

Upper St. Clair
PARENT TEACHER COUNCIL
General Meeting Minutes
May 4, 2022

The meeting was called to order and pledge of allegiance began the meeting at 9:30
Mrs. Swanson called for an approval of Minutes from the April meeting. - approved and seconded by Lindsay Beck and Andrea Amorose.

Reports

Executive Committee:

- President – Gina Swanson - thanked the individual unit presidents for all their hard work for the entire district; as well as Dr. Rozzo and the administrative team.
 - Report that the PTC is looking for a VP
 - Also, that the proposed changes to the PTC By-Laws was approved by membership vote.
 - Founders Day - awards given to Mrs. Amy Billerbeck (retired school board member) and a USCSD employee (who will be notified in person.)
- 1st Vice President – Shanna Caplan
 - Community Day - the PTC will be hosting a booth for USC Community Day, to include games and temporary tattoos. Please stop by for the kids to have fun, as well as to honor all those who volunteer within the school.
- Treasurer (and Statement of Treasurer)- Lindsay Beck
 - April report of opening cash balance in the general fund as of April 1 was \$12,362.54. There was 1 receipt during the month (a transfer from paypal for the spring directory sale) of \$832.70. No other receipts or disbursements. Ending cash balance of \$13,206.24.
 - Mrs. Beck also reported that the Proposed 2022/23 budget, that has been posted on the website, was approved by a membership vote.
 - Mrs. Beck answered a few questions regarding the budget for “unallocated budget expenses”.
- Board Advisor – Kerstin Goodworth
 - She thanked the membership and the Board for a great year, and happy to be ending her term on the EB as activities are returning to “normal”.

School Board Director – Dr. Daphna Gans

Dr. Gans thanked all the PTO units throughout the district for all the support to the district for the students, citing the importance of communication and support between the teachers, students, and community.

Also, Dr. Gans mentioned that the board is working with an outside consultant for a feasibility study to determine what are expected expenditures in the future and to prioritize work for facilities. (She reports that approx. $\frac{3}{4}$ of the budget relates to personnel costs, but important to also worry about the physical space.)

Unit Presidents:

- USCHS – Maria Cedar
 - Mrs. Cedar was present on the call, but did not offer a report.
- Fort Couch – Sarah Beitler
 - Testing snacks were purchased for the students.
 - Many upcoming events, including staff appreciation events for donuts, coffee, ice cream bar, and end of year lunch.
 - May 17 is final PTSO meeting of the year, including vote on new officers and budget.
 - May 26 is 8th grade farewell.
 - June 1 is field day (rain date of 6/2), with KONA ice provided to the students.
 - August 15 is Welcome Day for next year.
 - Yearbooks will be distributed to all students who ordered them before the end of the year.
 - Gift will be presented to Principal DeMar for his retirement.
- Boyce – Pam Secureman
 - Lots happening at Boyce!
 - VP, Treasurer, Budget and changes to by-laws to be voted on final meeting on 5/25 (in-person meeting).
 - Collecting pop tabs for Ronald McDonald house.
 - Upcoming Spirit Night at Primo Hoagies
 - PTO purchasing yearbooks for all students.
 - Staff Appreciation has many events for Teacher App week, and lunch for all staff on May 26.
 - Student council is celebrating Nurses Day, and School Lunch Hero day.
 - Upcoming Deer Valley trips, as well as Authors Day
 - Celebration of Learning will be held (early dismissal) on May 25
 - Many different musical concerts at both the Boyce and HS auditorium. See website for exact schedule.
 - June 3 (6/6) Field day, with popsicles for all students provided by the PTO
 - June 6 parent move up day, for all parents of rising 5th graders.
 - 6th day graduation party, with Kona ice and DJ on the afternoon of 6/8. This will be held during the school day so that all 6th graders can attend.
- Eisenhower – Justine Walker
 - Everything happens in May and June!
 - Staff Appreciation week will be celebrated with a coffee truck, snacks before Star Night, and lunch for all staff closer to the end of the year.
 - May 13 is Spring Carnival — which will be partially outside

- 4th grade farewell is 6/3.
- Book Fair coming up soon
- June 13 — to install new officers and have final PTO meeting of the year.
- June 1 is field day for grades 1-4.
- Baker – Sarah Cranganu was unable to attend the meeting at the last minute, but submitted the following to be read at the meeting:
 - “Baker is looking forward to hearing from the Boyce administration and installing our new officers, VP and Treasurer, at our last PTA meeting of the year on May 19, 2022. We are actively recruiting volunteers to help with both our Baker Community Night on May 20th and our Field Days in the early part of June. Please check out the sign up information in the latest PTA Bulletin for more information. Thank you to all of the many PTA volunteers and supporters this year!”
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- Streams – Jennifer Clougherty
 - Children to Children – has collected a huge amount of food for food bank
 - Various classroom items will be auctioned off as well
 - Book Fair - over \$10k in sales; over \$5k in Scholastic Dollars for Dr. K to spend on the school
 - All grade special nights have been completed; included outreach event for Beverly's birthdays at each event
 - Final PTO meeting of year/ turnover lunch if May 5 at Atrias
 - Totopo food truck was a special celebration for teachers for staff appreciation week.
 - 4th graders sang National Anthem at Pirate game; will do Wild Things game on 5/14
 - Stravaganza will be 5/13; raffles, games, prizes, and baked sale. Food trucks will be available to purchase dinner.
 - In June, Kindergarten Olympics on 6/2.
 - 4th grade graduation on 6/2 at Montclair pool party
 - June 6 will be Field Day for grades 1-4.

Standing Committees:

- Wellness Committee - Libby Mascaro
 - May is Mental Health Awareness month
 - She shared NAMIs statistics which show growing concern, especially as it relates to young adults
 - Working with Mrs. Dressler and Stand Together - and Dr. Wagner, the Wellness Committee and other administrators to put on a mental Health awareness week for high schoolers. Which begin May 16, with different themes each day to get the students involved and aware.
- Steam Committee - Suzanne Wynne
 - Reports the activities of the Robotics club - which has expanded mission from HS club to bring STEAM enrichment for grades k-12. With guidance from HS teacher Tracy Smith, they are using robotics to learn about problem solving, engineering, entrepreneurship, programming, teamwork and outreach.

- Start up expenses was supported by the community: Arkonik, Eaton, Locomotion, Mascaro corporation, KSG Orthodontics, ROKO Global, Steam for Yinz Learning, Thoro
- More than 100 students enrolled in the technology classes and participated.
- Ultimate goal to have as many students participate as possible.
- 40 students participated from each Boyce and Ft. Couch, in the First Competition, including special recognition for several teams and individuals.
- Look for more exciting news regarding robotics next year!

Reports from the USCS D School Administration

- Dr. John Rozzo, Superintendent
 - Dr. Rozzo thanked all PTO/PTC volunteers for all the work that is done throughout the district, especially in recognition of National Staff Appreciation week.
 - Dr. Rozzo reported that it is wonderful to have a busy school calendar, especially in light of the restrictions of previous years due to Covid.
 - State testing is underway with Keystones, and PSSA tests.
 - School budget will be finalized in June, with alot of work being done with the Board. Concurrently negotiating with the largest employee group: the teachers.
 - The feasibility study will help identify and prioritize any capital work that needs to be done in the upcoming years.
 - Some parents had submitted questions: Regarding plans for the old pool — has been used as additional eating space during pandemic. The area has become more of a multi-purpose space. Feasibility study will help drive what happens with the space. For parents who want to come into the buildings, especially elementary, that is now allowed. Work with the individual school offices to ensure that this can happen in an appropriate way. Will the District be interested in participating in a “Tech Time Out” — Dr. Rozzo would be interested in more information about — as he feels it is very important to try to reduce the amount of time kids spend in front of screens — especially when not during school work.
- Mr. Ray Carson, Senior Director of Operations and Administrative Services
 - Wishes everyone a happy “Star Wars Day” – May the 4th.
 - Over the summer, the Boyce and Streams parking lot will be renovated as soon as school ends. Very limited access to the Boyce campus from mid June to July due to the amount of work required to repair the water main break.
 - Three water main breaks have happened during the year (Streams, Boyce, and the HS).
 - Some punch list items from the last paving project will be completed; some access may be restricted in order to correct.
 - The Feasibility study will cover all district buildings and mechanical systems . Emphasis is placed on safe, clean, comfortable schools to ensure a good learning environment.
 - Reminder that access to Boyce and HS track is limited during the school day. This is not meant to keep people out, but rather to ensure the safety of students. The updated hours are posted on the USCS D website.

- A question was raised as to whether the elementary schools could use the pools for end of year celebrations. Mr. Carson explained that the matter is under review, however. The design of the pools which allows for competitive swim meets makes it very difficult for students who may not be strong swimmers. Therefore, in light of the safety concerns, as well as the availability of other local pool options, the elementary schools are not using the pools for end of year celebrations.

As there was no further questions or discussion points, the meeting was adjourned.