



Executive Board

Sarah Beitler, President • Christina Clodfelter, 1st Vice President • Joseph DeMar, 2nd Vice President
Julie Zeringue, Finance • Michelle Urban, Secretary • Siân Howell, Board Advisor

Ft Couch PTSO - General Meeting Minutes March 15, 2022 | 9:30am - Virtual Meeting Via Google Meet

AGENDA

Call to order | Pledge of Allegiance – Called to order at 9:33am

Special Guest: - Mr. Jace Palmer - Fort Couch Counselor

"Bryan's Story"

Attention interested Fort Couch Families: the PTSO is inviting you to attend a special presentation for parents/guardians of 7th and 8th grade students. This same program will be given to all Fort Couch students this Spring as part of their Guidance classes, and has been a staple within the school district for well over a decade. "Bryan's Story" is a touching and direct account of the perils of drug addiction. Bryan Burch is one of many former USC who unfortunately succumbed to this disease and the presentation is given jointly by Bryan's father, Mike, and Jace Palmer, current Fort Couch Counselor, and former USCHS Assistant Principal. Mike Burch's commitment to teaching adolescents about his son's choices enabled him to be honored with a KDKA "Unsung Hero" Award in 2020 due to the thousands of students and adults within the USC community who have heard this valuable message.

If you are interested, you can attend one of the following upcoming programs:

*Friday, April 1 @ 9:15 am

*Monday, April 4 @ 9:15 am

You can simply report to the Main Office at Fort Couch Middle School, and you will be directed to the presentation area. Questions about these events can be directed to Jace Palmer, Fort Couch Counselor at either 412-833-1600 x3011 or jpalmer@uscscd.k12.pa.us

Reading and Approval of Past Minutes – Approved by Mr.DeMar and Seconded by Susan Coyle
Correspondence - Michelle Urban - General Thank you from the staff per Mrs. Lacey and Ms. Polfus

Statement of the Treasurer - Read by Julie Zeringue – Approved by Susan Coyle and seconded by Andrea Amorose

Treasurer Statement – PTSO March 2022

Starting Balance as of 1/16/2022: \$24,835.60

Income-Deposits Made from 1/16/2022 to 3/15/2022

2/28/2022 Deposit—(Valentine Grams (356.85, Spirit Night (Panera, 13.38), Spirit Night (Nikolas Family Pizza, 25.00), Spirit Wear (Jaws Marketing, 214.00) - \$609.23

3/3/2022 Deposit—Amazon Smile - \$43.75

Payments from 1/16/2022 to 3/15/2022

1/18/2022 Check #1415 Valerie Franks— Staff Appreciation (Desserts) - \$155.34

1/18/2022 Check #1414 Jennifer Schnore— Staff Appreciation (Lunch and Tip) - \$781.23

1/27/2021 Check #1412 Sarah Beitler—Printed Directories - \$60.00

1/27/2022 Check #1416 Sarah Beitler—Staff Appreciation (Drinks) - \$44.85
2/28/2022 Check #1417 Whitney Goettler —Valentine Grams (Lollipops) - \$319.92

Current Balance as of 3/15/2022: **\$24,127.24**

Pending

11/5/2021 Check# 1411 Steve Levine—Gimkit Subscription - \$59.88

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Proposed Budget 2022-2023 – Posted on PTSO webpage until May’s general meeting – Budget will voted on at the May General Meeting

Reports:

President – Reported by Sarah Beitler – Went over the business about Valentine Grams (See Old Business) and mentions about the upcoming social

1st Vice President - Christina Clodfelter – No Report

2nd Vice President - School Principal Joe DeMar and Erin Peterson

Getting ready for the upcoming social. Auditions are happening for the leads in the musical Grease - Also preparing for Field Day and move up day for both the 8th graders and the 6th graders coming to Fort Couch – End of the third nine weeks is March 25th – Spring sports have started

Board Advisor - Sian Howell – No Report

Standing Committees:

Staff Appreciation - Gina Swanson & Jen Schnore – Reported by Sarah Beitler

The staff appreciation committee is planning an end of the year, week long event for teachers and staff during teachers appreciation week. More info to come.

Band Parents - Andrea Amorose, Kathy Ginsburg – Reported by Andrea Amorose

Fort Couch bands have two performances this month, the 30th and 31st of March. The 30th is a combined concert with the Boyce bands and the 31st will be a music performance assessment at the high school during the school day. Both events will involve both our Concert and Symphonic Bands. Other than that, we are finishing up our recruiting/retention events with the 8th graders as they prepare for next year at the high school.

Arts In USC - Kathy Ginsburgh – Reported by Sarah Beitler

The Fort Couch Arts in USC Committee is pleased to report that we have 16 entries for this year's contest. Nine 7th graders and seven 8th graders submitted entries in this year's contest, "A Salute to Animals." Judging for the contest will take place over the next two weeks. After all judging is complete and winners are announced, a slideshow of all entries will be posted on the district website.

Socials - Natalea Oliverio, Amy Hollingsworth – Report by Sarah Beitler

Natalia and Amy and excited to announce that there will be a Spring Social this year at Fort Couch! It is planned for Thursday March 31st from 7-9pm at Fort Couch. They do need parent volunteers to make this event happen and have created a Google Form: <https://forms.gle/yitZXJE4gFL9Rndz6> They have secured a DJ, and are communicating with a photo booth vendor. They are looking into pizza, popcorn, cookies, candy table, water and other snack items.

Spirit Wear – Reported by Susan Coyle

Susan Coyle is looking into a spring spirit wear sale for Fort Couch. Once the link is active we will post to the FC Facebook Page and email to all parents.

Yearbook - Stacey Cobb – Reported by Sarah Beitler
Our Yearbook Chair Stacey Cobb would like parents to contribute to the yearbook by sending in photos of in-school or after-school activities and events you are attending by emailing them to FortCouchYearbook@gmail.com As soon as she has ordering information and a price, it will be share with parents. She hope to have the yearbooks delivered to the school before the last week in June.

Yearbook Email:
FortCouchYearbook@gmail.com

Old Business – Reported by Sarah Beitler

Valentine Grams

During the month of February, Fort Couch PTSO and student council teamed together to design and share Valentine's Grams with students and staff. Student council members created unique Valentine's Day cards which were sold with a festive heart-shaped lollipop in the library during Panther Time. Families had the opportunity to send cards to their students, too. Grams were organized and delivered to homerooms by student council members on Valentine's Day. Students collected over \$300 by selling cards, and every student in the school received at least one card (for free from the PTSO) to celebrate the holiday as well. Student Council looks forward to working with the PTSO in the future to provide meaningful experiences for our students and staff!

New Business – Reported by Sarah Beitler

Next Year's Executive Board and Committee Chairs

There are 2 positions on the Executive Board that we are looking to fill for next year:

- Vice President (goes on to be President the following year).
- Treasurer (2-year term).

You can find committee descriptions on our website as well as the form to submit your interest here:
<https://www.uscsd.k12.pa.us/Page/2174>

Adjournment – Adjourned at 10:10am - The next meeting will be held on Tue May 17, 2022 9:30am. It will be another virtual meeting via Google Meet.

Upcoming Dates to Remember:

March 21: School Board Meeting, 7pm
March 25: Third Quarter Marking period ends
March 25: Half Day/Early Dismissal for Students
March 28: No School - Teacher In Service
March 29: Fourth Quarter Begins
March 30: Middle School Band Concert (gr 5-8) 7pm
April 4: School Board Meeting 7pm
April 6: PTC Meeting, 9:30am
April 8: Third Quarter Report Cards (K-8)
April 11-15: No School - Spring Recess
April 18: No School - Teacher In Service
April 25: School Board Meeting, 7pm