

Fort Couch PTSO Meeting 5/17/2022

Sarah Beitler (President) calls to order at 9.31am and opens with the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a brief welcome speech.

Motion to approve the previous meeting minutes- 1st Joe DeMar, 2nd Sian Howell

No correspondence at this time

Treasurer's Statement presented by Julie Zeringue:

Donations from FC Parents were gratefully received- approximately \$2500 (Staff Appreciation Committee are responsible for running events)

A few payments have gone out for the last Social event along with a couple of teacher enhancements requests.

School year is expected to close up as predicted in the budget.

Unanimous vote to approve the budget for the 22/23 school year.

(Michelle- please post approved budget on the website)

Special Guest and Presentation

Gina Swanson (on behalf of the PTC) presented Founders Day Award to Joe DeMar for being a strong, inspirational and effective leader during his time as principal at Fort Couch. This award was unanimously voted for by the PTC.

President Report- Sarah Beitler

Sarah thanked the board, committee members and volunteers for all their support during the school year. She also recognized Joe DeMar for his service. Joe DeMar is retiring this year as Principal of Fort Couch and also Upper St Clair. A gift was presented to Joe from the PTSO. A watercolor of the Fort Couch building with his years of service included was painted by Emily Yochum. Joe DeMar is moving to North Carolina in August of this year. Erin Peterson (current Vice Principal) is expected to take on the role of Principal.

Principal Joe DeMar Report

Testing is finishing up this week. Open House was on Thursday last week. An excellent turnout with a large amount of attendees. All sports have either finished or are wrapping up this week. School musical was a big success. Kids did a great job. Numerous field trips are taking place shortly.

Upcoming events- Field Day and 8th grade social.

It's been a great year for Fort Couch. We've had some normalcy finally and hopes we all stay healthy.

One question raised by a parent regarding the possibility of moving the musical to the Fall for future productions to ease the transition for the staff who also work on the High School musical. Theatre time normally dictates these productions but Mr DeMar will mention this to Mr Hunsbacher should he wish to move the dates.

Any questions 8th Grade parents may have regarding scheduling for the next school year, please reach out to the High School counselors at any point throughout the Summer. Contact the High School directly.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Band- Andrea Amorose.

Final concert is held this Thursday May 19th. 6pm start. Black Dress code. Check canvas for rehearsal details. A thank you gift for Mr Schuster was purchased with kind donations from band parents.

Chorus- Yesha Katukota.

Musical was a great success. No further update to report.

Orchestra- Christina Clodfelter

Upcoming concert for Fort Couch and Boyce students, June 2nd, 7pm @ High School theatre

8th Grade Farewell – Tina Stutzman

To be held on Thursday May 26th during the school day, last 90 mins of the school day. Carnival theme using games etc from Eisenhower PTO. Every student wins a prize. Ritas Ice being provided to all 8th graders along with other carnival themed food items. Other activities to include: Photo Booth, Guessing Jars, DJ for music, Gym open for basketball. Each 8th grader will leave with a USC class of 2026 drawstring bag. Funding provided by PTSO and parent donations. Further volunteers needed. Please contact Tina by email: tinastutzman@gmail.com

Field Day- Tina Stutzman and Kelly Ortiz

June 1st (Rain Day June 2nd) 7th graders 9-11am and 8th graders 12-2pm. Students are bussed to and from Boyce School. All students to receive an ice pop on their return.

Staff Appreciation- Gina Swanson

Thank you to parents for all their donations. The committee accomplished a lot this year to recognize the staff.

Events provided:

Winter Wishes- lunch for the staff

Teacher Appreciation week (May)

Mon: Coffee and Donuts, Wed: Knockabout Coffee Truck visit, Fri: Ice-Cream Sundae bar

June 7th- Picnic in the LGI, Fried Chicken, Mac N Cheese and a sweet treat

Would also like to recognize the bus drivers- details to be decided, budget dependent.

Yearbook- Stacey Cobb

Book is at the printers and all copies have been ordered. Delivery is expected before the last week of school.

New Business

Voting of the 22/23 Board of Directors

President- Carrie Fick

Vice President- Elizabeth Taylor

Treasurer- Sen Selvaraj

(Christina Clodfelter stepped down from VP due to family commitments- Carrie Fick agreed to step straight into the role of president for the 22/23 year)

APPROVED

Installation of the 22/23 Board of Officers by voice vote over zoom. No opposing votes received. Motion to approve passed. Installation speech read by Sarah Beitler and all new officers accepted.

2022/23 Board is as follows:

President – Carrie Fick

Vice President- Elizabeth Taylor

Treasurer- Sen Selvaraj

Secretary- Michelle Urban

Advisor- Sarah Beitler

No further business/questions.

Meeting Adjourned 10:12am