

Friends of Cutler Meeting Minutes 9/24/15

Attendees: approximately 25 parents, Jenn Clifford, Catherine Donovan

Allison Odoardi & Michelle Gilpin - Welcome, introductions, overview of our initiatives

- Erica Mitchell will be compiling information for News to Use and our monthly newsletter. Please submit announcements to her for the Monday blast by the preceding Wednesday
- Jen Maguire will be updating the website
- Anna Boardman will be setting up FOC Facebook page!
- Connect Ed Messages must be submitted to Jenn Clifford at least 48 hours prior to event
- There are three folders in office for FOC; Green: Treasurers, Purple: Cultural Enrichment, Yellow: all other correspondence
- Lynne Nardella, school nurse is looking for clothing for winter and for spills and accidents
- There are many volunteer opportunities and committees still seeking members: Ski Skate Board and Ride, Adult Social, Cultural Enrichment, Cutler Family Festival, classroom liaisons, office volunteers, library volunteers, and the hospitality committee. get involved!

Catherine Donovan - guest speaker, Food Services

- Catherine provided an overview of the school lunch program, snacks are only available (grades 2-5) after lunch is eaten, all snacks are approved by the state, there is always a hot meal option, a sandwich and bagel option for lunch, she is always available for questions from parents

Jenn Clifford - We are off to a great start

- teachers will be participating in a number of professional development workshops in the months to come, the district is currently working on “transfer goals” an initiative that will provide skills for real life and will work across all subject areas and grade levels;
- The district is creating a new set of principles titled “Growth Mindset” which is based on a book written by Carol Dweck titled. “Mindset”; this new initiative outlines goals of effective effort, perseverance and overcoming problems and obstacles
- School pictures are next Wednesday 10/2
- We have received great feedback from Ice Breaker Night

Kathleen O’Connor - presented the minutes from the previous meeting, they were voted on and approved

Ken Swanson - Treasurer’s report

- The budget for the coming year was presented , voted on and approved

Sarah Olson - School Improvement

- Sarah described the vision for the Outdoor learning center, a shade structure is still be researched possibly we will move to a temporary moveable structure, storage containers with chalk board fronts have been built! the team is meeting to go over what the will be purchased

Amy Howell - Free Money

- Flyer went out to all families describing the various free money programs, we are hoping to increase participation in some programs such as Stop & Shop where we only have 26 people participating

Michelle Gilpin - Cultural Enrichment

- This year theme is Full STEAM ahead into America's past present and Future, programs are still evolving, we may work with Change is Simple again this year
- The Big Read will be "Energy island" by Allan Drummond
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The Fall Mingle Fun(d) Drive Kickoff is on Monday 9/28 from 7-10 at 15 Walnut

The Ski Skate Board and Ride will be on November 21

**Next Friends of Cutler Meeting will be on Wednesday evening 10/28/15 at 7pm, in Cutler's Learning Commons; Cutler's Integrated Media Specialist, Heidi Hebert will be presenting on Internet Safety

Minutes submitted respectfully by Kathleen O'Connor, Secretary