

Cline Elementary
September 6th, 2019
PTO General Meeting Minutes

Our PTO Co-Chairs Brooke McClary and Victoria Merkys welcomed everyone to the monthly PTO meeting, and introduced our first speaker, Principal Clifford.

Message from the Principal and AP – Mr. Clifford welcomed everyone in attendance this morning. He then spoke about the recent purchase of new/additional bookshelves for our library's research center, thanks to the addition of new book purchases afforded by funds contributed by the PTO and their efforts. Fundraising is an integral component of the PTO, and their contribution to the Cline campus, classrooms, and children.

Currently the teachers are in full testing mode...conducting all of the beginning of the year assessment tests. This is a busy time of the year for our faculty and students, but an equally important time of the year, as we prepare our children for a productive and exciting year of learning and growing.

Mr. Clifford then thanked the parents for donating their time, resources, and talents to our campus. The faculty values and appreciates how involved and active our PTO is within our school's daily operations.

Assistant Principal Mrs. McCarty introduced herself and her new role on campus. She asked for grace and patience this year, while she is learning the ropes and refining her duties here at Cline. She asked that all in attendance please grab a Fisd Background Check Form and a Volunteer Agreement Form, and to fill out and return both, so that our front office can run/submit these checks. Parents will not be allowed on campus in any kind of volunteer capacity this year unless these forms have been completed, and records have been cleared through Fisd. For those who were unable to attend this morning's meeting, the forms are also available on-line via our website at clinepto.com. Please complete and submit these forms as soon as possible.

Mrs. McCarty encouraged everyone to stay past the PTO meeting this morning for the Volunteer and/or Room Mom meeting, if applicable. We need all of our parents in the know with our campus/safety/party procedures before the school year gets well underway.

Executive Board Reports:

Co-Chairs – Co-chair Brooke McClary (cougarcheer22@hotmail.com) shared with all in attendance about how the classroom party sign-ups will be accessible, where to find them (Cline PTO website), and that sign-ups will go live today starting at the conclusion of our Volunteer/Room Mom meeting at 10am. Please note: that only ONE parent, PER child, will be able to sign up for only ONE class party during the duration of the school year. Given that there will be three class parties (Fall, Holiday, and Valentine's), and seven parents allowed at each (this does NOT count the Room Mom)—this allows for 21 parents in all to attend throughout the school year. Make sure to register yourself on the PTO website, pay your annual PTO dues, and sign up quickly for the party of your choice today. As the days and weeks pass, these spots WILL fill up.

We are still in abundant need for parent volunteers for all three of our CLINEFEST events (Auction Night, Carnival and Fun Run)—with the lion share needed for our Carnival, on Saturday October 26th. Soon your classroom Room Moms will be emailing all parents in order to secure volunteers to man the games and rides at Carnival. We will need to have two volunteers at each attraction, with time slots each lasting an hour. This will be a minimal time obligation, so please consider signing up and making this small donation in order to ensure another successful year for our CLINEFEST fundraiser. Please contact any of our PTO board members or our CLINEFEST Co-Chairs (Kristan Giamatteo kkarber89@gmail.com or Bea Grado beatriz.espinoza@gmail.com) for more information on how you can help! If you are unable to donate your time or services to our CLINEFEST efforts, there is still another way you can help us out—our Co-Chairs have an Amazon Wish List posted to take away all of the guessing work. Simply log on (<https://amzn.to/2NBq44v>), purchase a much needed item for us, and have it shipped straight to campus...it's as easy as that!

Secretary – A motion to approve the Augusts’ meeting minutes was given by Kristan Giamatteo, and seconded by Rebecca Follmar.

Committee Reports:

Box Tops/Pop Tabs – Our committee Chair Aniko Swett (anikoswett@yahoo.com) shared some new and exciting news with the audience regarding Box Tops and our local HEB. From now until September 17th, HEB will be generating a Box Top coupon for all of the shoppers who purchase at least 10 items that contain a Box Top. This coupon is good for another eight free Box Tops, which equates to almost \$8 for our campus. These coupons are redeemable through the Box Tops for Education app (which is available for download on all Apple or Android devices), as are all Box Tops for donation. And remember, you can currently still send in hand-clipped Box Tops to your child’s teacher, along with submitting them electronically via the app—so double dipping is allowed. The next Box Top collection date will be on Friday October 25th, with the next Box Top classroom reward date being September 27th.

CLINEFEST – Auction Night is our CLINEFEST Adult-only event, and will take place on Saturday, October 5th at the Moody Gardens Hotel and Convention Center from 7pm to 12am. Consider booking a room under our room block and making it a staycation with your spouse—where you will enjoy yourself, in addition to raising funds for your child’s school and teachers. The deadline to secure your room under the Cline/CLINEFEST room block rate will end on September 13th, so be sure to call in soon! There will be tons of silent and live auction items to bid on, as well as a wine pull, raffle ticket liquor wagon, socials spots for purchase, and the list goes on...you do not want to miss the most exciting night of the year to be a Cline Pony parent! Tables to this event have already started selling quickly, and today the individual tickets for purchase have been released—just visit <http://bidpal.net/clinefestauction2019> to purchase your ticket. And remember that teacher tickets are available at a reduced rate, so ask your child’s teacher if they wish to/plan on attending, and grab their ticket for them! Open seating tickets are priced at \$65/each, with teacher tickets prices at \$50.

This year’s CLINEFEST carnival will take place on Saturday, October 26th, from 9am to 2pm at the Cline campus. Every Wednesday between now and the end of

CLINEFEST, students and faculty are encouraged to wear their CLINEFEST shirts to show spirit and ramp up excitement for our school's largest annual fundraiser! Be sure to join the CLINEFEST Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/Clinefest/>) and up-load your child's picture every Wednesday—as well as to stay up-to-speed on the latest CF news and announcements. If you or your child is still in need of a CLINEFEST shirt, the front office still has plenty of t-shirt order forms for you to grab next time you are on campus. Upon payment, the shirt(s) will be delivered to your child in class, and sent home with them—nothing could be easier!

Our 4th annual Fun Run will take place on October 26th, starting at 6pm. And as always, participants will have the choice between running the 1K or 5K run. Registration for our Fun Run will open on September 13th, with the cost being \$20 for students, and \$30 for adults. This year our Fun Run Co-Chairs have worked a new obstacle element into our Fun Run course! Another new and fabulous feature will be the parking lot "Trunk or Treat", where parents can purchase a parking spot beforehand, which will not only ensure that you have a front row spot to all of the festivities, but also allows you to hand out candy to all of the race participants. These spaces are limited, and only cost \$50 per spot. You can look forward to not only a race, but an obstacle course, food, candy, a DJ, games, and priceless family fun.

Our CLINEFEST Socials Committee Co-Chair Heather Baker (heatherbaker62610@gmail.com) reminded everyone about the popular social spots that will be available for purchase at Auction Night/Carnival. She also shared that both hosts and socials are still needed and appreciated. SO if you have a great party idea, or have gathered together a group who is ready to host a fun social to benefit our school, then please contact Heather, or our other committee Co-Chair Meg Dunne (mcarthurdunne@gmail.com). They will be happy to help you get the ball rolling, or to explain our social events in greater detail.

Our Auction Night Wine Pull feature Chair Rebecca Follmar is currently asking for wine donations, either in the form of bottles or monetary donations, in order to make this year's Wine Pull feature the best ever! Please make sure that all wine bottle donations are at least \$20 in value, and please contact Rebecca (rebeccafollmar@gmail.com) on how to get those donations to her.

Small Fundraisers – Our next small fundraiser will be held at Chuck E. Cheese on September 13th. Please spread the word to all fellow Cline families, as well as other community members—and don't forget to mention that you are there to support Cline Elementary in order for proceeds to be given back to our campus.

October's small fundraiser will be held at Jimmy John's, with the date to be announced at a later time.

Dates to remember:

September:

- 6th – PTO Meeting at 8:30 am in Cafeteria; with Room Mom/Volunteer meeting @ 9am
- 6th – CLINEFEST Auction Night individual tickets go on sale
- 13th – September's Small Fundraiser @ Chuck E. Cheese
- 13th – Fun Run registration opens on-line
- 13th – Room Block deadline for Moody Gardens/Auction Night
- 17th – CLINEFEST baskets will go up on display
- 20th – Student Holiday
- 25th – 3rd Grade family breakfast (7:30-8am)
- 26th – Kinder family breakfast (7:30-8am)
- 27th – Spirit Day, Box Top/Pop Tab rewards

October:

- 1st – 1st Grade family breakfast (7:30-8am)
- 2nd – 2nd Grade family breakfast (7:30-8am)
- 4th – PTO Meeting in the Cafeteria @ 9am
- 5th – CLINEFEST Auction Night @ Moody Gardens (7pm-12am)
- 14th – Student Holiday
- 25th – Spirit Day
- 26th – CLINEFEST Carnival (9am-2pm), and FUN RUN/CANDY CRAWL (starting @ 6pm)
- 30th – Fall Party (1:15-2:15)

Adjourn