General Meeting via Google Meeting

Boyce Middle School PTO

Wednesday, March 10, 2021

9:30 am

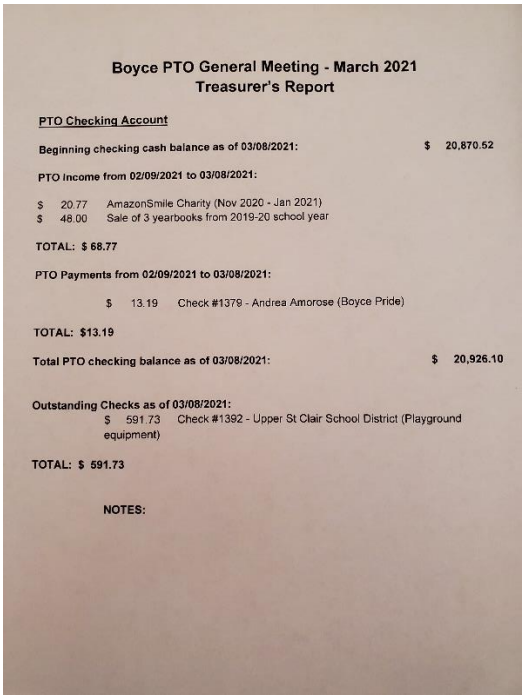
Attendance: Andrea Amorose, Gina Swanson, Melissa Waldron, Pam Scureman, Natalea Oliverio, Val Franks, Lauren Compel, Dr. Christine Mussomeli, Micki Takac, Jennifer Schnore, Betsy Wilson, Sara Cranganu, Matt Henderson

Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance: Andrea Amorose called the meeting to order at 9:33am. We stood for the pledge of Allegiance.

Reading and Approval of March General PTO meeting Agenda: After a silent reading of the Agenda, having no additions or corrections, Jennifer Schnore motioned to approve the agenda. This was seconded by Pam Scureman. The agenda was approved.

Approval of the February Minutes: February meeting minutes were posted on the Boyce PTO website. Jenn Schnore motioned to approve those minutes and Dr. Mussomeli seconded that motion. The minutes were approved.

Statement of the Treasurer – Melissa Waldron

- Financial report was explained by Melissa. After a beginning cash balance of $20, 870.52, income came in from Amazon Smile and the sale of 3 of last year's yearbooks, expenses from Boyce Pride, and one outstanding check, the ending cash balance is $20, 926.10.
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Boyce PTO General Meeting - March 2021
Treasurer's Report

PTO Checking Account

Beginning checking cash balance as of 03/08/2021: $ 20,870.52

PTO Income from 02/09/2021 to 03/08/2021:

$ 20.77 AmazonSmile Charity (Nov 2020 - Jan 2021)
$ 48.00 Sale of 3 yearbooks from 2019-20 school year

TOTAL: $ 68.77

PTO Payments from 02/09/2021 to 03/08/2021:

$ 13.19 Check #1379 - Andrea Amorose (Boyce Pride)

TOTAL: $13.19

Total PTO checking balance as of 03/08/2021: $ 20,926.10

Outstanding Checks as of 03/08/2021:
$ 591.73 Check #1392 - Upper St Clair School District (Playground equipment)

TOTAL: $ 591.73

NOTES:

Correspondence – Natalea Oliverio

The PTO received an email from Mrs. Antonio in the Guidance office thanking the PTO for its coordination of Random Acts of Kindness week. A copy of the email is added to the file.

Reports

- Teacher Representative – Matt Henderson
    - Mr. Henderson gave a team report from Team Galaxy. Team Galaxy has a reward system that uses a Boyce Buck Goal System. The team has dolled out a full allotment of Boyce Bucks, meeting their goal

every month, which has not been done before. The team is very proud of that. The students on Team Galaxy have also completed writing essays for the Unsung Hero Campaign. The staff also gave a special thanks to the PTO as well for everything they do and continued support.

- Re: Library Updates
  - Mrs. Husak has a date for the English Festival, new version of Battle of the Books. The event will be on May 14th. 21 teams have eagerly signed up.
  - Author's Day will be held virtually this year with Jennifer Neilson. May 17th and 18th, we will have virtual meetings with Jennifer. More information to follow.
  - Mr. Henderson wanted to give a BIG thanks to Jessica Stub for coordinating the STEAM materials drive. He is appreciates all of the items students are bringing in. It will continue throughout the month of March. There is a bin in the school's front lobby by the office for item drop off.

Andrea thanked Mr. Henderson for being an important and necessary bridge from the school to the PTO.

- Executive Committee
  - President – Andrea Amorose
    - Spring picture day is coming soon! Hybrid Students: Tuesday, March 16 from 8:45 a.m. - 12:45 p.m. Remote Students: Wednesday, March 17 from 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. Lifetouch order information is on the Boyce Middle School website.
    - There is a remote pick up of materials today from 8 am – 3 pm in the front vestibule. The items will remain on the tables for pick up during school hours if you are not able to make it on Wednesdays.
    - The executive board has put together a budget for next year. We are reviewing the budget, standing rules, by-laws, and conflict of interest policy. Any changes will be posted on the Boyce PTO website for at least 30 days and will be voted on by the PTO members during the voting period of April 30th - May 7th, along with the Executive Board nominees.
    - The student council is hosted a food drive for SHIM and a book exchange! Please take a look in your March Boyce Bulletin or on the Boyce Middles School website for more information.
  - 2nd Vice President – Dan O'Rourke (Dr. Christine Mussomeli)
    - Dr. Mussomeli gave a thank you from the Guidance Office to the PTO for supporting the staff during Random Acts of Kindness Week. The Custodial staff was also very appreciative of having snacks and gratitude notes set up in their work area to enjoy.
    - She noted the accomplishments of Tonia Autieri and Eliza Luxbacher on being named Promising Practitioners by the PAMLE (Pennsylvania Middle Level Educators) in their field.
    - The PSSA's will be administered this spring. Timing has not yet been set. Accommodations will be made to fit the calendar as best as possible. The administration staff has a meeting soon and will be addressing concerns and best ways to conduct the PSSA's for the students.
    - Spring Pictures are next week. March 16 for in-person and March 17th for remote students. No appointment is needed for remote students.
    - Remote student materials pick up is ongoing. The tables in the lobby are always available from 8am to 3pm. If you need to make other arrangements to collect materials, please call the school. Remote pick up dates are on March 10, 17, and 24. On those specific dates, teachers may leave new material if needed for the students.
    - Spring Recess will be coming up soon. Students have ASYNCHRONOUS instruction Monday, March 29th. Students must log in to do attendance. Teachers have an IN-SERVICE day on March 30th. Break will continue through April 5th. Students will return on April 6th.
    - QUESTIONS:

- Jenn: Is there a SHIM drop off box in the lobby? Yes, one is set up along with a book exchange box.
- Melissa: How will remote students be accommodated for taking the PSSA's? There is a meeting taking place this afternoon to discuss this issue. It is a very important fact that the PSSA has never been administered outside of the school building. While online versions have been used in the past, they have never been done at home. Test security is a big issue. Ideas will be discussed. In the past 95% student participation has been required on the PSSA's. This number may be flexible this year as parents may OPT OUT of having their student tested. More information to follow.
- Val: Is the state offering an online version? Not at this time.

- Board Advisor – Gina Swanson
  - Thank you to everyone who participated in Random Acts of Kindness Week. Within hours of the SignUp Genius page going live, all spots for snack donations had been filled. The staff had their pick of snacks donated by the families of Boyce.
  - There will be a Staff Appreciation meal provided in late May as well as something to recognize the teachers on National Teacher Appreciation Day.
  - Executive Board and Committee Chairs for 2021-2022
    - The Vice President is a 3-year term (Vice President, President and then Board Advisor)
    - The Secretary's duties include keeping the minutes from all meetings and creating the monthly newsletter. This is a 2 year term.
    - There are several committees that also need a chair. These roles are less labor intensive than being a Board member. If you need more information on what committees are available, please visit the following link. https://www.uscsd.k12.pa.us/Page/12277
  - Nomination dates/voting: If you are interested in a position on the Board next year, please email Andrea or one of the other Board members. Nominees will be presented at the April General PTO Meeting. Voting will be done through Google Forms like last year. The form will go out on April 30th and be available through May 7th.
  - Previous year yearbooks: There are still yearbooks available from last year. See Gina or Andrea to purchase one.
- School Board Representative - Jen Schnore
  - The school district has been certified with the Well-Health Safety Seal. This is not just for it's handling of COVID-19, but also has to do with building layout, lighting, noise and other aspects that affect student health and well-being. USC is the first in the world to receive this certification.
  - Before this week, 85 staff members in the district had been vaccinated due to 1A status. By the end of next week, 222 more staff members will be vaccinated. By the end of the month, the hope is that all 596 school district employees will be vaccinated.
  - Summer school will be offered this year. Grades k-8 will have programs designed to fill any academic holes. These courses will be recommended by the classroom teachers. The high school will also provide courses to students. In addition to these academic offering STEAM camp will be scheduled.
  - The District Budget planning season is upcoming. There will be a Budget meeting on April 12th. The Budget will be voted on and approved by June 28th.

Standing and Reporting Committees/Reporting Organizations

- Amazon Smile – Melissa Waldron: The most recent check from Amazon Smile totaled $20.77. Please sign up at https://smile.amazon.com, and choose Boyce Middle School for your charity.
- Arts in USC – Micki Takac: There were 34 entries to the contest from Boyce (around 170 for the district). This number was up from year's past. The contest is 100% virtual. Students submitted a photo of their art by filling out a Google Form and attaching a picture of their 2-D artwork. Judges have been selected and judging will be ongoing.

- Spirit wear – Val Franks: The spring Spirit Wear sale is under way, now through March 22nd. A Boyce specific t-shirt is available (There will not be a white box on the white t-shirt, it just appears that way in the picture). Information is on the school website and in an email sent out yesterday. Please visit https://boycespring2021.itemorder.com/ to place an order.
- Staff Appreciation – Gina Swanson (see above)
- STEAM drive – Jessica Strub: There is a flyer for the STEAM drive in this month's newsletter as well as attached to the minutes. Donations can be made at the school in the lobby drop box.
- Yearbook – Christina Casciani and Michelle Urban: The yearbook is on sale online. Please order at www.yearbookordercenter.com Boyce code 17867. So far, 72 books have been sold. Don't forget to keep sending your pictures of remote learning or any Boyce activities. Pictures can be submitted through yearbook4boyce@gmail.com until the end of the school year. Yearbooks will be mailed home from the publisher in the summer. We have received the class pictures from Lifetouch and are working to validate them. We are also currently working on the design and layout of the pages / pictures.

Adjournment at 10:45 am.

Next PTO Meeting: April 14th, 9:30 am