

Coles ES PTO Meeting

October 23, 2024, 6 p.m.

Welcome

Valerie Ryan

(Meeting called to order at 6:01 PM with 11 people in attendance)

President: Valerie Ryan

Vice President: Jessica Conway

Secretary: Jeff Rightmyer (Absent)

Treasurer: Tracy Melfi

Staff Representative: Jennifer McLaughlin

(Took Minutes for this meeting)

President Report

Valerie Ryan

PTOs focus this week is hosting an amazing Monster Mash for our roadrunners. Decorations have been made and Valerie and Jennifer will start decorating the school on Thursday. PTO is pleased to see so many families that have signed up to support this event by volunteering to bring donations or lend a hand during the event. PTO gifted our wonderful custodial team keychains and Spirit Wear for custodial appreciation week. We also created a banner and gifted Mr. Johnson, our school security officer, Coles spirit wear for School Security appreciation week. The week of October 28th the PTO will be supporting Ms. Mainwaring, the school counselor, with Good Choices Week. The PTO has purchased "Roadrunners Make The Right Choices" bracelets for each student and staff member. They will be distributed on Monday. PTO has also provided prizes for giveaways. Jennifer McLaughlin and I will be supporting Ms. Mainwaring on Tuesday during student lunches asking students a variety of healthy food questions allowing them to win prizes.

Principal Remarks

Gretchen Drzewucki

The bookfair was a very busy night for our school. 'Reading Under the Stars' was a simple yet beautiful event. Loved all the books set out for our families. Even though it was a cooler evening it was great seeing families sitting and reading together.

The staff is looking forward to Monster Mash. The office staff is excited to show off their costumes and see the highly anticipated decorations PTO has created for this year's theme.

Critter Coins - New School Wide incentive for our students that aligns with Coles already established Elements System and supporting Roadies 3 R's. Students will be learning what Critter Coins are and how they can begin earning them next week during a short assembly.

Teacher Report

Jennifer McLaughlin

Teachers are looking forward to Monster Mash this Friday. The Garden Club would really love to partner with Cub Scouts or an Eagle Scout to weed the gardens, rake the stones and lay a new weed barrier. I would like to give a shout out to Miss Emily Clark. She has been a great addition not only to our interpreter team, but to Coles Elementary. She has jumped our community lending a helping hand any place she can. We are so lucky to have her here at Coles!

Treasurers Report

Tracy Melfi

The 9/18 - 10/2 report was shared. PTO will be starting November with \$1886.96. This does not include the projected profit from Monster Mash. The PTO did use remaining funds from the PTA account to purchase books for Battle of the Books club, pay the back-to-school night spirit wear invoice and purchase 'Roadrunner's make the Right Choices' bracelets for Red Ribbon Spirit Week.

Proposed budget was shared. All present participants unanimously voted in favor of the proposed budget for 2024-2025.

Staff Reimbursements will be ready for submission in the winter. Staff reimbursement is only available to the first 40 people and will be capped at \$75.00. This year PTO reimbursements will only be available for PTO members.

Committee/Club Reports

Jessica Conway/Valerie Ryan

Battle of the Books:

Invoices have been paid.

Lego Club:

Lego Club for 3rd-5th grade has begun. The club has received \$280.00 in donations. \$200 has been used to purchase ornament kits for the students to make and take.

Science Club:

Students are engaged in hands-on learning happening after school. They are working collaboratively with their teams to accomplish each week's task.

Garden Club:

The garden club has been tending our raised beds preparing them for the change in season. The last of the tomatoes, cucumbers and berries were picked before the cold weather destroyed them. We have a few pumpkins growing that are almost ready to be picked.

TKD Life Champ:

Permission slips are going home this week. Due to the delay in getting the flyers out the start date was moved to Tuesday, October 29th. This session is for 3rd, 4th and 5th graders and will be 4 classes. 100% of club fees will be donated back to the PTO by Life Champ.

Choir:

The choir will have a mini concert on Friday during Monster Mash in preparation for their first concert next week. Their very first concert will be at 6 PM on Wednesday, October 30th.

Fundraising:

Read-a-thon: Read-a-thon ends on October 28th. The top 3 readers (minutes read) will receive a prize from the PTO.

Future Fundraiser:

11/5 Urban Air 4-8 PM MUST mention Coles Elementary

11/23 Turkey Trot

BoosterThon

Committee Chairs: We are in immediate need of a Club Chair and a Community Outreach/Fundraising Chair. Please reach out to the board if you are interested.

If you would like to Chair any of our future events, please contact Valerie Ryan or Jessica Conway.

If you would like to sponsor a club, please contact the PTO board at colespto@gmail.com

Old Business

PTO 501c3

We are patiently waiting to receive our 501c3 status. Currently the Coles PTO is still in the review process. A call will be made by Jessican Conway to see if she is able to get a more definitive answer of when we can expect the PTO to earn their 501c3.

New Business

Turkey Trot - chaired by Emily Clark/Ms. Brady

Fun Run here at Coles on November 23rd at 9 AM. Ms. Brady will map out our track around the perimeter of Coles. The goal of this event is for families to come together and support our local food bank.

Upcoming Events

Urban Air – Tuesday, November 5th 4-8 PM

Turkey Trot – Saturday, November 23rd

Next Meeting on Wednesday, November 20, 2024 at 6 PM in the library

Meeting ended at 6:56 PM