

PTA Council Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, September 3, 2019

Attendees:

Heather Giambone	Patti Berner	Rachel Olson
Mary Young	Nicole Braun	Shari Haug (UCCA)
Angela Bagdasarian	Hilary Simonds	Amy Sutton
Vicki Marini	Marisela Schmidt	Anne Zimmer
Jennifer Beal	Angie Brauneis	Laura Wise
Michelle Huber	Casey Braun	Scott Grens
Kara Caforio	Carey Murphy	Suji LaBine
Gwen Eisenmenger	Karen Sienko	Laura Gibson
Phil Fernandez		

Call to order at 7pm by Casey Braun

Pledge of Allegiance

Introduction of attendees

Approval of meeting minutes from May 2019 by Nicole Braun and seconded by Anne Zimmer

United Community Concerns Association (UCCA) guest speaker - Shari Haug
sharihaug@sbcglobal.net

UCCA is celebrating 40 years of supporting Elmhurst families. Support is a community effort with the help of D205 schools, Elmhurst Park District, Elmhurst Public Library, YMCA, and several banks. Food donations have decreased in recent years, while family requests have increased. The most requested items are cereal, pasta, pasta sauce, peanut butter, and jelly. York Community Concerns Association, a York student group, (YCCA) is taking over the food portion of the York Depot. UCCA is hoping to revive the community in it's generosity with the help of D205 schools. Please promote the drive through your PTAs and reach out with any questions.

Scott Grens - Superintendent/District Update

Sep 5 - ADK meetings at Sandburg and Churchville, 6pm

Sep 9 - State of the School, York 7pm

Sep 10 - Board of Education Meeting, District office 7pm (Master Facilities Plan (MFP) presentation)

Sep 16-20 - Homecoming Week

Sep 23 - *How to Raise an Adult*, Julie Lythcott-Haims, York pm

Sep 30 - MFP presentation, Bryan 6pm

Oct 1 - MFP presentation, Edison 6pm

Oct 7 - Incubator and Manufacturing Lab Open House, York 7pm

Oct 11-25 - ADK online registration

Oct 21-25 - Verify residency at District Office

Oct 28 - *Angst* screening, York 7pm

State of Schools address will feature representative in digital learning and technology. New "THRIVE D205" campaign is kicking off focusing on mental health and student wellness. You will see lots of organizations around town contributing to the THRIVE conversation.

Laura Wise: I am getting a lot of questions about ADK, are all schools offering ADK?

Scott Gren: All schools are offering ADK, some with full space and some with limited space. Tuition has been announced. \$2700 per year with a reduced fee of \$1350 for those who are eligible. Payment plans will be available. Goal is to have all ADK assignments communicated by December 1st. Half day kindergarten will have the normal registration in February. When you come to verify residency, here is the suggested schedule: Oct 21, Edison and Lincoln, Oct 22, Hawthorne and Jefferson, Oct 23, Field and Jackson, Oct 24, Emerson and Fischer, Oct 25 open to all. There is a lot of ADK information available on the district website:

<https://www.elmhurst205.org/district/d205-all-day-kindergarten-coming-soon>

Hilary Simonds: Bryan parents are feeling in the dark, as if there is a communication shortage regarding MFP. (Bryan specific). Isn't there supposed to be a construction webpage? I have not seen one. What will the MFP meeting be like at Bryan?

Kara Caforio: The Board of Education (BOE) presentation on Sep 10 is not the finalized plan. It is a snapshot of what the plan looks like at that time. The BOE will give feedback, and the MFP meetings at the schools are designed for parents and community members to give feedback as well. The plans will continue to evolve as time goes on. The MFP meeting at Bryan will include members of D205 administration, members of the BOE, Bryan parents, the architects, and hopefully the Bryan PTA.

Kara Caforio - D205 Board of Education Update

We are very excited because the D205 BOE issued 60 Million in bonds over the summer instead of the projected 25 Million due in part to low interest rates. This means that we can go ahead with more MFP projects right from the beginning. Once we start, the ball will really get rolling! It's an exciting and challenging time. Please send emails, ask questions, speak up. Let's work together to pay it forward to the next generation of D205 students. If interested, there are videos available from summer meetings when the financial decisions were made.

Mary Young: Is there an update on the Transition Center?

Kara Caforio: There should be an announcement by the end of 2019.

PTA Council Board Update

President Casey Braun on behalf of Treasurer Mindi Kaploe: Provided a copy of the budget at tonight's meeting, it will sit for 30 days and we will approve it by vote next month. Please equalize the donations to both REACH and SERG. A few years ago SERG has a surplus, but many PTAs never returned their donations to the previous level of generosity. If you are hosting a superintendent coffee, you have a budget of \$50 from the PTA council. The PTA council is aiming to give out 12 scholarships (hopefully more!) this year.

Phil Fernandez: What are the SERG funds used for?

Mary Young: In the past we used them for speakers. Last year, the funds were disbursed to SERG teachers at individual schools (following a request and review process). This year, we hope to use them for speaker(s) again.

PF: SERG is misunderstood at my school, and we would love to have someone from SERG come to one of our PTA meetings to share information with our parents.

Anne Zimmer: What is the Parent/Teacher Education line item?

Casey Braun: This year it will be combined with the THRIVE D205 line item to help facilitate those programs.

Corresponding Secretary Anne Zimmer:

The directory is up and running. We are missing SERG, REACH, and Reflections chairs from many schools.

Recording Secretary Laura Gibson:

Nothing to report

VP Scholarship Beth Diviacchi & Kristie Szejner:

Nothing to report

VP Programs Rachel Olson:

We will be screening 4 films (*Angst*, *The Like Movie*, *Race to Nowhere*, *Beyond Memory*) this year in addition to providing support at the *How to Raise an Adult* presentation on Sep 23. *Angst* will screen on October 28.

President Casey Braun

I am here to help! You are all doing a great job, use each other as resources, and let's help UCCA re-energize their food drive this fall. Insurance certificates are due to the D205 office on October 1. This is a hard deadline. Under the "additional insurance" section, be sure that D205 and your individual school is listed. PTA fundraising forms are due Oct 1.

Kara Caforio: District needs a heads up on donations especially when manpower resources are required. All of our resources are MFP focused, so we will need to adjust.

Heather Giambrone: Is it okay to note that we are fundraising for the future? Especially for schools like Edison, Lincoln and Field?

KC: Yes, of course. Speaking of which, we will be putting together a transition committee to help schools and PTAs join forces in the upcoming years. Schools will be combined, and we will need to prepare for that.

Anne Zimmer: Will kids be kept in separate classrooms at one school? I.e., Field kids with Field teachers at Edison?

KC: No. All kids and teachers will be mingled and become one school when they are together

Laura Gibson: Edison's goal is to make every student/family feel like they don't want to leave Edison, despite having a brand new school to return to.

KC: We are hoping to move as many of the projects up in the timeline as possible.

Casey Braun: As you begin thinking about who will fill your PTA shoes, think about bringing in officers who can help the most throughout transitions. Perhaps it is a parent who has older children, perhaps it is a parent who has a few more children to come through the school.

Chair Positions

Reflections: Kicking off soon, meeting will be announced next month

REACH Patti Berner: School reps are still being added, we need a few more. This year the REACH program will be reviewed. Sep 12th is a REACH overview parent information meeting with guest speaker Leslie Webber, open to all. Sep 13th is the first monthly meeting at Sandburg. Last year, REACH piloted a study skills workshop which over 80 students participated in, and they hope to roll it out to all students soon. With REACH budget, replenish math kits that go to every school, and give back to REACH staff members at all schools.

SERG Mary Young: Need school reps soon please, we are looking for a full roster of reps this year. First SERG meeting is Oct 16 at D205 office, 7pm. Last year there was an intensive review of the SERG programs and now we are looking to make a road map of where we go from here. We will partner with the Elmhurst Public Library to re-screen *Intelligent Lives* on November 18. There will be a parent panel and a discussion to follow the movie.

Summer Rec Open House Jill McCall: Nothing to report

Unit Presidents Updates/Questions

Phil Fernandez:

Does anyone have a good copy of the IL PTA tax exempt letter? I received a license (in horrible shape) but not the letter.

CB: I will look into this for everyone

Casey Braun:

Feel free to send me any information which you all would like to disperse to all schools. I can share information with everyone here via email.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Phil Fernandez and seconded by Nicole Braun.

Meeting adjourned at 8:17pm by Casey Braun

Respectfully submitted by Laura Gibson, Recording Secretary