



Ft Couch PTSO - General Meeting January 17, 2023, Minutes

Executive Board

Carrie Fick, President • Elizabeth Taylor, 1st Vice President • Erin Peterson, 2nd Vice President • Amy Quevedo, Finance • Michelle Urban, Secretary, Sarah Beitler, Board Advisor • Eliza Luxbacher, Teacher Liaison

Ft Couch PTSO - General Meeting – Called to order at 9:45 am 10 attendees (6 in person including Board Members and 5 Virtual)

Reading and Approval of Past Minutes – Approved by Elizabeth Taylor and seconded by Susan Coyle

Correspondence: *(Michelle Urban)- no correspondences*

Statement of the Treasurer: Read by Our Vice President Elizabeth Taylor – See Website for Treasurer's Report – January Meeting Tab

Reports:

Guest Speaker/Teacher Representative: Combined Report

Reach out was a huge success. (See November Minutes for actual description and breakdown of charities). Miracle League of the South Hills was our student voted on charity this year, and was overwhelmingly received by everyone. Sean Casey spoke at the assembly for the Miracle League. A little over \$22,000 was collected this year. We presented Officer Tom with a \$5,000 check for the Upper St. Clair police department at the assembly as well. Team 2 won, and will have an ice skating field trip in the spring at Ice Castle Skating Rink.

Also, the next social will be tied on with a fundraiser at school for Socks with a Mission and will be a modern-day Sock Hop. Sock with a Mission was started by a Fort Couch student, Audrey Wetterau. Socks are the number one most requested item in homeless shelters, and Audrey works with Mr. Wisemann from Baker Elementary School and his charity. They have collected over 19,000 pairs of socks for homeless shelters in Pittsburgh. We will be collecting new pairs of socks the week of February 6-10.

President's Report:

Thank you to all the parents that have made all of our activities possible, from monetary donations to volunteer time to cookie baking to brainstorming on how to make things unique and special. We could not do it without you. A special thanks goes to the parents who have chaired committees.

PTC UPDATE : In December, the school's presidents helped with an administrative appreciation brunch/luncheon in the administrative building. Pam Scureman has stepped into the current PTC Vice President role, and will serve as president next year. I know she will do a great job, as she has with the many PTSO roles she has filled so far!

The USC High School Marching Band Auxiliary is hosting a clinic for any students interested. The auxiliary is the majorettes, pom poms and flags that you see at halftime performances with the band, and in the parades). It's Feb. 4 from 1:00-4:00pm. The cost is \$5, paid at the door. The link to register was emailed out a few weeks ago, and is also on our Facebook page.

The chorus, bands and orchestra all had their winter concerts. Winter sports are starting up.

We are waiting to hearing from Mr. Hunsberger what the spring musical will be. Stay tuned for information on signing up to be a part of the musical. Involvement can range anywhere from lead roles, to dancing and singing, to stage crew, to pit band/orchestra.

The executive members of Ft. Couch PTSO are trying to think ahead for next year. We will be looking for someone to fill the secretary role, which is a 2-year position. If anyone is interested or wants to learn more about what the job entails, please contact our current secretary, Michelle Urban. We are also looking for a Vice President, which would then become President the following year, so that's a 2-year position as well. You could also email me at ftcouchptso@gmail.com with any questions.

1st Vice President (*Elizabeth Taylor*) – no report

2nd Vice President (*School Principal Erin Peterson*)

Thank you to everyone for all your help.

Clubs are ending on Friday, and the second semester clubs will start soon. The list was just sent out to students to pick their second semester clubs.

Building is getting back to normal following Christmas break water main break and flooding. Several classrooms and the library had damage.

Board Advisor (*Sarah Beitler*) – no report

Standing Committees

Staff Appreciation - *Gina Swanson & Sarah Beitler*

Warm winter wishes was a big success. We collected over 50 dozen cookies, and the lunch was catered by Moe's.

Feb. 10 – SOUPer bowl lunch – hot soups donated by parents to feed the staff – teacher's are looking forward to this event.

Apr. 14 – Spring Fling – charcuterie/grazing tables for lunch

May 4 – Last Hurrah/Raffle Basket – back by popular demand!!

Yearbook - *Pam Scureman* – Read by Carrie Fick

We will have links on our website for parents and students to email their photos for consideration for the yearbook. That will be available soon.

Socials Committee - *The social committee chairs, Natalea Oliverio and Amy Hollingsworth* – Read by Carrie Fick.

“The socials committee is excited to present a modern day sock hop semi-formal/Dress to Impress social on Thursday, Feb 9th, from 7-9:00pm. Students are encouraged to dress either in 50’s sock hop or semi-formal attire. Reminder that any student who checks in will be required to stay until 9pm, unless a parent walks in to pick them up early. We will have the same one-way traffic dismissal as we had at the last social. Please consider volunteering your time as a chaperone during the event, by helping with set up at 5:00pm, or by making a donation of snack, drink, or decor per the sign up genius link that was sent out last night. We are thrilled to have DJ Steve Maffei Jr., as well as the Ham and Cheese Photo Booth at the event.”

So, girls can feel free to come in poodle skirts, or just regular semi-formal attire. I emailed a link to the Sign-Up Genius for the social last night. We are in need of 10 people to set-up and decorate before the social, 20 people to chaperone (must have volunteer clearances), Frito Lay chips, Capri Sun juice, bottled water, 20 dozen cookies and Sock Hop and/or 50’s themed decorations. This social is going to be so fun!

As Ms. Luxbacher mentioned, we will be coordinating a sock drive for Socks With A Mission, the week of the social.

Spirit Nights - *Jessica Strub* – Read by Carrie Fick

Our Chipotle fundraiser was very successful. We were able to raise \$217.12 for the Ft. Couch PTSO. Mark your calendars....This Wednesday is Spirit Night at BJ’s REstaurant and Brewhouse. I emailed a flyer with the code that you need to present. You can use the code with dine-in or take-out. Directions are on the flyer for how to use the code with take-out. We think that Feb. 22 will be a Chic-Fil-A spirit night for Ft. Couch PTSO. That date is not set in stone yet. – Changing that date because of Ash Wednesday.

Spelling Bee _

Date/Time/Location:

Tuesday, 1/31/23, 3:30 p.m. or immediately following dismissal, Fort Couch Library

Back-up: Wednesday, 2/1/23 in the event of a school closure for weather etc. on 1/31

Arts in USC

We are underway with planning Arts in USC for this year. Bethany Salmen is our PTC Chair. She is hoping to have an event to showcase all of the artwork of the USC students. I think there were over 300 entries last year. More details will be coming very soon. The subject/topic for the artwork will most likely be announced sometime in the next few weeks. I will send out an email and a facebook post.

Valentine Grams

Stay tuned for upcoming details on Ft. Couch's Valentine Grams

Old Business: Already spoken about old business

New Business: No new business

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 10:15 am

Important Dates:

Jan. 18 - BJ's Brewhouse 4:00-10:00pm

Jan. 20 - Second Marking Quarter Ends

Jan. 23 - **NO SCHOOL** - Teacher In-Service

Jan. 23 - School Board Meeting (7:00pm)

Jan. 24 - Third Quarter Begins

Jan. 31 - FC Spelling Bee (3:30pm), *Snow Date Feb 1*

Jan. 31 - 8th Grade Parent Meeting (6:30pm)

Feb. 1 - PTC Meeting - 9:30am (virtual)

Feb 4: - Auxiliary Clinic (batons/flags), 1-4pm

Feb. 9 - Valentine Social (7:00-9:00pm)

Feb. 10 - 'Souper' Bowl Lunch for staff/teachers

Feb. 17 and Feb. 20 - NO SCHOOL

Feb. 21 - Ft. Couch General PTSO Meeting (9:30 in LGI)

Feb. 22 - Chic-Fil-A Spirit Night