

**Attendance:** Tad Abernathy, Francene Butts, Sherri Gates, Ilene Gaekwad, Michael Miller, Ellissa Parnon, Sharna Prasad, Kari Rieck, Robyn Vega

## **Introductions**

**Minutes** from the previous meeting were approved.

## **Treasurer's report:**

Scholastic book fair from the fall has been paid. Cheldelin still has \$480 in book credits out of \$600. Reference books were purchased for the library.

Spirit wear was paid for by CPO and given to the Student Store as a gift from CPO. The student store will display the spirit wear and handle future orders.

Donations from Co-op shoppers to Cheldelin had not been credited correctly, but the problem has been fixed.

## **Principal's report** (read by CPO in Lisa's absence):

The second semester has started and the students have changed lunch times.

Mr. Kha will be leaving Cheldelin.

**Budget:** The projected enrollment for Cheldelin is a decrease of 50+ students. This is significant. The anticipated cut for next year is \$165,000. The budget will be discussed at the next CPO meeting.

## **Meeting:**

Setting up times for parents to discuss budget and other concerns with Lisa was suggested. Perhaps an evening meeting or "Listening Tour" where Principal Harlan (and CPO?) could hear concerns, but not have to respond on the spot. There has not been a Principal Coffee for several months. The district budget manager came to a meeting at CV and could be invited to Cheldelin.

Ilene Gaekwad proposed several motions in an effort to identify the most important events for students and focus on those (ex. 8<sup>th</sup> grade party). This seems necessary because it is difficult to get volunteers to chair the traditional events (ex. Spring book fair). These difficulties could stem from students being here only 3 years, the economy, and changing purchasing habits (ex. buying books on-line instead of at book fairs).

Motion 1: Suspend the school book fair for spring term - Motion carried

Motion 2: Suspend cookie dough sales – Motion withdrawn

Motion 3: Approach principal Harlan about having a survey to help CPO focus on things that are important to parents and their students. Kari will help develop the survey that could be sent out to the listserv and available in hard copy at the conferences. Motion carried

## **Fundraising:**

Fundraising should continue even if we don't do the cookie dough sale. Fundraisers that require papers to be sent home don't seem to work as well (parents don't get them and/or the kids don't bring them back). Kari presented information on Subway cards and will find out more. More feedback would help CPO know what might be successful for fundraising. For example: Are there other things parents would like to buy? Would different timing be helpful?

A "Dine-out" for Cheldelin night has been scheduled at Woodstocks Pizza for April 20. People must specify Cheldelin before they order and the school will get 30%. Thanks to Sharna for setting this up. Other fundraisers CPO could consider are: Chipotle and Bombs Away.

CPO saved lots of money on the prizes for the magazine sale. Less than \$100 was spent on prizes because they were purchased separately from the magazine company. The average prize cost per child has sometimes been \$5.00. Thanks to Kari for handling the prizes this way.

Conference time:

CPO would like to host a table where parents check in for conferences. Parents and students could staff the table and give out information about CPO. People checking in could sign up for the Cheldelin google group, sign up for volunteer opportunities, get current information about how to change their Albertsons/Safeway/etc. cards to benefit Cheldelin, and learn about the Woodstocks fundraiser. Robyn Vega will ask Lisa if we can have a table like this.

Conference dinners will be catered again. Thanks to Francene for organizing this.

**Volunteer coordinators report:**

We are finding more volunteers, especially for short commitments. It is still hard to find chairs. Sometimes people don't sign up because they don't have a specific date/time for the event. Also, sometimes people sign up at the beginning of the year, but then don't get contacted.

The 8<sup>th</sup> grade party has a team of volunteers now. All kids are invited and their families may be asked for voluntary donations. CPO may provide some money for the party, but this needs more discussion. Some schools have a set budget and others have separated the parties from the parent organizations because they can be hard to oversee.

**Other:** The CPO meetings need to be listed on the calendar in the front office.

The next meeting is March 12<sup>th</sup>.