

Upper St. Clair Parent Teacher Council

Meeting Minutes - October 6, 2021 7:00 pm

Call to Order - Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of Agenda

Approval of Minutes - September meeting [link to minutes](#)

Special Guest Speaker:

Erin Recenwald - UPMC Student Support Services Liaison

Paula McCommons - UPMC Student Support Services Liaison

School Administration:

- Dr. John Rozzo - Superintendent & 2nd Vice President
- Mr. Ray Carson - Senior Director of Operations & Administrative Services
- Dr. Lauren Madia - Director of Pupil Services
- Mrs. Amy Pfender - Assistant Superintendent
- Dr. Sharon Suritsky - Assistant Superintendent
- Dr. Daphna Gans - School Board representative

Executive Committee:

- President - Gina Swanson
- 1st Vice President - Shanna Caplan
- Treasurer (and Statement of Treasurer)- Lindsay Beck

The USC Parent Teacher Council's General Fund had an opening cash balance on Sept 01, 2021 of: Receipts totaled: \$11,944.41

Disbursements totaled: 9/23/2021 Welcome dinner expenses \$ 395.00

The USC Parent Teacher Council's General Fund had a closing cash balance on Sept 30, 2021 of: \$11,549.41

- Secretary - Laura Lisien
- Board Advisor – Kerstin Goodworth

Unit Presidents:

- **High School** - Maria Cedar
- **Fort Couch** – Sarah Beitler
 - *Fort Couch has an early Dismissal tomorrow October 7th at 1:15pm*
 - *And the Fort Couch open house is tomorrow as well from 7-9pm.*
 - *Fort Couch's picture make up/ retake day is Tuesday, October 12th 8:45am*
 - *Fort Couch had our first Spirit night at Bjs Brewhouse on September 29th. Totals are 17 checks for a total donation of \$189.14. The Next spirit night is Saturday October 30 at the Galleria Panera, then Tuesday November 9 at Toss and Wednesday December 1 at Chick FilA.*

- Fort Couch Spirit Wear Store is open now through Oct 15th at Midnight. The store will be open until Friday night, October 15th at midnight. An email will be sent out with the link tomorrow but the link was posted today to the Ft Couch Facebook Page. <http://www.jaws-uscstore.com>
- *The Fort Couch PTSO is still collecting student activity fees. The link for that can be found on the Ft Couch Facebook Page as well as the Fort Couch PTSO portion of the schools website.*
- *Our next Fort Couch PTSO General Meeting will be virtual on Tuesday October 19th at 9:30am.*
- **Boyce –Pam Scureman**
 - Collecting Activity Fees this year - \$40 cash or check made payable to the Boyce PTO, and \$41.50 using PayPal
 - Membership - approx 293 members, total amount collected \$11,724
 - New Treasurer, Terri O'Connor
 - Audit - need one for 7-1-21 to 10-11-21, seeking a CPA/inactive CPA
 - Binder Reminder Distribution - binders arrived and have been distributed!
 - Playground Equipment - new items purchased and distributed
 - Scholastic Book fair - 9/28 - 10/1 - wonderful turnout! Total Sales over \$10,000, surpassed goal!
 - Staff Appreciation - October 1 breakfast
 - National Custodian Day - October 2 - celebrated on October 4th
 - Spirit Wear - October 10th - October 24th, images being uploaded, flyer being made for newsletter
 - Box Top - collecting October 1 to 22nd
 - Seeking Committee Chairs for 2021-2022
 - ~~Authors Day - 5th grade
 - ~~Chess Club – 5th and 6th grade
 - ~~Orchestra – 6th grade
 - ~~Shopper Rewards
 - Socks With A Mission - Socktober all month long! Student council selling socks 2 days a week, proceeds benefit Socks with a mission. Collection box in the office for donated socks. Mrs. Antonio also organizing jean day for staff who donate to Socks with a Mission
 - **PTO General Meeting, November 10th, 9:30 am**
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- **Streams – Jennifer Clougherty**
- **Eisenhower –Justine Walker**
- **Baker - Sarah Cranganu**
 - The Baker Staff Committee hosted a hugely popular Milkshake Monday event last month making milkshakes to order for all staff during lunch break. The plan is to repeat this in Spring as well. We also hosted a breakfast the morning after Open House. Thank you to all parents who donated food and supplies to make the breakfast a success.
 - We had a successful Spirit Night at Chipotle last month earning the PTA over \$200. Thank you to all families who came out for that. We are very excited about the next Spirit Night at OTB Hastings on October 13th where a portion of the day's sales will be donated to Baker PTA.

- We have two fundraisers currently happening, our fall spirit wear sale ending tonight and Baker pint glasses featuring USC township parks.
- The Baker Gardens Committee continues to make Baker beautiful adding several colorful fall mums that greeted all parents attending Open House in person last week.
- Upcoming events we are excited about include a 4th Grade outing with parent to Simmons Farm next Thursday, October 14, the Baker Fall Crawl and Classroom Harvest Parties on Friday, October 29 and the Scholastic Book Fair on Monday, November 8.
- Our next PTA meeting will be held virtually on Thursday, November 11 at 9:30 a.m.

Standing Committees:

- **Directory** – Kerstin Goodworth & Michelle Holzer
- **Welcoming Committee** – Kim Megonnell
 - As previously reported - this years new familiiy welcome was a little different. We created goodie bags filled with U car magnets, bottles of water (donated by the Shop@ USC and Aramark - thank you!!!), \$2.00 off coupons to the USC Concession stand (donated by the Football Boosters) and fliers and treat bags from the different PTA/PTSO's and the Community Foundation of Upper St. Clair!!! Thank you to all PTA/PTSO leadership for your support AND for attending the event! We had 300 goodie bags made for a cost of \$395 each which made the cost per goodie bag \$1.32 each. We were able to give all students in each family their own individual treat bags! We do have a few dozen remaining to use at other events if anyone needs something to give out. Thank you Dr. Kevin Dietrick for providing us with 300 free tickets to the game! We had a great turnout and the families had a WONDERFUL time!
 - The event was well attended and the use of the athletic circle was really nice as there was a ticket gate right beside us to easily enter the game!
 - We invited 336 new students and their families to the event. We had 185 individual students RSVP yes (some were siblings) and 24 RSVP no and the remainder did not respond.
 - On the day of the event - we had 156 students (some were siblings) and their families come through our event and engage with the PTA/PTSO leadership, with representatives from our school buildings, administrators and school board members.
 - Hopefully we can plan for a full dinner prior to the first home game for the 2022-2023 school year!

- **Partners in Education** – Katherine Zesch
 PIE stands for Partners in Education, a partnership between volunteer parents and District student support staff and administrators designed to provide programming and support that serves the community, and especially families of children with IEPs in Upper St Clair.
 1. We are planning an outdoor casual family friendly meeting in the next 6 weeks . We will be in touch with families once the date and location have been secured .
 2. We are looking for PIE school liaisons/ mentors .
 3. We are partnering with SHOP to create PIE logo merchandise to promote USC awareness and support.
 4. We are looking forward to connecting with all families with IEP's and 504's via zoom the evening of November 16
- **Odyssey of the Mind** – Yesha Gandhi
 Odyssey of the Mind is an international STEAM program and competition for students in grades K-12. Odyssey teaches kids to become creative problem solvers! Students work in small groups on a long-term project that solves an open-ended problem, and take their solutions to a regional tournament. Odyssey builds confidence, ownership and independence, while teaching life-long skills such as teamwork, budgeting, time management and public speaking. In USC, Odyssey is parent run and school supported. For more information, visit www.uscootm.com.

NEXT MEETING: November 3, 9:30 am via Google Meet

Adjournment

Dates to Remember:

- 7: Eisenhower School Picture Day
- 7: [Baker School Picture Day](#)
- 7: **Fort Couch** [EARLY DISMISSAL](#) (1:15 P.M.)
- 7: [Fort Couch Open House](#), 7 p.m.
- 11: School Board meeting, 7 p.m.
- 12: Fort Couch Picture Retake, 8:45 a.m.
- 13: [PSAT](#) at USCHS
- 13: [Youth Steering Committee of USC Program](#), 7 p.m., virtual
- 15: **EARLY DISMISSAL** for Students
- 19: Fort Couch PTSO meeting, 9:30 a.m.
- 19: HS Choir/Orchestra Concert, 7 p.m., Theater
- 19: [South Hills Joint College & Career Fair](#), 6-8 p.m.
- 20: HS Picture Make-up Day, gr. 9-11
- 20: [South Hills Joint College & Career Fair](#), 6-8 p.m.
- 21: OLSAT Testing, grade 5
- 22: Halls of Fame
- 25: School Board meeting, 7 p.m.

25-29: Red Ribbon Week, Boyce
27: HS Principals Advisory Committee (PAC) meeting, 9:30 a.m., virtual
27: Virtual Financial Aid Night, 6:30 p.m., [register online](#)
27: HS Junior Parent Meeting, 6:30 p.m., virtual (*revised date*)
28: Baker Picture Retakes
28: High School Fall Play, 7:30 p.m.
29: First Quarter Marking Period Ends
29: Elementary Harvest Parties
30: High School Fall Play, 2 p.m. AND 7:30 p.m.
31: High School Fall Play, 2 p.m.
31: Trick-or-Treat, 6-8 p.m.

November

1: [HS Senior Yearbook Portrait deadline](#)
1: **NO SCHOOL** for students, Teacher In-Service
2: **NO SCHOOL** for students, Teacher In-Service
3: Second Quarter Begins
3: PTC meeting, 9:30 a.m., virtual
5: Baker Book Fair Preview
8: **NO SCHOOL** for students, Teacher In-Service
8: Baker Book Fair
8: School Board meeting, 7 p.m.
10: Fall High School Band Concert, 7 p.m.
11-12: Streams Book Swap
11: [Boyce Picture Day](#) – Make-ups
11: Veterans Day Program, 9:30 a.m., Upper St. Clair Veterans Park
11: Baker PTA meeting, 10 a.m.
11: Streams PTO meeting, 9:30 a.m. (*date change*)
12: Eisenhower PTO meeting, 9:30 a.m.
15: First Quarter Report Cards
16: FAFSA Completion Night, 6:30 p.m., USCHS
16: High School Jazz Ensemble Concert, 7 p.m.
16: Fort Couch PTSO meeting, 9:30 a.m.
17: High School PTSO, 9:30 a.m., virtual
20: Madrigal Dinner
22: School Board meeting, 7 p.m.
24-26: **NO SCHOOL**, Thanksgiving Recess