

Cider Mill School  
**PTA**  
everychild.onevoice.

Cider Mill Meeting of the PTA Board  
Tuesday September 8, 2009

[www.cidermillpta.org](http://www.cidermillpta.org)

The meeting was called to order in the Cider Mill Cafeteria at 9:15am

**Attendees:** Heather Wilcauskas, Patty Connor, Callie Mellana, Danielle Mancuso, Pam Hickey, Michelle Callaghan, Ginny Rico, Tom Ford, Catherine O'Keefe, Taralyn Fonseca, Kate Filaski, Dana McClintock, Francesca Monro, Inja Chung, Sheree Loud, Betsy Wallon, Debbie McGrath, Rebecca Ottavi, Gina Jansen, Bruce Zikly, Laurie Jones, Heather Jung, Sally Healy, Stacy Savris, Allison McHugh, Heidi Huber, Victoria Madden, Beth Purvis, Kristin Duff, Eileen Nolan, Suzie Ettie, Giovanna Fox, Laurie Mussili, Anna MacDonald, Lisa Nachbar, Priscilla Thors, Sue Alexander, Donna Peterson, Isabel Foltz, Claudia Avallone, Liz Cocoros, Kelly Lash, Laura Imrie, JoAnne Brant, Jennifer Davatzes, Katy Foster, Maria Wilcox, Allison Reznik

**President's Welcome:** Heather Wilcauskas welcomed everyone. She kicked off the meeting with an inspiring quote: "Volunteering is the ultimate exercise of democracy."

**Housekeeping Bullets:**

- PTA has whole shelf of mailboxes in the office
- Committee sign-up sheets are in mailboxes

**Enrichment Programs**

Administration requested fewer; reduced from two per grade to one per grade

**Gifts and Grants Process Change**

Previously, not receiving a lot of requests led to budget surplus. Discussion at hand as to what PTA fundraising goals will be and at end of year, PTA will work with administration to find best use for monetary donation.

**Dr. Richards' letter regarding H1N1 policy/procedure on website**

**District Strategic Planning Committee**

Currently assessing the vital activities that will improve teaching/learning.

**Alert Now System**

Room reps DO NOT make calls if school closes early. First line of communication is television and radio. Alert Now is intended for use if we are the only school affected, ie; If a tree falls on Cider Mill Alert Now will be activated.

**CIDER MILL WEBSITE AND VIRTUAL BACKPACK**

Paperless effort = access to ALL info/Hot Cider via web

**Update to Bylaws:**

\*\*Add V.P. of Fundraising- Pamela Hickey, who presented fundraising letter which will garner 100% of donations vs. 50% through Gift Wrap Fundraiser. Spirit Wear does not generate much profit but is great for school spirit. Volunteers to help sell Spirit Wear are welcome! Order forms are available on website. Per Mrs. Rico, please label Spirit Wear.

**Callie Mellana; Secretary of 2008:**

Callie asked that minutes from last meeting were approved, they were.

**Callie Mellana; Treasurer's Report:**

Budget expenses need to be presented in a timely fashion with actual receipts, PTA does not reimburse for tax paid.

**Greetings from Principal Rico:**

Thank you for your time, the year has gotten off to a great start with excellent behavior. The welcome video was televised at Back to School Night due to the growing size of the school. Positive Behavior Policy established to keep consistent expectations uniform throughout school. Stop signs and increase of staff circulation during students' hall time is helping to

decrease unruly behavior.

Please refer to CM Handbook for changes in **pick-ups, lunch times and new drop-off procedure. Critical to be on time and present for classroom morning meeting!**

- Bus ride to school is encouraged/preferred travel to school for safety and ontime arrival.
- If you come after start time, doors are locked and you must walk child in to school.
- If late arrival is a concern, counselors and psychologists on staff to offer tools to help.

Please remember **Virtual Backpack** has all Cider Mill information, including permission slips. If access to computer unavailable, let teacher know, they will forward to those children.

Open Houses held earlier this year so that meeting the teachers, policies/procedures and expectations were outlined at the beginning of the year which is more practical.

**Teacher Representative Report; Teralyn Fonseca:**

Teralyn Fonseca 4th Grade Belden Hill teacher is the teacher representative. She commented that the early Open House was very helpful for teachers. Photo day went very well and was well-organized. Fundraiser Spirit Wear has positive feedback.

**Patty Connor; Vice-President, Membership:**

Reminder to join the PTA membership drive. Board Members must be members.

**Eileen Nolan; Photo Day:**

Retake Day is Tuesday, October 20th at 8:00 a.m.

**Jennifer Davatzes; Book Swap:**

Book Swap will be October 20, 21, 22. Please bring in appropriate age-level, gently-used books. Each book receives a ticket to exchange for another book.

**Katie Foster; 5th Grade Night Out:**

Traditionally at Wilton Y, we will need to change tentative date due to Y schedule

**Reminders:**

*Family Photo Day (PTA Council) Weekend of October 17th*

**\*\* New Photographer!! Cynthia McIntyre [www.familyportraitday.com/Wilton.html](http://www.familyportraitday.com/Wilton.html)**

*5th Grade World Language*

*\*We need parent coordinator to organize volunteers, please contact Jerusha Vogel,*

*jj@k2sw.com*

*Maria Wilcox is running the school store*

*4th Grade Aids Quilt Project*

*\*Volunteers/Seamstresses to be requested soon*

10:00 am Meeting Adjourned

Respectfully submitted by Michelle Callaghan, Secretary of Cider Mill PTA