PTA Community Meeting Minutes
9.19.2025

Attendees: Lindsey Sumida, Chandra Valenza, Danielle Wiese, Anne Badger, Luisa Rosen, Yvonne Steinberg, Katie Hanel, Anne Henke, Liz Morrison, Jeni Moeller, Millie Smith, Jen Bryan, Brittany Armstrong, Sara Remington, Jeff VanIwarden, Alexa Cares

1. **Welcome**
    - Meetings are every month; the PTA is open to any topics that the community wants to cover.
    - The PTA board passed around paper to collect feedback about any topics the PTA wants to discuss in the future; participants listed the following topics:
        - State Producer Responsibility for Recycling – Chandra Valenza could possibly present on this topic in March or April (Earth Month).
        - Sleep information/troubleshooting – there was also a conversation after the meeting with a therapist in attendance about how the PTA could facilitate an "ask a therapist" style meeting where people can ask general questions about their kids.

2. **Introduction of Board Members**
    - The board members briefly introduced themselves.

3. **Finance Report**
    - Account balances
        - The balance in the checking account as of May 2025 was $32,000; the PTA has had expenses since then, so the current balance is $8,112. There are three other accounts with the following balances: $10,891, $10,927, $11,096.
        - Recent PTA expenditures include: academic tutors, gifted and talented supplemental time, IEPs, education enrichment, and teacher appreciation gifts (pencil sharpeners)
        - The jogathon funds will come into the PTA checking account, and then the PTA can move money around as needed. There are some items that are requested over the year that the PTA actively supports and so money is saved for those purposes.
    - The PTA is also looking into safe investment strategies to yield higher interest rates over time.
    - There's a request form for teachers to complete as their needs come up.
    - Corporate sponsorships
        - Jen Bryan is new to the school and has students in 2nd and 5th grades.
        - Jen is actively recruiting for corporate sponsorships and has been sorting through the spreadsheets that have previously been used to track local sponsorships. There are multiple tiers for giving.
            - There are 160 companies in the spreadsheet
            - The PTA has raised $3200 for corporate sponsorships, and there are 2-3 additional conversations with potential sponsors.
            - The expectation is to raise at least $6000 from corporate sponsors.

        - If anyone knows anyone or has their own business and would like to become a sponsor, please let Jen know.

4. **Principal's Report**
    - CCAT/performance framework
        - Jeff is excited about the school performance framework and the continued increase of 24 points over the past three times they've come out; literacy and math keep going up and down. Saw a huge increase in literacy scores last year.
        - CCE has the 11th highest score of all 56 schools. It's a credit to staff and the community; don't see why we can't continue to make gains.
    - Staffing
        - CCE has posted for the RISE Autism position; hoping to have someone who is here longer term. There have been conversations about how to increase retention of this position. Structure and consistency are very important over time; don't want turnover to be the norm.
        - The school started interviews and is hoping to fill the position soon.
        - Someone asked if the school could partner with local clinics and ask them to do their required hours in the school?
            - Jeff said he can ask to see if that's possible.
    - Math
        - Teachers and parents have provided positive feedback and are happy about how the new curriculum is going. The school has also heard that kids are liking it, and one said it's no longer boring. We want kids to understand why they are doing math the way they are doing it (e.g., fractions). It will be exciting to see how it plays out on assessments.
    - Gardens
        - Katie in the preschool enrichment program takes care of the gardens all summer. They cook with the vegetables.
        - CCE transitioned away from having the Garden to Table program a couple years ago. Lindsey Sumida talked to Garden to Table, and they starting aligning their curriculum. The cost depends on what the school can afford but sounded like it would be around $2000-$3000. They would be willing to come in and talk about it. Teachers would need to be on-board, and volunteers and teachers can be included.
            - Jeff said he can check in with the instructional leadership team about this; they need to do 1-2 lessons per semester. He can also see if there's a direct connection to science standards.
    - Afterschool clubs
        - There was feedback during the meeting that next year it would be helpful if the school can send information out earlier, including the expected dates that the sessions will be held.
            - Jeff and Sara said that this year, they had to post and interview for club leaders (Mr. O and Mrs. Hunter). Next year, if they are still interested, then the school can utilize existing staff and not have to post for the leaders.

    - Multicultural club is still unsure if it will move forward this year. They need to find a sponsor and then the parent and sponsor need to apply for funds, and the PTA can pay for it. Either way, CCE will still do a multicultural night in March 2026.
- Learning platforms
    - Literacy (from iReady to mClass) and math (iXL) testing occur at the beginning, middle and end of year. Due to the shift, the PTA is not being asked to pay for iReady because the district pays for both platforms.
    - They don't want students to go ahead in iXL math because it's important to have initial exposure with the rest of the students.
- CMAS
    - Testing takes place in April.
    - 3rd grade takes literacy and math; 4th grade takes math, literacy and social studies; 5th takes literacy, math and science. It won't be as rushed to get testing done this year because there won't be a 4-day weekend in April.
    - The state is very slow on getting scores back to families. Parents may be able to log into the state system to see your student's scores by early summer.
    - There was feedback shared during the meeting that it would be helpful to get scores out earlier at the end of the year so parents could receive context about scores before school is out for summer. For example, it was difficult to make sense of some of the scores because iReady scores do not have a scale with it so the numbers seem pretty arbitrary, while iXL provides more correlation to actual grade-level information.
        - Kids should be able to see their scores, but Jeff is unsure what conversations teachers are and are not having with students about the scores. The focus is on growth over the course of the year, rather than overall scores (where they start and end).

5. Upcoming Events and Activities

- Silent Disco (Alexa Cares)
    - Tonight (9/19); come out and have a great time with fellow parents and CCE staff.
- Jogathon (Luisa)
    - There will be a week of themes and then jogathon on Friday
    - There will be obstacles during the run, the giant inflatable balloon arch, popsicles, music, etc.
    - Prizes for students:
        - 25%: extra recess
        - 50%: ice cream
        - 75%: Zoo at the School (Cheyenne Mountain Zoo)
        - 100%: "VanI Dare You": children can vote – taping to wall, ice cream sundae, pie the principal
        - The overall goal has shifted so they are more attainable
- Walk and Bike to School Day: Oct. 8
- Chipotle Dine-out: Oct. 21

- Door decorating: mid-late October – every teacher and staff member's door gets decorated; teachers love it.
- May look into ChuckECheese for another Dine-Out date.

6. Volunteer Update

- Jogathon volunteers (Oct. 3) – 68 shifts needed
- Book Fair volunteers (Oct. 2-10) – 11 shifts needed
- Snacks for parent teacher conferences (Oct. 7, 12, 15) – 12 shifts needed
- Crossing Guards (ongoing) – 5 guards still needed

7. Questions, Feedback

- How many PTA members are there?
    - Usually we have around 25 people who pay the membership fee in order to be able to vote.
- Can you share more information about the partnership with King Soopers?
    - We will have a PTA table over the next few weeks. Can also scan receipt to see if there are items that are "Box Tops" and then a portion of money goes to the PTA. Must scan them within two weeks of purchase.
    - Parents can ask other people/family members to connect their account to King Soopers.

8. Adjourn