

**Claxton PTO Monthly Meeting**  
**January 7, 2020**  
**Live Streamed on Facebook!**

**I. THANK YOUs!**

- **Thanks for an amazing Storytelling Festival**, Mr. Godleski, storytellers, the families who provided food, and our wonderful Lighthouse Team student leaders, who helped keep things running!
- **Thanks for running the Bee Cause Project Honey Sale**, Tricia Johnson, and for initiating and maintaining Claxton's relationship with this excellent organization!
- **Thanks for the Staff Appreciation Hot Cocoa Party**, Lindsey Kuscera and Sarah Howell! The staff and teachers really are appreciative of these treats.
- **Thanks for making Claxton part of the Math Kangaroo International Contest**, Leslie Hayes! Registration for this year's competition is now closed, and we wish Claxton's team the best of luck.
- **Thank you for your ongoing efforts to put on an amazing JuBeeLee**, Amy Aiken and Lisa Manning! See below for more information on what's happening and how YOU can help.
- **Thank you to our newest Corporate Sponsors, Sunlight Tax and Hardwood Artifacts!** We appreciate your support!
- And, finally, **thank you and congratulations to Principal Derek Edwards for his appointment to the Asheville City Schools Foundation Board.** Check out the good work ACSF does here: [acsf.org](http://acsf.org)

**II. Staff Updates**

**A. Principal's Message (Mr. Edwards)**

- The storytelling festival was a huge success, with a full day of performances for all Claxton students.
- The Giving Smiles holiday event supported many Claxton children and families. The families said it was a great evening. Thanks to everyone who helped!
- Some sad-happy news ... Ms. Ornato will be leaving Claxton for a new position at ACS Central Office in the next few weeks. She has been a constant, friendly, and oh-so-knowledgeable face in the front office. We will miss her so much!
- Magnet school information sessions are this month! If you know anyone with a rising kindergartener or who is interested in having an older child transfer schools, please talk up Claxton!
- Claxton will be holding an open house with tours for interested families at the end of this month. For more information on magnet school applications and transfers, see the Asheville City Schools website.

- Please be aware that the school year ends MUCH earlier this year than in the past! The last day of the 2019-2020 school year is May 29, 2020 (the Friday after Memorial Day). Plan accordingly!

**B. Social Justice Team (Ms. Kickert)**

- The Social Justice Team continues to focus on redefining its vision—“By focusing on identity, diversity, action, and justice, we create an inclusive school culture.”—and what that looks like for staff, students, and families.
- The Team is interested in coming to talk at a PTO meeting about their work.

**C. Lighthouse/Leader in Me Team (Ms. Morgan)**

- The Lighthouse/Leader in Me Team is working on Claxton’s schoolwide “WIG” (“Wildly Important Goal”): Math!
- In pursuit of their WIG, students will work on math fluency and accuracy, not only in their classrooms, but in the school as a whole. Look for visuals in the hallways and schoolwide discussions about how students can work toward this WIG.

**D. Specialist Team (Mr. Butler)**

- We’re looking forward to the annual Chinese New Year celebration/assembly Jan. 24. This year, Claxton is working with a local dojo and also welcoming back the Lion Dancers, who have traditionally danced through the hallways to chase away lingering evil spirits and welcome a happy and successful new year.
- The 2<sup>nd</sup> graders will shortly begin working with Bob Moog’s Sound School, culminating in a performance at the Orange Peel on March 27.

**III. Special Guest, Mr. Butler, talks about Claxton’s Arts and Humanities Magnet Theme**

- Mr. Butler brought two verses that speak to the importance of arts to CLX’s mission. We read both as a group, line by line, sending it around the room.
- One of the main ways we are able to bring arts into Claxton is through the PTO’s support and funding. **Remember that many of the funds raised with events like the Fun Run and the upcoming JuBeeLee go to support arts programming.**
- This programming includes:
  - bringing **arts performances** to school (including musical, dramatic, and cultural events)
  - **field trips to arts events**
  - the **fall musical**
- Claxton is the **only** ACS elementary school with a **dedicated drama teacher!**
- The specialists are always working diligently to integrate the arts into the regular classrooms. They work with each grade level on **integrated studies** (approaching a core subject through an arts lens) and provide **opportunities** for students to pick an arts modality to study an aspect of their classroom curriculum.
- The specialists work to integrate and teach through the arts in Claxton’s other programs as well, such as Leader in Me.

- **Extracurricular activities** also help address the arts, including After School Arts, the fall musical, and morning (before school) arts and music groups.
- **Community partnerships** include:
  - Lake Eden Arts Festival (**LEAF**)
  - Asheville City Schools Foundation (**ACSF**), particularly its Teaching and Performing Artists in Schools (**TAPAS**) grants
  - the **Bob Moog Foundation**
  - the **North Carolina Arts Council**, which also sponsors teaching artists in our classrooms.
- Claxton has been a member of the **A+ Arts Schools Network** since 2007. A+ is a growing network that provides support to arts-themed schools and helps them develop strategies for learning through the arts.
- The Specialist Team (art, music, drama, PE, media center) does so much of the work that makes Claxton an arts school. **Thank you!!!**
- The **attached handouts** explain in greater detail how Claxton's arts and humanities magnet theme works.
- At the meeting, PTO members in attendance jotted down our thoughts on the following questions:
  - **Visibility:** What ARTS integration is happening already? **What do you see at CLX that addresses the Arts theme?** What's your CLX School of the Arts elevator speech?
  - **Voice:** **What questions, wonders, and needs do you have** regarding ARTS, A+ , and how they connect to CLX?
  - **Vision:** **What would you love to see** with Arts integration at CLX?
- **Please email Mr. Butler with your ideas!** Brooks.Butler@acsgmail.net

#### IV. Treasurer's Update/December Highlights

- The Boosterthon/Fun Run made approximately \$2,000 MORE than we budgeted for!
- The Fall Carnival made approximately \$2,500 MORE than we budgeted for!
- That means, together, these two fall fundraisers added \$5,500 MORE to the PTO budget than we had hoped!
- Thank you to all who support our school through fundraisers like these!
- Please know that the PTO's presidents and Treasurer are always available to answer questions about the PTO budget. Transparency is important to us! (Treasurer: Ashley Israel ([aisrael@dixon-hughes.com](mailto:aisrael@dixon-hughes.com)); Presidents: Stephanie Jones ([stephmissvolgo@gmail.com](mailto:stephmissvolgo@gmail.com)); Amanda Pattanayak ([alsevigny@aol.com](mailto:alsevigny@aol.com)))

#### V. Event Updates

##### A. JuBeeLee (Lisa Manning and Amy Aiken)

- The event will be at the **A-B Tech Conference Center**, a brand-new facility that is intimate yet can accommodate the large number of people we expect. It has great acoustics, a stage, and an open floor plan. Hooray!
- There is now a **Facebook page** for the JuBeeLee (thanks, Miriam Scott!). Look for an invitation to join shortly!

- **Amy Aiken is the contact for collecting donations.** Please check with her first if you have an idea to be sure someone hasn't already contacted that business). ([aepaxton@gmail.com](mailto:aepaxton@gmail.com)) We are 9 weeks out, and it's time to step up the donations to ensure a fun and successful auction.
- The organizers are hoping to be able to offer child care on the night of the event. Stay tuned.
- Our partnership with Asheville Primary on this event is going well. They are enthusiastic and helpful.
- The date has been finalized: **Saturday, March 14!**

#### **B. Magnet School Open House (Miriam Scott)**

- Magnet School Open House and tours for interested families will take place **Jan. 28, 29, 30.**
- **We need parents to help with welcome table and tours!** Tour guides will be there to support our Student Lighthouse Team members, who will lead the tours.
- To be a parent tour guide, **you don't have to know everything!** Just share your love of Claxton. The Student Lighthouse Team has created a guide to use, and the students will lead the tour. Adults are there to answer questions that need a parent response.
- Mr. Edwards and Ms. Nichols will be in the conference room to answer any questions prospective families still have at the end of their tour.
- **Tues. Jan. 14, 9 a.m.: OPTIONAL tour guide orientation for those who haven't done it before.**

#### **C. Staff Appreciation (Lindsey Kuscera)**

- **Next staff lunch is Jan. 24;** email with details is forthcoming.
- Second and third grade families will provide food for this lunch.
- Plan is to do a brunch!

#### **D. Volunteer needs (Amanda Pattanayak and Stephanie Jones)**

- **Help us recruit new parents!**
- The PTO is always looking for new members. **We welcome new members and new ideas.**
- Please come to the **next meeting on February 4!** Please bring a friend!
- We are actively looking for ways to make new faces feel welcome!

#### **E. MLK Day of Service**

- Every year, on the Friday before Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Claxton fifth graders devote a day to volunteering at local organizations.
- This year, on Friday, January 17, we are asking parents to help out by donating food and/or chaperoning.
- Sign up here to help!  
<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1GfA3XN1AnSwa3Wsx9vIYhIoFX2v4ICv0M4f6ukA0XWs/edit#gid=0>

**If you missed the live stream of tonight's meeting, check it out on the Claxton Families Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/CLXFamilies/>!**

Meeting adjourned at 6:50.

<p><b>Arts</b></p> <p><i>In A+ schools the arts are:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>experienced daily through instruction, integration and exposure</li> <li>inclusive of drama, dance, music, visual arts, creative writing and media arts</li> <li>included in curriculum planning and design</li> <li>integrated in all content areas</li> <li>valued as essential to creativity, learning and personal experiences</li> <li>a part of the school's internal and external identity</li> </ul>	<p><b>Curriculum</b></p> <p><i>In A+ schools curriculum is addressed through:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>developing teacher skills in creating effective and engaging instruction</li> <li>ongoing curriculum exploration and planning</li> <li>intentional two-way integration of the arts and other disciplines</li> <li>horizontal and vertical alignment of standards</li> <li>enhanced conceptual connections</li> <li>collaborative development of integrated lessons and units</li> </ul>	<p><b>Multiple Learning Pathways</b></p> <p><i>In A+ schools multiple learning pathways include:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Multiple Intelligences (MI) theory and practice</li> <li>brain research and brain-based philosophies</li> <li>a focus on building 21<sup>st</sup> century and higher order thinking skills</li> <li>creating and balancing learning opportunities that support the whole child</li> <li>intentional opportunities for students, families, community to develop understanding of how people learn</li> </ul>	<p><b>Experiential Learning</b></p> <p><i>In A+ schools experiential learning:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>creates student engagement</li> <li>is grounded in arts-based and hands-on learning experiences</li> <li>provides integrated and authentic connections to real-life application</li> <li>models the creative process and inquiry-based instruction</li> <li>allows for understanding of entry points and differentiated instruction</li> <li>provides multifaceted assessment opportunities</li> </ul>
<p><b>Enriched Assessment</b></p> <p><i>In A+ schools enriched assessment is:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a reflective practice that is designed for learning</li> <li>inclusive of arts and multiple learning pathways</li> <li>ongoing, integrated, experiential and collaborative</li> <li>used both as a self-assessment tool by teachers and students and to help meet school system requirements</li> <li>instrumental in creating a comprehensive picture of student understanding</li> </ul>	<p><b>Collaboration</b></p> <p><i>In A+ schools collaboration is:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>valued and intentional</li> <li>fostered by administration and faculty</li> <li>prioritized through designated time for classroom and special area teachers to plan together</li> <li>experienced throughout the day and in many ways</li> <li>utilized to build relationships within and outside the school community</li> </ul>	<p><b>Infrastructure</b></p> <p><i>In A+ schools infrastructure:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>supports the A+ philosophy</li> <li>fosters supportive and shared leadership</li> <li>addresses daily logistics to allow for collaboration</li> <li>provides time, space and resources to support implementation</li> <li>continually maintains a shared vision and develops faculty commitment</li> <li>provides relevant professional development and mentoring</li> <li>is reflected at all levels</li> </ul>	<p><b>Climate</b></p> <p><i>In A+ schools climate is enhanced through:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>building collaborative skills that create an environment of respect and support</li> <li>developing a creative community that is fun and engaging for teachers and students</li> <li>focusing on lifelong learning for the entire school community</li> <li>working towards a common vision and shared decision making</li> <li>sharing and celebration</li> </ul>

Joy and happiness in living,  
A love of all existence,  
A power and energy for work –  
Those are among the lifelong results of the right cultivation  
Of the feeling for beauty and art.

The need for imagination,  
A sense of truth,  
And a feeling for responsibility,  
Those are the three forces at the very nerve of education.

Our highest endeavor must be  
To develop free human beings,  
Who are able of themselves  
To impart purpose and direction to their lives.

*-Rudolf Steiner (Austrian Philosopher and Scientist, 1861-1925)*

With grace, charm and sweet sounds  
The harmonies of our life,  
And the sense of beauty engenders  
The flowers which eternally bloom.  
Peace and joy advancing in perfect accord,  
Like the alternating play of the waves;  
All harsh and hostile elements  
Render to a sublime sentiment.

Something great, into the heart  
Blooms anew when in all its beauty,  
A spirit taken flight,  
And all a choir resounds in response.  
Accept then, oh you beautiful spirits  
Joyously of the gifts of art.

*-from Beethoven's Choral Fantasy  
(by German poet Christopher Kuffner, 1808)*

4:13 PM  
01/07/20  
Accrual Basis

Claxton PTO  
**Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual**  
July 2019 through June 2020

**INCOME**

Ordinary Income/Expense	Actuals Jul '19 - Jun '20	Budget	\$ Over Budget	% of Budget
<b>Income</b>				
Afterschool Arts	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.0%
Bank Adjustment income	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.0%
Book Fair				
Scholastic	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.0%
Book Fair - Other	\$0.00	\$5,000.00	(\$5,000.00)	0.0%
Total Book Fair	\$0.00	\$5,000.00	(\$5,000.00)	0.0%
Boosterthon Income	\$51,195.65	\$50,000.00	\$1,195.65	102.4%
Boys Run Club	\$0.00	\$225.00	(\$225.00)	0.0%
Carnival				
Carnival Ticket Sales	\$5,698.92	\$4,500.00	\$1,198.92	126.6%
Carnival - Other	\$9.41			
Total Carnival	\$5,708.33	\$4,500.00	\$1,208.33	126.9%
Corporate Contributions	\$3,500.00	\$3,500.00	\$0.00	100.0%
Craft Fair	\$2,497.86	\$500.00	\$1,997.86	499.6%
Dance Income	\$1,514.00	\$2,000.00	(\$486.00)	75.7%
Direct Public Support				
Individ, Business Contributions	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.0%
Total Direct Public Support	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.0%
Go Local Sales	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.0%
Holiday Shoppe	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.0%
Income Auction				
Corporate Sponsors	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.0%
Silent Auction Item Sales	\$0.00	\$25,000.00	(\$25,000.00)	0.0%
Ticket Sales for Silent Auction	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.0%
Income Auction - Other	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.0%
Total Income Auction	\$0.00	\$25,000.00	(\$25,000.00)	0.0%
Indirect Public Support				
Amazon Smile	\$45.08	\$0.00	\$45.08	100.0%
Total Indirect Public Support	\$45.08	\$0.00	\$45.08	100.0%
Other Types of Income				
Miscellaneous Revenue	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.0%
Total Other Types of Income	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.0%
Restaurant night	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.0%
Roots & Wings Donation	\$0.00	\$2,475.00	(\$2,475.00)	0.0%
Sales				
Sportswear	\$170.00	\$250.00	(\$80.00)	68.0%
Yearbooks	\$20.00	\$3,000.00	(\$2,980.00)	0.7%
Total Sales	\$190.00	\$3,250.00	(\$3,060.00)	5.8%
Songs for Snacks	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.0%



	Actuals Jul '19 - Jun '20	Budget	\$ Over Budget	% of Budget
Staff Appreciation fund	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.0%
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$64,650.92</b>	<b>\$96,450.00</b>	<b>(\$31,799.08)</b>	<b>67.0%</b>
Expense				
Bank Fee				
Adjustment	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.0%
Bank Checks Order	\$29.95	\$0.00	\$29.95	100.0%
Credit Card Machine	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.0%
Returned Item	\$25.00			
Bank Fee - Other	\$0.00	\$500.00	(\$500.00)	0.0%
<b>Total Bank Fee</b>	<b>\$54.95</b>	<b>\$500.00</b>	<b>(\$445.05)</b>	<b>11.0%</b>
Business Expenses				
Business Registration Fees	\$0.00	\$500.00	(\$500.00)	0.0%
<b>Total Business Expenses</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$500.00</b>	<b>(\$500.00)</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
Fundraising Expenses				
Book Fair Payment	\$0.00	\$5,000.00	(\$5,000.00)	0.0%
Book Fair Reimbursement	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.0%
Boosterthon Expense				
Boosterthon 18-19	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.0%
Boosterthon 19-20	\$19,099.75	\$2,000.00	\$17,099.75	955.0%
Boosterthon Expense - Other	\$5,984.37	\$23,000.00	(\$17,015.63)	26.0%
<b>Total Boosterthon Expense</b>	<b>\$25,084.12</b>	<b>\$25,000.00</b>	<b>\$84.12</b>	<b>100.3%</b>
Carnival Expense				
Inflatables	\$545.70	\$0.00	\$545.70	100.0%
Permit for Carnival	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.0%
Carnival Expense - Other	\$0.00	\$2,500.00	(\$2,500.00)	0.0%
<b>Total Carnival Expense</b>	<b>\$545.70</b>	<b>\$2,500.00</b>	<b>(\$1,954.30)</b>	<b>21.8%</b>
Merchandise	\$1,595.87	\$0.00	\$1,595.87	100.0%
Silent Auction				
Catering	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.0%
Facilities and Equipment				
Equip Rental and Maintenance	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.0%
Rent, Parking, Utilities	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.0%
<b>Total Facilities and Equipment</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
Silent Auction - Other	\$0.00	\$5,000.00	(\$5,000.00)	0.0%
<b>Total Silent Auction</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$5,000.00</b>	<b>(\$5,000.00)</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
<b>Total Fundraising Expenses</b>	<b>\$27,225.69</b>	<b>\$37,500.00</b>	<b>(\$10,274.31)</b>	<b>72.6%</b>
Misc. Reimbursements	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	(\$1,000.00)	0.0%
Operations				
Books, Subscriptions, Reference	\$65.10			
Postage, Mailing Service	\$55.00	\$0.00	\$55.00	100.0%
Supplies	\$69.42	\$1,000.00	(\$930.58)	6.9%
<b>Total Operations</b>	<b>\$189.52</b>	<b>\$1,000.00</b>	<b>(\$810.48)</b>	<b>19.0%</b>
Other Types of Expenses				
Insurance - Liability, D and O	\$624.00	\$750.00	(\$126.00)	83.2%

NSE

**EXPEI**

	Actuals Jul '19 - Jun '20	Budget	\$ Over Budget	% of Budget
Total Other Types of Expenses	\$624.00	\$750.00	(\$126.00)	83.2%
Parent Support				
5th Grade Celebration	\$0.00	\$500.00	(\$500.00)	0.0%
Back to School Bash	\$896.95	\$800.00	\$96.95	112.1%
Claxton Chats	\$44.91	\$250.00	(\$205.09)	18.0%
Directory publishing	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.0%
Field Day	\$0.00	\$400.00	(\$400.00)	0.0%
New Families	\$125.40	\$250.00	(\$124.60)	50.2%
Total Parent Support	\$1,067.26	\$2,200.00	(\$1,132.74)	48.5%
Payment to Yearbook Co.	\$0.00	\$3,000.00	(\$3,000.00)	0.0%
Play Support	\$1,000.00	\$1,200.00	(\$200.00)	83.3%
Programs				
After School Arts Snacks	\$0.00	\$750.00	(\$750.00)	0.0%
Community outreach	\$239.78	\$5,000.00	(\$4,760.22)	4.8%
Cultural Events	\$2,775.00	\$10,000.00	(\$7,225.00)	27.8%
Let me Run Scholarships	\$0.00	\$400.00	(\$400.00)	0.0%
Social Justice League	\$0.00	\$3,000.00	(\$3,000.00)	0.0%
Total Programs	\$3,014.78	\$19,150.00	(\$16,135.22)	15.7%
Student Support				
T shirts	\$0.00	\$1,800.00	(\$1,800.00)	0.0%
Wall of Fame	\$0.00	\$250.00	(\$250.00)	0.0%
Total Student Support	\$0.00	\$2,050.00	(\$2,050.00)	0.0%
Teacher/Classroom/School Support				
Bees	\$0.00	\$500.00	(\$500.00)	0.0%
Cirriculum	\$0.00	\$325.00	(\$325.00)	0.0%
Field Trips	\$0.00	\$2,300.00	(\$2,300.00)	0.0%
Gift for Staff	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	(\$1,000.00)	0.0%
Grounds	\$0.00	\$500.00	(\$500.00)	0.0%
PE Equipment	\$0.00	\$350.00	(\$350.00)	0.0%
Pricipal's Discretionary Fund	\$106.23	\$1,700.00	(\$1,593.77)	6.2%
PTO President discretionary fun	\$361.69	\$1,500.00	(\$1,138.31)	24.1%
School Framing	\$0.00	\$500.00	(\$500.00)	0.0%
Snacks	\$0.00	\$1,200.00	(\$1,200.00)	0.0%
Staff Appreciation	\$0.00	\$1,500.00	(\$1,500.00)	0.0%
Substitute Teachers	\$0.00	\$2,000.00	(\$2,000.00)	0.0%
Supplemental Grant for Teacher	\$1,404.97	\$6,000.00	(\$4,595.03)	23.4%
Teacher assistant supplies	\$800.00	\$800.00	\$0.00	100.0%
Teacher of the Year	\$0.00	\$500.00	(\$500.00)	0.0%
Teacher supplies	\$3,300.00	\$3,300.00	\$0.00	100.0%
Tshirts for Staff	\$309.00	\$625.00	(\$316.00)	49.4%
Volunteer Appreciation	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.0%
Volunteer payment	\$0.00	\$3,000.00	(\$3,000.00)	0.0%
Total Teacher/Classroom/School Support	\$6,281.89	\$27,600.00	(\$21,318.11)	22.8%
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>\$39,458.09</b>	<b>\$96,450.00</b>	<b>(\$56,991.91)</b>	<b>40.9%</b>
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	<b>\$25,192.83</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$25,192.83</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

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	Actuals Jul '19 - Jun '20	Budget	\$ Over Budget	% of Budget
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>\$25,192.83</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$25,192.83</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

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