

**PTO General Meeting Minutes
Boyce Middle School
March 14, 2018 at 9:30 AM**

The March 14, 2018 General Meeting of the Boyce Middle School PTO was called to order by Stacey Cobb at 9:42 AM in the Boyce Middle School LGI. Secretary Penney Miller recorded the proceedings. Nine (9) people attended including the following executive committee members: Stacey Cobb, Daniel O'Rourke, Jennifer Schnore, Prema Sridaran, and Penney Miller. Special guests were Mr. Henderson, Miss Homer, Mrs. Olsen, and Dr. Gans.

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Reading & Approval of Agenda and Minutes

The agenda for this meeting and the minutes from the January 2018 PTO meeting were read (silently). Lacking a quorum, the minutes could not be approved. All draft meeting minutes are posted on the PTO website and will be put forth for approval when a quorum is present at a meeting of the general assembly.

Statement of the Treasurer- Prema Sridaran

Ms. Sridaran handed out the Treasurer's report (see attached). Spirit Night at Chipotle fundraiser was very successful and raised \$699.03 for the PTO. The PTO made a contribution of \$1800 for the Panther decals posted in the Boyce Gym. The balance of the PTO checking account as of 3/13/2018 was \$33,206.85.

Ms. Sridaran also commented that the Read for a Reason income would be split: about half would go for recess equipment and the other half for Library improvements.

There is \$16,556.60 in the Deer Valley account. Ms. Sridaran will pay approximately \$9900 to Deer Valley in June and the remainder will be saved for next year's trip.

Correspondence- Penney Miller

On behalf of the PTO, Penney Miller thanked 6 students for their extraordinary effort in raising more than \$100 during the Read for a Reason campaign. The students and their sponsors were thanked personally via written notes.

Reports

- Executive Committee
 - President- Stacey Cobb
 - Council Update
 - Dr. O'Toole is retiring at the end of this school year.
 - An Open Mike will be held at Boyce Theater at 10 AM on April 16. There will be a sign-up online.
 - Open Committee positions in Council: 1) Arts in USC; 2) GATE; and 3) P.I.E. Partners in Education

- 2 PTC Board Positions Available: 1) Vice-President and 2) Secretary
- The Mini-Thon will be held April 6th and 7th at the High School. Community time will be from 6:30-9:00PM. The Boyce Student council was asked to have a booth.
- Community Day is May 19th. The theme is “Pink Panther” and Dr. O’Toole and Chief Joe Conner will be the Grand Marshalls. PTC will have a booth with the Pig Race.
- The Community Foundation, in honor of the 25th anniversary, will host an “After-Party” the evening of Community Day at the High School with food trucks, band, and other activities.
- The Youth Steering Committee’s semi-annual event for middle schoolers, “Spring Fling” is the Saturday, March 17 from 6:30-8:30PM at the USC Rec Center. Volunteers are needed.
- Next general meeting of the PTO is Wednesday, April 11 at 9:30AM in LGI.
- The PTO has prepared the 2018-2019 budget. The budget will be put forth for approval at the next PTO meeting.
- The PTO Change-over luncheon will be held on May 23 at Stacey Cobb’s house.
- 1st Vice President- Jen Schnore-no report
- 2nd Vice President- Dan O’Rourke
 - Two Boyce 5th grade teachers, Mrs. Olsen and Miss Homer, were recognized by the Pa Association of Middle Level Educators and given a Promising Practitioner Award. Mr. O’Rourke noted the conference also showcased the artwork of Boyce students.
 - A High School Peer Tutor program will start during Boyce Pride Time
 - High School students will tutor Boyce students in math and ELA
 - High school students undergo a rigorous application process. 4-5 students will start with more to follow.
 - Boyce Pride. The program is enjoying success and encouraging positive behavior in students. Keep an eye on Boyce’s Webpage. Pride awards are given at the beginning of each month.
 - Random Acts of Kindness Week (2/12-16). Over \$1000 was raised and given to Operation Homefront. High School mentors also spoke with Boyce children on topics including the power of social media, bullying, accepting differences, and “What do you want your legacy to be?”.
 - Mr. O’Rourke is sending an email containing a positive message to the kids every Monday. Check out your child’s email to read messages.
 - A 6th Grade T-shirt order form will be sent home to children today (March 14). An electronic notice will also be sent. The T-shirt costs \$7.25 and has front (School and Class year) and back (Panther logo pictured on Gym

Wall) decals. Student council approved the t-shirt design. Mr. O'Rourke will pick the colors for each team.

- The March Madness fundraiser kicks off. There will be a 3 on 3 basketball tournament, pay-to-make basketball throws, and other opportunities to raise money for St. Jude's Children's Research. Thank you to Mr. Serio and Mrs. Mellinger for organizing this event.
 - A Boyce team won the America Bowl this year! Congratulations to Jamie Barrett, Lou Gargani, Rohan Mehta and Yuhong Shi.
 - Several Boyce students also participated in the Shakespeare Monologue and Scene Competition in Pittsburgh. Students had a great experience acting out various scenes from a number of Shakespeare's plays. A team of Boyce students was one of five finalists in the Lower Division Scene category.
 - A Boyce student is a semi-finalist in the 2018 Pennsylvania National Geographic State Bee. Congratulations to Lou Gargani!
 - Mr. O'Rourke has been visiting elementary school PTO meetings to answer any questions they have about Boyce and transitioning to Boyce. The Streams visit went very well.
 - Mr. O'Rourke thanked Mrs. Kennedy and the rest of the fifth-grade teachers and students for raising more than \$1300 to support the Miracle League. In celebration of their 1,000th day of school, each 5th grade team made a goal to collect 1000 quarters. Congratulations on their success!
 - Read for a Reason raised nearly \$2000! The funds will be used to purchase life-sized board games for indoor recess and new furniture for the library.
 - Mr. O'Rourke reminded parents of the following dates: 1) Spring Break 3/26-4/2; 2) PSSA ELA testing is from 4/10 until 4/12; 3) PSSA Math testing is from 4/17-4/18.
 - Mr. O'Rourke presented pictures of new building enhancements including new decorative wall decals and paint to enhance school themes. Mr. O'Rourke thanked the PTO for their support.
 - Gina Swanson asked Mr. O'Rourke about the handouts that came home with 5th graders a couple of weeks ago about a trip to Hershey and Gettysburg. Mr. O'Rourke clarified these trips are handled through a 3rd party and have NO association with the school.
- Board Advisor- Katy Loomis-no report
 - Teacher Representative- Matt Henderson
 - Deer Valley forms were due last week. Please turn in forms to Mr. Clark so he can proceed with trip planning.
 - Mr. Lang reminds parents that all musical information has been posted on the website.
 - "Eagle Sweets" will be selling souvenirs and food items at the Musical performances. Picture frames created at Shop-Boyce@USC will be sold as well

as cookies. Mr. Dudley organized this group as a way to foster real world math experiences for his students.

- Mr. Henderson thanked the PTO for the STEAM replacement supplies. STEAM students were very excited to make light sabers this week.
- Mr. Henderson announced the dates for STEAM camp. Camp will be held July 16th-20th for students currently in 4th and 5th grades. Only 50 campers are accepted into camp. Current 6th grades can attend STEAM camp at Ft Couch. Dates for that TBA.

Special Guest

- School Board-Dr. Daphna Gans
 - Dr. Gans commented that February and March commendations and recognitions were numerous and posted on board website.
(<https://www.uscsd.k12.pa.us/Page/129>)
 - The Board approved capital projects for High School and Boyce Athletic Field Improvements. Although the bids came back 25% higher than expected, the Board did approve the building of 2 pools, one a special needs pool open to the public. Dr. O'Toole assured Board members that "money would not need to be taken away from educational initiatives to pay for the capital projects but rather earmark the new revenues from a tax increase and assessments from growth to fund the project."
(<https://www.uscsd.k12.pa.us/cms/lib/PA01000033/Centricity/Domain/17/2018-03-05SBminutes.pdf>)
 - Dr. Gans commented that Board also voted to hold tax increases to state inflationary millage. Also, the Board will address safety issues in allowing the community access to the special use pool.
 - The Board recognized the following administrators
 - Dr. Sharon Suritsky for being named a 2018 AASA Women in School Leadership Award Honoree
 - Amy Pfender for being selected to receive a Distinguished Departmental Alumini Award from the University of Pittsburgh.
 - Two High School programs were also recognized at the PDE conference: 1) Emotional Support Program and 2) Shop@ USC
 - School District Calendar was approved for the 2018-2019 year. School will start on Monday, August 27, 2018. Students will be off the Wednesday before Thanksgiving, and due to PSSA schedules, students will return to school on the Monday after spring break.
 - Dr. Gans also commented on a PTC facebook posting about snow make-up days. As a result of the discussion, the Board approved forgiveness of one snow day. The last day of school will be Tuesday, June 12.
 - No information yet from the Board on the new Superintendent hire.

Standing & Reporting Committees/Reporting Organizations

- Arts in USC (Boyce)
 - 25 entries-A big thank you to all students who participated.
 - Congratulations to those who placed, especially 1st place entries: Meredith Roman, “Who’s Watching Us?” (5th grade) and Melodi Caliskin, “#Smile” (6th Grade)
- Authors Day- Ponny John
 - Author’s Day will be on April 20.
- Box Tops- Amy Shegan
 - February Box tops raised \$249.40
- Chess Club- Batool Nulwala
 - Mrs. Nulwala is working on organizing a spring session.
- Deer Valley Fundraiser- Stacey Cobb
 - The spring candle sale was successful. 61 kids participated and sold over 800 candles. Pick-up for candles will be 4/5 and 4/6.
- Field Day- Susan Coyle – Nothing to report.
- Orchestra- Prema Sridaran, Mondeep Puri
 - A combined strings concert will be on 3/20 at the High School. Students are to report to the High School at 6:45pm for warm-up and tune-up. The concert starts at 7:30PM.
- Read for a Reason- Jill Spencer
 - The almost \$2000 raised will be used for life-sized recess equipment and library improvements.
- Science Extravaganza- Stacey Seewald, Kristin Buonomo
 - The event will be April 23 and all students will participate. Mrs. Feliciano is organizing.
 - Need parent speakers, parent volunteers to help make “Gack”. Parent speakers provide a short speech on a STEAM related topic. Look for more information to come.
- 6th Grade Graduation- Susan Coyle
 - Held on Wednesday night, 6/6
 - DJ booked, Ft Couch booked. There will be pizza, non-caffeinated beverages.
 - If funds allow, they would like to rent a photo booth
- Spirit Night- Rachelle Engel
 - Very successful. Raised \$699.03. Thank you, Mrs. Engel, for organizing.
- Spirit Wear- Heather Ziegler –nothing to report
- Staff Appreciation- Michelle Mandler
 - Mrs. Mandler is organizing one more end of the year staff appreciation event. TBA.
- Youth Steering- “Spring Fling” will be held at the USC CRC on Saturday, March 17 from 6:30-8:30pm. Volunteers are still needed.

New Business

- Committee chairs 2018/19
 - PTO will be sending out committee descriptions and a sign-up form. We encourage all PTO members to consider where they would like to help out.
- Board Positions for Boyce PTO
 - PTO is in need of a Vice-President and Treasurer. Please talk to PTO member if interested.
- SHIM
 - Mrs. Schnore will be organizing a district wide food drive for SHIM next year during the Winter months. SHIM often experiences food shortages during this time of the year. South Hills Movers has offered to help transport food to SHIM.
 - Dr. Gans invited Mrs. Schnore to present at the next PTC council meeting.
- Proposed budget for 2018-2019
 - PTO budget for next year has been posted on the PTO website for member review. The budget will be put forth for approval next month at the April PTO meeting.

Next PTO Meeting- April 11, 2018

Adjournment

The PTO meeting was adjourned at 10:40 AM.

Respectfully submitted by Penney Miller

Date Approved: May 23, 2018

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Treasurer's Report

PTO Checking Account

Beginning checking cash balance as of 02/20/18 : \$35,167.23

PTO Income from 02/21/18 to 03/13/18

03/12/18 Spirit Night-Chipotle Fundraiser \$699.03

PTO Payments from 02/21/18 to 03/13/18

Check # 1183 Amy Barrie – Read For A Reason Gift Bags \$30.00

Check # 1186 Upper St.Clair School District For Steam Lab kits \$829.41

Check # 1187 Image 360 for Viny Decals \$1800.00

Total PTO checking balance as of 03/13/18: \$33,206.85

Deer Valley Account

Beginning Money Market cash balance as of 02/20/18: \$16,556.60

Dear Valley Income from 02/21/18 to 03/13/18

02/28/18 Interest Payment \$0.89

Deer Valley Payments from 02/21/18 to 03/13/18

No payments

Total Deer Valley Money Market Balance as of 03/ 13/18: \$16,557.49