



NEIL CUMMINS ELEMENTARY

Neil Cummins PTO
Meeting Minutes
April 14, 2021

Call to Order - ZOOM Call: 9:03 a.m.

PTO Representatives:

Patty Elliot, Principal

Quinn Galli, NC Counselor

Jessica Edelen, NC PTO President

Amanda Dickerman, NC PTO VP

Whitney Robinson Creutz, Treasurer

Mindy Sagemeister, Auditor

Kate Lowe, Secretary

Kristen Scales, Spirit Wear Fundraiser

Corinne Golden, Spirit Wear Fundraiser

Leigh Denbo, Class Coordinator Lead

Jennifer Shaumbroom, Campus Conservation/Garden/Green Team

Dana Swisher, Campus Conservation/Garden/Green Team

Lisa Griffin, NC Newsweek Editor

Karen Emmons, Teacher Representative

Katherine Chan, Board of Trustees Representative

Jennifer Corteville, SPARK Representative

Daniela Kratz, SPARK Representative
Angela Movafaghi, NC Assembly Coordinator
Sara Esslinger, NC Yearbook
Kim Jones, PTO Website Manager
Lyn Everly, School Administrator
Nathelle Belloni, School Administrator
Erin Duggan, Corte Madera Recreation Department
Cynthia Nyquist, Parent

- Gratitude & Questions:
 - Such excitement about being back to school full time - first day celebration was fantastic - thanks to the Hawk (Jessica!)
 - HUGE GRATITUDE for our fearless leader, Dr.(!) Patty Elliot, these past 7 years. It is with a heavy heart that we will be saying good-bye to her at the end of this school year; yet we are excited about her future and new adventures! Stay in touch!!
 - The Variety Show was a HUGE success. Thank you to Lisa Morozoff, Lisa Griffin & Justin Griffin for their endless hours putting this fabulous show together. It was a wonderful compilation of our NC students' talents & passions!
 - Thank you to the entire administration for their hard work in getting our kids back to school for the extended day.

- Principal Update, Patty Elliot:
 - Return to school - Hooray! Thanks for all of the support and celebration!
 - Kyle's plan - paternity leave for 3 weeks, Lexie Sifford interim Assistant Principal while Kyle is out on paternity leave.
 - Megan Shaw on leave - baby due any day, Ms. Amy Tran long term sub
 - Resignations: Michael Arrow, Elaine DeMartini, Lindsay Harris & Stephanie Fletcher - celebrations tbd
 - Lyn Everly - gratitude for all her work!
 - Nathelle Belloni - thank you, master of Zoom lists, for all your hard work for students needing to live stream due to travel, gathering, etc... and continually following covid protocol - much appreciation
 - Volunteers - ideas for improving lunch/recess: signs for volunteers for students to gather after recess.

- PTO President Update, Jessica Edelen:
 - Whitney has resigned as treasurer - Jessica, Amanda & Mindy currently working together to execute the role's activities until the end of the year.
 - PTO Final Meeting:
 - Swearing-in Meeting for new board members will be May 19 at 9:00 a.m. potentially at Jessica's home - will be the final PTO meeting of the year.
 - Incoming Board Members:
 - Amanda Dickerman and Kate Lowe- Co-Presidents
 - Secretary TBD
 - Lara Dillon - Treasurer
 - Corinne Golden/Kristin Scales - Spirit Wear/Fundraising
 - Leigh Denbo - Classroom Coordinator
 - Angela Movafaghi- Auditor
 - Lisa Griffin - Communications
 - Jennifer Shambroom - Campus Conservation/Hawks' Garden
 - Jessica Dinday - Events Coordinator
 - Parent Ed - Mindfulness night with Krista Haskell was fantastic
 - Our hope is to have more in the future.
 - Hoping we can get Parent Ed nights recorded in the future so that more families can benefit from them - though sessions with children cannot be recorded.
 - Krista Haskell has 20 spots available for NC families for her monthly seminars: Healthy Minds for Kids:
<https://www.lifebykh.com/healthy-minds-for-kids-1>
 - Variety Show
 - Lisa Morozoff, Lisa Griffin & Justin Griffin did an amazing job with putting the virtual show together. It is wonderful to have the recording for our NC files.
 - Plans for teachers:
 - Donuts/Coffee Cart - Friday, April 16
 - Staff lunch - April 30th
 - Teacher appreciation week (tbd)
- PTO Vice President Update, Amanda Dickerman:

- Amanda is in contact with the 5th grade step up team regarding the type of event that will take place this year for our 5th graders, whether a drive-by or in-person celebration depending upon covid protocol, etc.
- Parent Ed - Amanda in the process of looking into Parent Ed Seminars for next year's school year. Ideally she will find someone to take initiative to coordinate with Cove to put together Parent Ed nights for our elementary schools (approximately 4 throughout the year.)
- Teacher Representative Update, Karen Emmons:
 - 4th graders:
 - Fourth Graders are reading and writing about the dangers and challenges of traveling west in covered wagons in 1848. After reading the historical fiction book, *Rachel's Journal*, students are writing their own "Pioneer Journals" to describe their own imaginary 6-month adventure to California! The final project will be creating mini covered wagons with popsicle sticks and straws.
 - Students are also learning about fractions and decimals, identifying equivalent fractions, and locating fractions on a number line. This week students designed "fraction kites"! [Photo Here!](#)
 - Finally, students are thinking deeply about immigration and the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1887 and responding to some primary source news articles from the time, as a follow-up to our virtual field trip to the California Museum in Sacramento. There is so much happening in 4th grade!
 - Third graders:
 - Third Graders just finished up their Power of Persuasion writing pieces. They are convincing parents for later bedtimes, puppies, their own bedrooms, iPads, K-Pop concerts, Gizmo watches, and Ziplines!
 - They have begun our Caaspp practice. The first session took 35 minutes just to get all kids signed in and today all kids were signed in within 3 minutes!

- The atmosphere is happy and excited to be back in class and interacting in a safe way! Recess is a HUGE hit. They are so excited to be able to play together outside.
 - They are growing a butterfly hummingbird flower patch in our trug and have made colorful butterfly art to brighten up our room.
 - NC Learning Center:
 - Students in the Learning Center at NC are enjoying learning to explore text evidence, creating emoji multiplication art and getting ready (and very excited) to read the wonderful words of Malala in her inspiring memoir.
- Board of Trustees Update, Katherine Chan:
 - March 10, 2021 Board Meeting Update:
 - Learning Hubs were celebrated which have been supported by community partners (CM Community Foundation, Larkspur Community Foundation, Town of Corte Madera, NC PTO, MCOE, YMCA, and private donors)
 - Patty Elliot gave a wonderful presentation on the Learning Hubs and her passion behind her commitment to this program.
 - COVID Update
 - All staff and volunteers have had an opportunity to receive vaccinations.
 - Marin County Public Health updated the 30 Point Plan. The highlights of this plan have been incorporated into full classroom reopening beginning Monday, April 12:
 - Student chairs will be spaced 3 feet apart, measured center to center.
 - Testing no longer required for fully vaccinated adults. We will continue testing unvaccinated staff members (1% of LCMSD staff).
 - Students can use play structure as assigned by their principal/teacher.
 - Mixing across elementary classrooms is

- permissible; examples would be EL, special education, and intervention services.
 - No longer require daily screening, but parents should still monitor symptoms and keep symptomatic children at home.
 - CAASP testing to resume between May 10-21 this year.
 - Planning for return to full schedule in the Fall
 - Budget
 - First interim approved.
 - Reductions have been identified and are being planned for the June budget adoption:
 - 6th grade day reduced to 6 periods
 - Professional Development reduced
 - Changes to the PE format
 - NC Principal Search
 - Held parent information and feedback sessions.
 - Extended the timeline for filling the position to get more applicants. New timeline:
 - Job posting: 3/17 - 4/18
 - Paper screening: 4/19
 - Screening interviews: 4/20
 - Panel interviews: 4/23
 - Finalist interviews: 4/26
 - Change of principal workshop (for staff): 5/12
- SPARK Update, Jennifer Corteville/Daniela Kratz:
 - New Families are participating with SPARK giving
 - Changes with SPARK board:
 - Danielle will continue as NC SPARK representative
 - Jennifer Corteville will be stepping down from position
 - Two big events coming up for SPARK
 - Spring Soiree (6:30 p.m.) tickets are available - \$25 or other options: ticket + hors d'oeuvres, ticket + cocktail kit, etc. See SPARK Website for details.
 - Plans for the evening:
 - Illusionist
 - Michael Fraanti
 - Live Auction

- Jennifer will work with Kim Jones to incorporate the new website into the PTO Website.
- Auditor Update, Mindy Sagemeister:
 - Working on the audit currently.
 - Tamara Hull, our accountant, can help with the books to reconcile the budget as they need to align for the audit to be completed.
 - Audit was due February - but will come to fruition at the end of the school year.
- Classroom Coordinator Lead Update, Leigh Denbo:
 - Planning for the collection for the end of year for teachers and staff - similar to the approach we did for the holiday collection - pooling collections to be distributed to teachers/staff.
 - Leigh to work with Jessica on Teacher Appreciation Week - will look into past years to come up with communication and plan for the week.
- NC Newsweek Editor, Lisa Griffin:
 - No Update
- Spirit Wear Team, Kristin Scales & Corinne Golden:
 - Actionally will be sent out to wear NC Spirit Wear on Friday to celebrate our first full week back to school
 - 30% off sale occurred - moving through inventory
 - Need to organize F3 Trailer
 - Kristin, Kim Jones to work with Kate and Lyn to find a day to clean out and organize the trailer.
- Neil Cummins Yearbook, Sara Esslinger:
 - Yearbooks nearly completed
 - Yearbooks available for order online
- Adjourn: 10:18 a.m.

