

# *Claxton PTO Meeting Agenda*

Google Meet Virtual Meeting  
<https://meet.google.com/qcw-mjcf-rey>  
Tuesday, November 10, 2020 @6:00

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Attendees: Meredith Stanley, Lisa Manning, Miriam Scott, Mary Nichols, Stephanie Jones, Karine Rigsby, Elizabeth Kickert, Amanda Pattanayaka, Sara Niedenthal, Jessica Hunter, AnneMarie Conti, Jennifer Ward, Molly Peeples, Amy Aiken, Paul Garrity, Lisa Manning, Cheryl Sudam, Gabriel and Alison Gioia

Introductions: Jessica Hunter, joining to discuss the Year Book.

6:00 - 6:10

## **Thank You's**

- DanceFit Fundraiser: Meredith Stanley and Lindsey Kuscera, CLX Staff, Students, and Families.
  - Working to get addresses so that prizes can be mailed home; if addresses are not provided, they will be delivered to the school.
  - Total raised was 29k (36k in pledges), goal was 16k.
  - Profit was 78% (last year only retained 62%).
  - More gifts to teachers because the cost of event was less and wanted to recognize their work on this.
  - Costs were under 9k and we think that this would be less than doing it ourselves.
- BamBOO gifts for staff: Staff Appreciation Team
  - Staff: tips to keep the plant alive, indirect light and 2 inches of water
- New Corporate Sponsors:
  - Blue Ridge Pediatric Dentistry (donor and CLX parents)
  - Blue Ridge Orthodontics
  - Sunlight Tax (donor and CLX parents)
  - Marks Family Dentistry
  - Anyone else that is interested in corporate sponsors pass it on to Wren London [wrendalondon@gmail.com](mailto:wrendalondon@gmail.com) or Bethany Malley [bethanymalley@gmail.com](mailto:bethanymalley@gmail.com)

6:10 - 6:35

## **Staff Updates**

- Principal's Message: Mary Nichols
  - DanceFit: she had the privilege to see it from the outside, everyone coming together working towards one goal...which hasn't happened a lot this year. It was special and warm.
  - Thank you to Karen and Mr. Butler for all of the effort in the filming of videos and the daily Buzz
  - 30 kids coming back in the building on 11/30. K, 1, and 2 graders. These are kids that are needing support. There will be small group of kids learning together.
  - 1/11/21 is when hybrid learning for all will begin. We are currently preparing for the A/B hybrid schedule.
  - The entire staff is reading a book: Culturally Responsive Teaching and the Brain by Zaretta Hammond. Takes the equity work we've been doing for many years and combines it in a framework and looks at instructional practice + the leader and me and combines it into the 'ready for rigor' framework. The purpose is to put our work into the classroom and into instruction for the kids. The district paid for the books and Jones is also doing this. This year is like no other, so we are taking it slow but taking the time to understand this work.
  - Met with Copland Rudolph and got to share the amazing work that our PTO does,
    - For example our PTO donates 5k (every year) to help families in immediate need. And the entire district only has 5k, so that our PTO is doing this is amazing.

- Big Rocks = goals
- Claxton Staff Team Updates
  - MTSS (Multi-Tier System of Supports) Team: Molly Peeples
    - An academic, social emotional frame work for our kids
    - Each student takes a STAR or NCENC
    - Take that data and look at it with a 20 ft lens and at each grade level teachers problem solve and comes up with a goal and a 6 week plan. If 80% meet the goal at the end of the 6 weeks then we are good, if not ...back to the drawing board. The 20% that are not passing are given extra support.
    - Making sure that the tier one is still happening even in this environment.
  - Social Justice Team: Bets Contii co-chair
    - Working on modifying our big rocks for COVID
    - Our main goals are supporting students and making sure they get culturally responsive and social justice inspired opportunities.
    - Supporting staff and ensuring that lessons are diverse.
    - Different this year, because we can't get families in the building and are not celebrating holidays together
    - Trying to leverage relationships (SEL) in our building to get students the support
    - Working on building a library of resources for teachers to pull from, without having to dig deep that are diverse and are reframing narratives. This will be launched for Thanksgiving next week.
  - Social Emotional Learning Team: Paul G
    - Big Rock 1: Staff resilience
      - Organize events safely on campus
      - Grab, gobble and glory event on Halloween was a great success.
      - Staff projects
    - Big Rock 2: Care giver resilience
      - How do we support families
      - There will be a winter event
    - Big Rock 3: Social emotional learning
      - Using the framework of the leader in me
  - Lighthouse/Leader in Me Team: Karen Rigsby co-chair
    - Big Rock 1: collaborating with SEL
    - Big Rock 2: student lighthouse team for when we get children back
    - Big Rock 3: Leadership notebooks that track children and their successes. Helpful for student lead conferences
    - Big Rock 4: Family, staff, student leader in me focus
    - Offering free online training for staff and pooling information to push out to families.
  - AMPED (Art, Music, PE, Drama) Team: Karen Rigsby co-chair
    - Doing book clubs with pods
    - Started checking out books to students
    - Grade level projects:
      - 2<sup>nd</sup> grade, butterflies.
      - 4<sup>th</sup> grade Celtic. Hired local bagpipe player. Got to do a virtual fieldtrip to a Celtic museum in NY.
    - Coach H is now home on maternity leave.

6:35 - 6:45

### Treasurer Team Updates

- Treasurer's Report: Ashley Israel, **Sara Niedenthal**, and Dawn Rollins
- Dancefit will be the biggest revenue for likely the entire year.
- YTD we have paid out 1K families in need
- YTD 5K paid out to teacher mini grants

6:45 - 7:00

## Event Updates

- President's Fund: Amanda Pattanayak
    - PTO did send a gift to Mrs. Stickley and Mr. Hafke for the new babies!
    - Sent a gift card to Mr. Godleski; his wife was diagnosed with cancer.
    - Stephanie Keever, her daughter was Kennedy (now at middle school), has passed away and PTO will make a donation in her name.
  - Mini Grant Requests: Gabrielle Trott
    - 2<sup>nd</sup> grade, applying for \$300 for storage for the math curriculum
    - For exceptional children, applying for five (5) wobble stools \$274.95 total.
    - Rolling application is really fantastic
  - SJL Parent Auxiliary: Amy Aiken
    - Have a small but mighty group of parents that are very ambitious
    - PTO member goes to the SJL meetings
    - Big Rock:
      - PTO can help getting funds; grants or PTO money. Although not needed necessarily this year but will definitely be needed in the future.
      - PTO can hopefully help with trainings. Could be a book club, gathering resources for families, or bring in a speaker.
      - Would love to have strong PTO support to help with this.
    - Any ideas or if you want to help please reach out to Amy Aiken aepaxton@gmail.com
    - Any volunteers to help with grant writing:
      - Elizabeth Kickert volunteered her husband
      - Jennifer Ward has extensive experience in grant writing.
    - \$900 to the SJL from PTO. Original intent was for a conference including hotels etc.
    - \$3k from PTO for teachers to get a half day sub for planning for SJL.
  - Scrip gift card fundraiser: Stephanie Jones
    - A way to make purchases in a big box store while donating to Claxton.
    - You buy an egift card through the website and pay with the gift card.
    - You can link your bank account or link a credit card.
    - Working on a flier to distribute to families.
  - Yearbook: Jessica Hunter
    - Yearbooks are full color, every grade level. Each grade level has a spread of candid photos from the funrun, the play, etc. What can we put here, this year?
    - Cost:
      - Normally is \$17 per, 66 pages
      - Usually get 275 copies, ~\$4,700
      - If we reduced to 36 pages or 48 pages, it reduces the price
    - We have to let the yearbook company (Josten's) know by early January if we want a yearbook.  Mary Nichols says YES!
    - Layout needs to be finalized by the middle of April.
      - Do we have spring portraits set up?
      - How could we get photos if not?
    - Mary N.: Get a group of parents together and brainstorm how we can put together a yearbook. We should definitely have a yearbook.
    - Do we have to use LifeTouch? Hasn't been given much thought this year, but will look into it (Mary N.)
  - Giving Smiles Holiday Program: Amanda Pattanayak
    - For families in needs. Ms Abby (social worker) finds out the needs.
    - 31 children for Claxton
      - 6 people have already signed up.
    - Wrap gifts and deliver to the school
    - If you want to participate, and able to help the family, consider a gift card for the family.
    - Gifts are due to Claxton by 12/10
    - Distributed to the families on 12/11.
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**Dates to Remember**

**Tuesday, December 1:** PTO Meeting 6:00pm (virtual)

**Thursday, December 10:** Giving Smiles gift bags due at Claxton

**Things to Remember**

**Claxton Connections:** [tinyurl.com/clxconnections](https://tinyurl.com/clxconnections) Support our Community connected businesses

## Google Meeting Chat:

6:19 PM

Mary, could you write the book title and author here for me

Paul Garrity

6:20 PM

Culturally Responsive Teaching and the Brain by Zaretta Hammond

Brain\*

Elizabeth Kickert

6:38 PM

My personal second grader loved the monarch butterfly unit so much he wanted to be a butterfly for Halloween!

Elizabeth Kickert

6:46 PM

Thank you guys for these mini grants, they are so impactful in our classrooms!

Karen Rigsby

7:01 PM

Outdoor Photo Shoot Drive Thru- and Google Meet Screenshots for class pages- It could be really cute.

Elizabeth Kickert

7:01 PM

Screenshot a class google meet! It's not ideal, but could work for class photo.

Paul Garrity

7:01 PM

That is brilliant, Kickert!

Amy Aiken

7:03 PM

Do we have to use LifeTouch? Is that the easiest way to go?

Elizabeth Kickert

7:04 PM

Do we have any parents that are photographers that could do just yearbook shots? Not pics for parents to order?

Cheryl Suydam

7:04 PM

I was thinking the same thing, Amy. Is it possible to support someone local for example?

Amy Aiken

7:04 PM

We just used a local photographer to take individual photos of each student outside. Don't know if that would be an option for CLX?

Karen Rigsby

7:05 PM

A good camera with a big lens would allow some good distance between masked photographer and student

Karen Rigsby

7:06 PM

Strawbridge had to bring staff donuts, it was in their contract right? Always choose the donut bringing company :)

Stephanie Jones

7:06 PM

<https://brenphotography.net/the-schoolhouse-collective>

Amy Aiken

7:06 PM

I don't have a strong opinion about photos, but I am happy to reach out to the photographer we just used to find out more info.

We used Bren!!!

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**[www.claxtonparents.com](http://www.claxtonparents.com)**

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# - Claxton Rewards -

YOU CAN **easily** HELP OUR CLAXTON KIDS BY SHOPPING  
-AS YOU NORMALLY DO-

**It all adds up!** Please share with your friends and family!

Let us know about other programs we should add to the list.

Store / Program	Details / How To
Harris Teeter	<p>Link your VIC card to choose Claxton as your school (<b>must be re-linked each fall</b>) Can do at a store or online: <a href="http://www.harristeeter.com/together-in-education">www.harristeeter.com/together-in-education</a></p>
Ingles	<p>Link your Ingles Advantage card (<b>must be re-linked each fall</b>) to choose Claxton as your school.</p> <p>Can be done at a store or online: <a href="https://www.ingles-markets.com/tools-for-schools-link">https://www.ingles-markets.com/tools-for-schools-link</a></p>
Amazon	<p>Shop at Amazon? Choose Claxton PTO as your charity and Amazon will donate 0.5% of eligible purchases to Claxton. Cannot use the app but you can put items in your cart from the app and then go to <a href="http://smile.amazon.com">smile.amazon.com</a> to make the final purchase.</p> <p>How to: 1. Sign in to <a href="http://smile.amazon.com">smile.amazon.com</a> on your desktop or mobile phone browser. 2. From your desktop, go to Your Account from the navigation at the top of any page, and then select the option to Change your Charity. Or, from your mobile browser, select Change your Charity from the options at the bottom of the page. 3. Select a new charitable organization to support. <a href="http://smile.amazon.com/about">http://smile.amazon.com/about</a></p>
Box Tops for Education	<p>Box Tops are worth 10¢ each for our school.</p> <p>Look for the Box Tops 4 Education logo on hundreds of everyday grocery and household products.</p> <p>No more clipping! Use the Box Tops app to scan your receipts. <a href="http://www.btfe.com">www.btfe.com</a></p>