New rollout with regards to pushing for the $40K goal in the fall. Announcing that this is the only fundraiser for the year.
* Sheets to send home for the families with additional ones they can use to ask for donations from additional family members or businesses.
* Clearer instructions around company matching
* Multiple options to donate including a monthly draw option to facilitate those that would do more if this was available.

Suggestions made to change the wording of the program so as to not close the door on possible fundraising in the Spring to benefit from the bonus structure of many families in the school.

**Fall Festival**

* November 3rd, 11-2 - coinciding with the first day of the Book Fair.
* Harris Teeter will be sponsoring a flu clinic at the festival - ages 14 and above only.
* This year’s organizers are Julie Murphy & Todd Willem - Volunteers needed for the success of this event

**Father-Daughter Dance**

* Date and venue booked and confirmed - Eton Hall - as in the past 5:30 - \* with pictures first
* Volunteers needed for the success of this event

**Middle School Planning Committee Update**

* Friday, OCt 12th - Jen Rothacker has arranged and implemented the South Meck Football game that’s been advertised in the newsletter. $2 for MS students $7 for parents & siblings - Not a fully chaperoned event.
* Proposed dance for MS, De3c 14th, immediately after school - pizza and beverages provided then the vent will occur in the Gym. Details to be worked out.
* Discussion around EOY parties/Events that have primarily been run by the teachers the past two years. 6th grade currently doesn’t have anything and general concsuss at meeting is that’s just fine.
* Proposed VB game at Piedmont before the end of season as we currently have 3 Collinswood MS on that team.

Thank you to Bianca Alvarado - PTA and school truly appreciate her donation of gift cards to the compliment bowl, revitalized and run by Wes Gaines, and for her donation of 40 huge umbrellas for use during dismissal.

Thank you to Teela Depena - she coordinated and donated the Signage being used during dismissal for the Car Rider Line as well as the safety vests the staff utilize while out there.

**Q&A**

* Car Line - Neighborhood on Haverhill Dr has called the city about the car line and the additional issue with it running onto South Blvd - planning on calling the news stations as well. Discussion with S. DeRosa about about neigh our relations.
* Principal asked if anyone has connections to Charlotte Chamber of Commerce or w/ Global Divisions/Groups. Looking for Community Partners.
* R. Karacova - Before and After school programs going well to date. Some events have been cancelled due to lack of interest, in that vein, a survey will be going out to get a clearer idea of Parent & student interest. Any suggestions regarding the survey should be sent to ronak@legalaid.nc.org
* S. Green shared the frustration of herself and others that asked her to speak on their behalf. Ms. Rodd noted that the line takes 23-27 minutes on average (she’s keeping track of the time), she’s surprised by the numerous questions and concern that’s shown over the dismissal process.