**Conant PTO Meeting of the General Assembly**

**Friday, December 2, 2022**

**Conant Cafeteria**

9:00 AM Welcome and Board introductions

**Meeting Attendees-** 35 parents and Debby Lee, Jaime Roberts, Melissa Cottone, Andrew Jones, Catherine Reichert, Meghan Spencer, Joe Russo (Interium Principal) , Allison Leahy-Assisant Principal

-**Vote for General Board Member candidate: Catherine Reichert (approved)**

**-Vote for final approval of 2022-2023 Budget: (approved)**

**-Other:** Great turn out for breakfast today, next time we will get more coffee and munchkins, juice.

-The Craft Fair raised 11, 395 and most of it isn't from Conant Families it was from vendor fees and attendees.

-We most likely will not do an annual appeal this year as we have a lot of funds in the account but anyone is always welcome to donate to Conant and you can find the link on our website.

-Looking for more volunteers and a diverse set of parents with different perspectives are always helpful

-Duffle Bags and Gear for Sale on PTO Website, so great to have for winter, lasts all 7 years. Bags are $18.00 , good holiday gifts

9:05 AM Upcoming Events & Sign-up for Spring Volunteer Opportunities

**Conant Movie Night-Rise of Gru**

-Fri, 12/9 at 6:30P in Conant Cafeteria, this isn't a drop off event, we will need parents to help and stay with kids, $2.00 per slice of pizza, $1.00 for Candy and $1.00 popcorn and enterance is free.

**Next Acton-Boxborough School Committee Meeting**

-Thurs, 12/15 at 7:00PM in ABRHS Auditorium, important for people to know what we can do to support our school and district, they will be discussing SRO's in schools, etc.

**Please sign-up to help us plan our Spring Events!**

-Some ideas are, 6th grade graduation, 6th grade dance, Conant Carnival, Spelling Bee, More Breakfast's, More Movie Nights, Cultural Night, Art Contest and winning person puts it on a t-shirt/sweatshirt, Do we have a STEM Night? Chess Club, running club, other clubs. Great ideas, we need parents to volunteer to lead these nights and events. Please contact Room parents/teachers /PTO and we can help with ideas.

-Holiday Gift for teachers (optional but nice to do). See guidelines in Mr. Russo's email and email from Room parents coming up.

**9:10 AM Introducing Interim Principal, Joe Russo**

-He has been in several districts as an interim and is very excited about this one year at Conant! He was in Newton for most of his career then Dedham, Foxbourough, Weston, Millis, Brookline. He is here to stabilize and prepare school for the next leader

**9:15 AM Special Presentation: Conant’s Culturally-Responsive Teacher Leaders *Taylor Drysdale, Sabrina Collins and Katelyn Norsworthy***

-There are 6 teachers on this committee for the next 2 years including Mrs. Vitale, Mrs. Kilkenny, Mrs. Luke too

-Their goal is to improve self of belonging in terms of culture, race, ethnicity. All teachres read this summer "Culturally Responsive Teaching and the Brain" by Z. Hammond. This initiative is state wide and a long term goal . 3 areas they are focusing on, Academic Achievement, Cultural Competence, and Sociopolitical Awareness. There will be survey to gauge what is important to families and this is imbeded into everything they do in the classroom. So lucky to have such a diverse group of students and families at Conant

**9:45 AM Optional Q&A**

-Parents inquiring about why no Halloween parade, can we celebrate all holidays instead of taking them away. A group of parents want to ask about this at School Committee.

-PTO paid part of the painting mural in the Cafe that looks terrific, they want to do the other side as well

-Parents needed for Principal Search starting in January, email Peter Light with any ideas on what is important to Conant Families

**9:55 AM Meeting adjourns**

Notes taken by Jaime Roberts

**Sign-up for PTO Emails: Follow PTO on Facebook:**

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