General PTO Meeting Minutes

via Google Meets

Boyce Middle School

Wednesday, April 14, 2021

9:30 am

Attendance: Andrea Amorose, Natalea Oliverio, Shanna Caplan, Melissa Waldron, Rama Gupta, Gina Swanson, Pam Scureman, Dan O'Rourke, Val Franks, Michelle Urban, Karen Anderson, Nicole Paoly

Call to order and Pledge of Allegiance – Andrea Amorose

After a silent reading of the April General Meeting Agenda, Melissa Waldron motioned to approve it. Michelle Urban seconded it and the agenda was approved. The Minutes from the March PTO General Meeting were posted for reading. Pam Scureman motioned to approve the minutes, Melissa Waldron seconded the motion and the minutes were approved.

Statement of the Treasurer – Melissa Waldron offered a summary of the past month's financial status. (See Attached Treasury Report)

Correspondence – Natalea Oliverio stated that there was no correspondence to share this month.

Reports

Introduction of Vice President and Secretary Candidates. For the Office of Vice President, Rama Bala Gupta and Shanna Caplan. For the Office of Secretary, Nicole Paoly.

We have 1 nominee for Secretary:
Nicole Paoly
A little bio of Nicole: Nicole Paoly has resided in USC for fifteen years with her husband, Daniel. She is currently a stay-at-home mom to a 7th grader, 4th grader, 2nd grader, and preschooler. While she waits for her children to finish karate/dance/ninja classes, Nicole likes to read. Nicole has been a room parent and has served on several PTO committees at Streams Elementary.

We have 2 nominees for VP:
Shanna Caplan
A little bio of Shanna: Hi my name is Shanna Caplan. My family and I have lived in USC for the last 7 years. I have 3 children. My daughter, Crysta, graduated from USC in 2017. My son, Darian, graduated from USC in 2020. My youngest son, Colby, is currently a 4th grader at Streams. My husband, Jake, has been an active volunteer for the last 4 years in both flag football and rec baseball. During my time here, I have volunteered as a homeroom parent at Westminster Nursery school and Streams elementary. I have been a member of Streams PTO for the last 5 years. I served as a chair on many committees including the Talent show (twice), Stravaganza, Sharing and Caring, and many others. I also served as the Treasurer for 2 years. This year I am the current Room Parent Coordinator. I am also a substitute teacher for the district. I enjoy working with kids and being a part of a team!

Rama Bala Gupta
A little bio of Rama: 15+ years of outreach, fundraising, and volunteer work
Special interest: Increasing students from underrepresented (female and minority) groups to pursue STEM fields.
Currently working as Professor of physics, Roanoke College

Relocated to Pittsburgh in 2019. My husband and I have two daughters. (8th grader in FC, 4th grader at Eisenhower). Served as Homeroom parent, volunteered, organized, and participated in events at Eisenhower until the pandemic struck.
Interested in serving as Vice President for Boyce PTO next year.

Thank you.
-Rama

Teacher Representative: Matt Henderson reports that no teachers offered any comments this month except continued thanks for the PTO's ongoing support.

Executive Committee:

President:

Andrea Amorose offered a reminder of the upcoming Author's Day event. Jennifer Nielsen will join the students via Zoom on May 27th and 28th. Mrs. Husak has put together an order form for the author's books.

Mrs. Amorose also discussed the openings in the list of Committee Chairs. These committees include Arts in USC, Book Fair, Chess Club, Orchestra, Science Extravaganza, Shopper Rewards, Spirit Wear, and Website Manager.

Mrs. Amorose discussed that voting this year would be similar to last year. A Google Form will go out to the members of the PTO. Items to be voted on include, new officers, the approval of the budget, changes in standing rules and by-laws, and change in PTO used terms.

In terms of Spring Events, Mrs. Amorose noted that all spring events are to be determined at a later date.

2nd Vice President:

Mr. Dan O'Rourke shared a presentation. He began by reminding everyone of the school's vision statement. He followed that with a list of Positive News items including:

1. Mrs. Tonia Auteri and Miss Eliza Luxbacher were awarded with the PAMLE 2021 Promising Practitioner Award
2. Student Council Food Drive, put together by Mr. Gremba and Mrs. Homer gathered 600+ pounds of food for SHIM

3. Random Acts of Kindness Week: SHOP made T-Shirts for the staff, $3700+ for the Greater Pittsburgh Food Bank, students learned through this activity how their actions can help others.
4. Pennsylvania Math League: Boyce ranked #1 in the region #4 in the state for the 6th grade. 5th grade is upcoming.
5. Brian Balmages Band presentation will take place April 26th and 27th.
6. Author's Day is May 27th and May 28th. Virtual sessions will take place during team times in the auditorium. Remote students will log in as well for the sessions.
7. The English Festival (replacing Battle of the Books) will take place at the beginning of May. 21 teams consisting of 83 students are signed up.
8. End of the year Event/Talent Show – an email will go out to students to fill out a Google Form. This is lead by Mrs. Paronish, Ms. Luxembacher, Miss Kyle, and Mr. Henderson.
9. Field Day will be held on June 4th with a rain date of June 7th. Volunteers may be allowed. The installation of new turf on the field may be a hinderance. More information to follow.
10. Summer Programming has been posted on the district website.
11. PSSAs will take place the weeks of May 10th (ELA) and May 17th (Math). (Testing on May 18th will have to be changed due to local elections be held in the building) It is a requirement by the state that the tests be given. Remote students must report to school to be tested. Parents may opt out of testing this year. The required testing population minimums are not being enforced as stringently.

Board Advisor:

Gina Swanson discussed the initiative by the PTC: Gratitude Drive. Currently funds are being raised to show appreciation to the Bus Drivers, Cafeteria Workers, Nursing staff, Security staff, and Technology Departments. Please click the following link for more information on how you can express your gratitude! Gratitude Drive Link

School Board Representative:

Our School Board Representative, Jenn Schnore, was unable to attend the meeting today. She reached out to Mrs. Swanson, stating that anyone needing to speak with her can reach her anytime via phone or email.

Standing and Reporting Committees

Amazon Smile: Nothing to report

Arts in USC: Micki Takac was unable to attend. Mrs. Amorose reported that the winners of this year's contest have been posted online along with a Virtual Art Gallery on the PTC website. Click Here to visit the Virtual Art Gallery Congratulations to all the students who participated!

Spirit Wear: Val Franks reported that 59 orders were placed for this order. Items are in production and should be delivered by the end of the month.

Yearbook: Michelle Urban reported that so far 140 yearbooks have been sold for $19 each. This amount includes the cost to have the book shipped directly to students' homes. More pictures are needed. Please email yeabook4boyce@gmail.com to submit any pictures. There are still about 60 students and staff whose pictures were not taken by LifeTouch. We are working on ways to get photos of students and staff not pictured at this time. The yearbook committee is working on designs. Sales of the book will continue until the end of June.

Staff Appreciation: Gina Swanson reported that plans are beginning for a May 28th event to honor the staff. More information to follow.

The next (and last) General PTO meeting will be held on **May 19, 2021 at 9:30 am**. New Officers will be instilled.

Boyce PTO General Meeting - April 2021

Treasurer's Report

PTO Checking Account

Beginning checking cash balance as of 04/10/2021: $ 20,926.10

PTO Income from 03/09/2021 to 04/10/2021:

No income during this period.

TOTAL: $ 00.00

PTO Payments from 03/09/2021 to 04/10/2021:

$ 591.73 Check #1392 - Upper St Clair School District (Playground equipment)

TOTAL: $591.73

Total PTO checking balance as of 03/08/2021: $ 20,334.37

Outstanding Checks as of 04/10/2021:

$ 140.45 Check #1393 - Andrea Amorose (Panther Paw prizes)

$ 80.80 Check #1394 - Micki Takac (Arts in USC - judge's gifts)

TOTAL: $ 221.25