Calvin Leete PTO Organization

Calvin Leete Elementary School

PTO Meeting Minutes

Date: December 2, 2020

Time: 7:00 P.M.

Location: Zoom

In Attendance:

Soule Golden

Jennifer Labbadia-Colon

Amanda Riccio

Ornella Rullo

Lauren Ferrante

Cristina Parent

Dawn Parker

Lauren Testani

Kristine Ford

Melissa Mehann

Christine Manuck

Kirsten Zailskas

Lara Tagliapetra

Clarice

Kenneasha Sloley

Stella Ridge

Co-President: Christine Lataillade

Co-President: Audrey Barr

Treasurer: Yaro Voloshin

Secretary: Jen Gould

Proceedings:

Meeting called to order at 7:02pm via Zoom

President Notes:

President Christine Lataiillade opened with Thank You’s to:

Dawn Parker – PTO Membership Drive Flyers

Alice Chen – School store prize giveaway

Julie Fitzpatrick – Be Kind Day Stickers

Kristine Ford – bringing Boone Supply fundraiser – bring in approx. $2000

ABAR Committee – Native American Heritage Month resources – Christina Parent gave resources to share with students at school and at home – online resources and Institute for Native Indian Studies in Washington, CT

Ornella Rullo – Enrichment

**Enrichment – Ornella speaks on this….**

1. Flyer going out tomorrow – registration next week – December 7th at 10am
   1. Pop up classes
      1. Painting class – 3 individual classes – guided instruction – Kristen Skonieczny
      2. Cooking – Mary Amter – making dinner 3 different days – Taco Casserole, Alfredo Stuffed Shells, and Meatball Casserole

**Audrey thanks everyone for their support of increasing art and library teachers.**

**Budget – Christine spoke on this…**

Membership drive/donations – We are at approx. $3500 – resulting in a shortfall of $1500

Square One – expected to make about $2000 and Boone another $2000

PTO transferred $600+ to teachers for expansion of classroom libraries.

PTO distributed $6400 to teachers in classroom supply funds.

**Upcoming:**

Book Fair – January book fair 1/16-1/29 – important because most families enjoy buying books and we will get scholastic dollars to give to the teachers and further classroom libraries. No cash profit because online.

Cougarwear – offering PJ pants, beanie, fleece, etc… ordering dates are this Friday until next Wednesday – short period of time.

Used Book Sale – will happen in the spring for fourth grade give back gift.

**Principal Sloley:**

We are happy that we are still in school – more cohort C students.

Drop off/Pick up – may change daily and stop point may change due to weather and traffic – thank you for everyone’s patience.

The new families at Leete feel very welcome from PTO. She thanked Ornella for enrichment opportunities.

**Amanda Riccio:**

**Thank you for parent support and ABAR books.**

**Grade Reports:**

**K**

Writing

* working on personal narratives
* telling/showing who, what, where and a feeling
* writing sentences

Foundational skills

* differentiated instruction to support development of literacy skills

some skills are:

* letter recognition
* sound/symbol correspondence
* isolating initial and final sounds in words
* beginning reading instruction
* letter formation
* high frequency word recognition and practice

Math

* continuing to build foundational skills such as counting fluently
* working with number to 10  - composing and decomposing, recognizing how many more to make 10
* representing quantities in multiple ways
* explaining math thinking to others
* exploring relationships between numbers - greater than/less than

**Grade 1**

In reading students are progressing through their new reading curriculum resource: EL Foundations Skills Block. At this time, students are improving encoding and decoding skills focused on short vowels, blends, and digraphs.

In Writer’s Workshop we continue to work on small moment writing by using fun lead sentences, adding details, and developing a sense of closure.

In literacy we have also launched our Amazing Bodies Unit. Students are learning all about our amazing bodies using three mentor texts. These texts are designed to help students learn nonfiction text structures and how to read nonfiction text to gain information. Students are using the mentor texts as models to help them enhance their informational writing and opinion pieces.

In math we are working on increasing our fact fluency. Students continue to secure knowledge of adding, subtracting,  and comparing numbers using single and double digits. Students are using number talks and writing to learn activities to deepen their math understanding and how to look at math problems from multiple perspectives.

**Grade 2**

Literacy: fairy tale unit where they are identifying characteristics of a fairy tale and writing their own version.

Math: addition and subtraction on a number line

Social Studies: unit on change over time- looking at technology, communication and schools

**Grade 3**

Literacy: We have been working with non-fiction texts. Students have looked at nonfiction text features both as a reader and a writer. They have been using everything that they learned to research an ocean animal and are now writing a nonfiction piece about their ocean animal. This nonfiction writing includes a table of contents, introduction, paragraphs about 4 different categories, conclusion, glossary and bibliography.

Math: We are just finishing up an addition and subtraction unit using larger numbers. They are exposed to many different strategies to add and subtract numbers and then they use strategies that are most efficient for them to use. During this unit we also solve word problems with larger numbers and multiple steps.

Social Studies: Just finishing up an economics unit where students learn about producers, consumers, taxes, opportunity cost and how to do a cost benefit analysis. The culminating project is they all created their own virtual stores where they are producing products and will then to be able to shop in their classmates stores and be the consumer.

**Grade 4**

In Literacy, we just finished up our unit learning about Chinese Immigration and worked on looking at different genres of books written about this topic.  The students’ culminating task was to write an opinion piece about one of the texts they found most helpful in learning about this time in history.  We are beginning our next unit this week, focusing on the global issue of child labor.

In Math, we are currently learning about fractions.  We are working on identifying equivalent fractions, comparing and ordering fractions.  Lastly, we will be ending the unit looking at decimals and how they relate to fractions.

**Music**

K - We are practicing listening for and representing high and low pitches.

1 - We are practicing listening for and representing pitch direction and contour.

2 - We are learning about the instruments of the orchestra.

3 - We are practicing identifying notes on the staff by letter name.

4 - We are preparing to read standard notation for instrumental music.

**Student Council**

First meeting today. First Wed of the month over Zoom. Thursday 12/10 Spirit Day friendly donation PJ Day  going towards Guilford Cares/ Song Strong Foundation to support elderly in town that can’t go to the rec center due to COVID for meals and socialization. Rotate 4th grade rep going to come to PTO meeting to share updates from Student Council.

Christine Lataillade – looking ahead –

Guest Speaker in January for ABAR committee

The PTO successfully moved $75 per class for books for ABAR – two teachers leading that are Lauren Trotta and Alisha Foster.

**Next PTO meeting – Wednesday – January 13th – 7pm**

**Next ABAR meeting – Tuesday – 12/8/2020 – 7:30pm**

**Questions:**

1. **Who is Spanish teacher – Mrs. Croes – sub right now and trying to get her certified to teach for the rest of the school year – she is doing a great job.**
2. **Do parents have the choice to keep their kid out of school – Mrs. Slolely – yes we will support every parents decision.**
3. **4th grade activities – is there a committee – yes but not sure what will happen bc of covid – January is the beginning of planning month.**

**Meeting adjourned 7:51pm**