

PTO General Meeting

Boyce Middle School

Wednesday, September 15, 2021

9:30 am

The meeting was attended by 21 individuals, including the Executive Board. The Boyce PTO meeting was called to order at 9:31 am and adjourned at 10:14 am.

Reading and Approval of Agenda

- Motion to approve by Rama Bala Gupta. Second motion to approve by Andrea Amorose. Agenda was approved.

Statement of the Treasurer – Melissa Waldron

- Pam Scureman reviewed the Treasurer's Report, See Attached.
- Pam discussed the desire of the board to add a donation line to the Income section of the 2021-2022 Budget so the treasurer can keep an accurate account of donated funds to the PTO. Lindsay Beck motioned for approval and Karen Anderson second the motion. Donation line was approved.
- The audit of the treasurer's reports and PTO financial records/documentation has been completed by Catherine Cowles.
- Currently, the accountant is working on the PTO taxes which are due by November 15th. We will keep you posted on the completion and filing info.
- AmazonSmile – While shopping on Amazon, please consider supporting the Boyce Middle School PTO. To sign up, click this link: [Amazon Smile](#).
- We have collected a little less than half of the activity fees from families thus far. If you have not paid your activity fee of \$40 per child at Boyce, please click on the following link [Click Here to pay the Boyce Activity Fee](#). We rely on the paid activity fee to provide support for a variety of activities and programs for the Boyce students and staff. If you would like to pay cash or check, please take a look at the September 2021 Boyce Bulletin for details (which was emailed to all Boyce families a few days ago) or visit the [Boyce Middle School PTO Webpage!](#)

Correspondence – Nicole Paoly

- No correspondence at this time
- The September edition of the Boyce Bulletin was emailed to families. The Boyce PTO will continue to send out monthly newsletters to keep all families in the know of upcoming events and news at Boyce Middle School.

Reports

Teacher Representative – Matt Henderson

- Welcome back everyone!
- Mrs. Garvey, A Gifted Support Teacher at Boyce has set up a School Wide Enrichment opportunity on her Canvas page. Students can accept the invite to her page and will be able to access enrichment opportunities by clicking on associated links within the page. (This should show up on your student's Canvas page as well).
- The USC Robotics program for grades 5-12 is getting started. There have been a lot of interest in this program due to offering more STEAM opportunities. More information will be available soon in regard to a spring session due to overwhelming interest. Information will be available on the Boyce Website and other school platforms.
- The staff are excited to be back this year and we want to thank you all for your continued support.

Executive Committee

President – Pamela Scureman

- Boyce PTO meetings will hopefully have virtual and in-person options for meetings. We will be playing this "by ear" to ensure that we are following all health and safety guidelines. Please keep an eye out for more information in our monthly newsletters, on our website, and in the Weekly Recaps sent by Tina Vojtko. For virtual meetings, a registration link will be provided.

- Binder Reminders have been ordered but are still not available due to delayed shipping on the supplier end. Once we receive the Binder Reminders, they will be distributed to home rooms for all students and with the remote student materials if your child is attending school remotely.
- Box Top drive is going on from October 1 – October 22. If you have any non-expired Box Tops still at home, please turn them into the office, attn: PTO President. You are also able to scan your receipts and submit via the Box Top app. Please see newsletter for more details.
- The Boyce PTO, along with Guidance Counselor, Amy Antonio, will be participating in Socks with A Mission. More information will be available soon! https://www.sockswithamission.org/about_us

1st Vice President – Rama Bala Gupta

- The Boyce PTO would like to honor staff members throughout the year. We will be giving out gift cards to staff members during various “National Days”. We will send more information out soon regarding distribution.
- The PTO will be purchasing additional playground equipment, chalk, and additional storage to replenish and add to current playground equipment for the students. There are multiple areas for recess this year, we need to ensure that there are enough items for students to play while still maintaining a safe distance.

2nd Vice President – Dan O’Rourke

- Dr. O’Rourke expressed a warm welcome to everyone!
- Thank you to everyone for joining us and for a great start of the school year, despite a few hiccups due to the water main break and weather due to the hurricane.
- Dr. O’Rourke expressed a warm welcome to all of the new Boyce families as well.
- We are always looking for unique ways to support the students and staff and also want to offer a sincere thank you for the support and flexibility at home.
- In regard to discussing some of the changes that the students are seeing in the classrooms, these include the following: students are transitioning from class to class this year instead of teachers moving from class to class. When the core class teachers were moving to various classrooms, that was resulting in a loss of class time in order to move and set up materials and also gathering and transporting all of the materials from class to class. It was logistically challenging. Even though the students are moving from class to class, students are wiping down desks, they are still in cohorts (with a few exceptions) and updated and current seating charts are available in order to know where all students are located in case someone tests positive. Movement breaks are also good for the students in order for them to stretch their legs and move around a bit.
- Mask breaks – we have been fortunate to have nice weather and the students have been able to play outside. Masks are not required outside as long as the students are safely distanced. During student’s lunch periods, they do not wear masks while they are eating. Students are separated by single desks, 6 feet apart and have multiple locations for lunch. We are also trying to build in a mask break during team time, as long as guidelines are being met in order to keep the students and staff safe and healthy.

Board Advisor – Andrea Amorose

- Welcome to everyone, it is so nice being back and meeting with everyone.
- Yearbook update - all extra 2020-2021 have been purchased, thank you!

School Board Representative – Daphna Gans

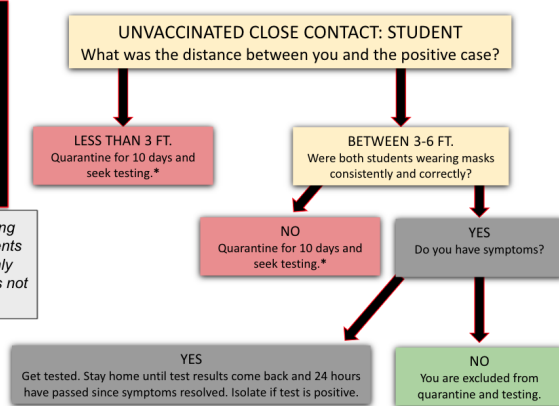
- Daphna expressed her apologies for not being able to make it to the meeting this morning.
- The school board is continuing to focus on ensuring that the students are attending schools five days a week safely.
- Please reach out to Daphna with any questions.

Guest Speaker - Mrs. Holly Fisher, School Nurse

- hfisher@uscsd.k12.pa.us
- 412-833-1600 ext 5005 (Monday, Wednesday & Thursday)
- 412-833-1600 ext 4005 (Tuesday & Friday)
- If your child is sick or showing signs of any symptoms of Covid-19, please call the school nurses of their appropriate school building. The nurse staff will walk you through the next steps. Please do not send your child to school if they are sick.
- We understand that it has been difficult getting tested due to increased need – some pediatricians offices are now offering tests and the school health offices may be able to assist in finding a test site.

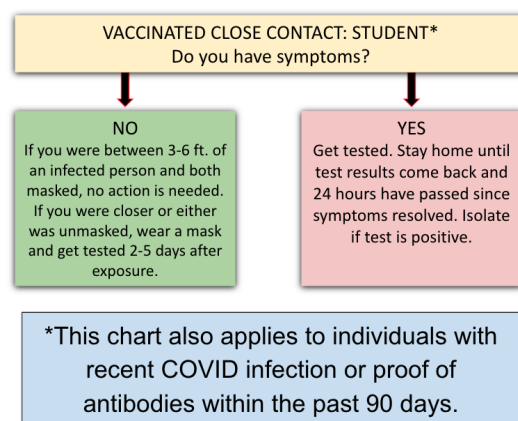
**USCSO COVID-19
Quarantine
Flowchart**
K-12 schools
(According to ACHD
Requirements Provided
on August 12, 2021)

The exception for not requiring quarantine for masked students who are between 3-6 feet only applies to students and does not apply to staff or other adults.



**USCSO COVID-19
Quarantine
Flowchart**
K-12 schools
(According to ACHD
Requirements Provided
on August 12, 2021)

Vaccination is a personal choice that families should make with their healthcare providers. This chart shows the requirements for contact tracing in schools.



***This chart also applies to individuals with recent COVID infection or proof of antibodies within the past 90 days.**

- Individuals who are identified as close contacts must quarantine for at least 10 days from the date of last exposure. ACHD permits a shortened quarantine period (7 days) for asymptomatic individuals with a negative test result at least five days from the date of last exposure.
- Individuals with full vaccination, recent COVID infection or recent proof of antibodies do NOT need to quarantine if asymptomatic.
- The CDC and ACHD have determined that in the K-12 indoor classroom setting, the close contact definition includes only those students who were within 3 feet of an infected person for 15 consecutive minutes or more. Students seated 3 feet, or more are not close contacts if both the infected student and the exposed student(s) correctly and consistently wore well-fitting masks the entire time.
- For staff members and other adults, a close contact is someone who was within 6 feet of an infected person for 15 consecutive minutes or more.
- The health office has different size masks available for the students if needed.
- The health staff will help as much as possible. Please reach out to Holly Fisher at the above contact information with any questions. You can also review the Health and Safety plan online at: <https://www.uscsd.k12.pa.us/Page/13426>

Standing and Reporting Committees/Reporting Organizations

Scholastic Bookfair – Natalea Oliverio

- Boyce Middle School Scholastic Book Fair will be held from September 28-October 1. Boyce PTO will receive 25% of total sold to use in Scholastic Dollars. Students will be given a time to shop during class.
- Please take a look at the shopping schedule in the September Boyce Bulletin.
- Please note that the book fair will be open during Open House as well!
- Volunteer opportunities are still available. You can also reach out to Natalea Oliverio if you need a specific volunteer time, she will try to accommodate, if possible. Sign up to volunteer at: <https://www.scholastic.com/bf/boycemiddleschool>

Spirit wear – Val Franks

- Val has been in contact with Ed at Century Sports for the fall spirit wear sale.
- The committee is trying to get started asap with the sale in order to accommodate any production delays and a timely delivery.
- The sale may be a little smaller than usual depending on readily available options.
- Val will send dates to Dr. O'Rourke for approval. Hoping to start early October, with a before the holidays delivery.

Display Case - Tina Stutzman

- Tina has updated the 2 display cases in the entrance of Boyce. Pictures included in the Boyce Bulletin.
- Dr. O'Rourke and Dr. Mussomeli both commented on how great the display cases look. They have really outdone themselves.

Family Welcome Day – Pamela Scureman

- It was wonderful to see everyone at Welcome Day. We had a great turnout!
- The student volunteers did a great job with the tours. Dr. O'Rourke has received positive comments regarding the professionalism and thoroughness from the students during the tours.

Staff Appreciation – Gina Swanson

- Gina Swanson and Jessica Nash are in preparation for the first Staff Appreciation event which will be held the day after Open House.
- The Staff Appreciation Committee will plan three events throughout the year. We have a large committee this year and are looking forward to the committee members help throughout the year at the events.
- If anyone is interested in this wonderful committee, please sign up on the PTO website.

Spelling Bee - Sarah Cranganu

- The Spelling Bee is tentatively scheduled for January 13, 2022, for the preliminary bee and January 27, 2022, for the final bee, to include the top 20 participants.
- We are hoping to have this event in person but are prepared to host a virtual bee using the online platform through Scripts.
- Mrs. Husak is set to present the words again this year.

Boyce Pride – Andrea Amorose

- Boyce Pride will be starting on October 4, 2021. This is a monthly event. Pictures will be taken and included in the yearbook, the USCSD web page, and hung in the hallway by the guidance office.
- Staff members will receive nomination forms in their box to nominate students that go above and beyond. This is a really great program to recognize the students for helping those around them.

Next PTO Meeting: November 10th 9:30 am - Look for emails of the Monthly Newsletters with the PTO Meeting registration links!

Adjournment at 10:14 am

Attendance:

Dr. O'Rourke
 Dr. Mussomeli
 Pam Scureman
 Andrea Amorose
 Rama Bala Gupta
 Mr. Henderson
 Mrs. Fisher
 Gina Swanson
 James McVay
 James Reik
 Geetali Marsh

Karen Anderson
 K Marsh
 Laura Rusmiser
 Lindsay Beck
 Majid Parham
 Nicole DeWalt
 Sarah Cranganu
 Stephanie Holderby
 Val Franks
 **another individual joined, but it only included a partial phone number*

Boyce PTO Meeting - September 2021

Treasurer's Report

PTO Checking Account

\$21.37	AmazonSmile (May/June/July)
\$200.00	Cashbox for Welcome Day and Activity Fee (Membership)
\$760.00	Activity Fee (Membership)
\$48.00	Caring & Sharing (Notepad sales)
\$32.00	Fundraiser (Kona Ice)
\$720.00	Activity Fee (Membership)
\$3,720.00	Activity Fee (Membership)
\$760.00	Activity Fee (Membership)
\$200.00	Activity Fee (Membership)
\$20.00	Yearbook sale (1 books for 2020-21 (\$19) and \$1 donation)
\$3,462.40	Transfer from PayPal (Activity Fee (Membership) - \$3,402.40; Donation - \$60)

Beginning checking cash balance as of 07/01/2021: **\$ 16,250.02**

PTO Income from 07/01/2021 to 09/12/2021:

TOTAL: \$ 9,943.77

\$19.43	Pam Scureman (2021 Field Day)
\$17.47	Check 1413: Melissa Waldron (Administrative Expenses)
\$200.00	Check 1414: Cash (Welcome Day and Membership cash boxes for Welcome Day event)

PTO Disbursements from 07/01/2021 to 09/12/2021:

TOTAL: \$ 236.90

Total PTO checking balance as of 09/12/2021: **\$ 25,956.89**

\$169.95	Check 1416: Andrea Amorose (Welcome Day)
\$ 28.50	Check 1417: Pam Scureman (Administrative)
\$486.00	Check 1415: Kona Ice (Welcome Day event)

Pending Disbursements as of 09/12/2021:

TOTAL: \$ 684.45

PayPal Account (Not yet transferred)

Income from 09/01/2021 to 09/12/2021: \$ 200.90

\$ 200.90 Activity Fee (Membership)

NOTES:

The audit has been completed and will be reported at the first General PTO meeting.

The Treasurer's Binder is now at the accountant to be reviewed and have the taxes done and filed for the year.