

UPPER ST. CLAIR PARENT TEACHER COUNCIL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES & PARENT TEACHER COUNCIL REPORT March 6, 2019

March 6, 2019
7:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m.

Approval of the Agenda/Minutes

The agenda/minutes were approved as presented.

Statement of the Treasurer

- The USC Parent Teacher Council's General Fund had an opening cash balance on February 1, 2019 of \$14,395.59.
 - Receipts totaled \$10.00 for a directory sale in February 2019
 - Disbursements totaled \$2,087.96 in February 2019 (\$2,080 for A to Z Directory and \$7.96 for Open Mic bottled water)
 - The ending cash balance totaled \$12,317.63 as of February 28, 2019.

Reports

1. Executive Committee
 - President, Suzanne Wynne
 - a. No report.
 - 1st Vice President, Batool Nulwala
 - a. Batool was not in attendance but Open Mic will be scheduled after Spring Break.
 - 2nd Vice President, Dr. John Rozzo
 - a. The proposed school calendar for 2019-2020 was presented at the last meeting. Some changes were made based on feedback. School will start on 8/26/19. Days off in October were shifted to 10/31 and 11/1, The last day before winter break will be 12/20/19.
 - b. Snow makeup days were built in to this school year. 3 snow days will be forgiven and 1 added to the end of the school year. The last day of school will be 6/12/19. This is pending board approval.
 - c. Following the flooded gym floors at the High School, the floors have been removed and installation should begin soon,
 - d. Safe2Say - 80 reports have been filed in USC. There have been some false reports and there will be consequences to those filing false reports.
 - e. SAT scores - USC is the highest performing school in the region,
 - Board Advisor, Daphna Gans
 - a. PTC is in the process of looking for and nominating a Vice President and Treasurer.
 - School Board Director, Daphna Gans
 - a. Presentations are held at the board meetings and they met with the new football coach, Coach Junko. He expressed his love for the district and the kids. He is working on the cultural shift to have the football team more involved with the rest of the athletic department.

- b. Judge Arnoni also presented at the board meeting, He is the district judge of USC and Bethel Park. Under his leadership a new program, LEAD, was developed to deal with issues like - drugs, bullies, cell phones and other issues. He will present to the USC High School on April 2nd to Freshman and Sophmores.
- c. At the National School Board Association, a couple of school board members will present on the emotional support program in the High School and on ShopUSC.
- d. Amy Billerbeck provided an update on the construction at the High School. The new office space is on schedule. The pool has had some delays with the cold weather. The project remains on budget.
- e. Amy also stated that they had a Board Governance Workshop to work through the process of goals. Ray Carson, director of human resources, facilitated the workshop.

Unit Presidents

Baker - Lindsay Beck

- Mid-February the Staff Appreciation committee held its annual Soup Luncheon, which is a Baker tradition and staff favorite. We had over 20 crock pots with different soups for tasting plus breads, desserts, and drinks.
- We held our February Spirit Event at Duck Donuts and will have our March event happening tomorrow at Houlihan's at the Galleria all day from 11 am to 7 pm.
- We have completed a draft of our 2019-2020 proposed PTA Budget and are planning to present that at our PTA meeting tomorrow morning.
- Thanks to Dr. Rozzo's assistance and coordination between our principal Dr. McClintock-Comeaux and the vendor, we have been able to hold our TGA golf afterschool program, which wraps up this Friday March 8th. The kids are loving it and we have a second session scheduled to begin later this month on March 22nd.
- We are very proud and excited to announce that Baker Elementary School is doing the Pittsburgh Marathon Kids of Steel program for the first time! Our parent volunteer, Melissa DePuy, has been working tirelessly since her daughter was a kindergartener to bring KoS to Baker and it came to fruition this year. The kids have been meeting on Tuesdays and Thursdays with our school nurse Holly Fisher, Mrs. DePuy, and many other teachers and parent volunteers. We currently have 81 kids signed up to train with the program. They will continue to meet twice a week until the event on May 4th. The kids who enrolled in the program had the option to just meet at school and train, or add on a race on May 4th, either a 5k or 1.2 mile distance. They are focusing on good health habits including fitness and nutrition.
- Our next PTA meeting will be tomorrow morning March 7th at Baker at 10:00 am in the LGI

Eisenhower - Heather Grote

- March 5th -7th Eisenhower's Book Collection and Swap takes place. Gently used books and games are turned in over two days. Students return on Thursday to swap for new books and/or puzzles. Remaining books are donated to the Kelly Primary School in Wilkinsburg.
- March 7th is our Reading Night. This year's theme is Medieval Times. Our librarian Mrs Naumann transforms our school into a magical medieval castle. Our parent volunteers and staff read books of varying genres to our students. It is a wonderful night to highlight the

magic of reading. Thank you Mrs Naumann, our staff and this year's chairs - Jess Strub and Bethany West.

- March 14th is Spring Picture Day
- March 21st is the 3rd level social. This is a Western Rodeo Social. There will be Horse shoes, barrel racing, horse roping and rattle snake tossing. Students and their parents will learn to square dance and have a western photo taken.
- Kindergarten registration/evaluation days will be 3/21 and 4/2.

Streams - Kerstin Goodworth

- Kerstin not in attendance - Shanna reported
- PTO meeting will be held on 3/12. Colleen Miles from the USC Library will go over their summer programs.
- Picnic tables will be installed outside.
- A Bowling Party will be held on 3/18.
- Book Fair and Ice Cream Social are coming up in March.
- Outreach program will be collecting band-aids.
- The choir will be performing at the Pirates game on 4/4. Over 400 tickets have been sold.
- The Child to Child event was a huge success.
- Kindergarten registration will be on 3/19 and 4/3.
- Chick-fil-a spirit night will be on 4/3.

Boyce - Jen Schnore

- Spring school picture day will be 3/29. Picture forms will be distributed in homerooms in the coming weeks.

Fort Couch - Katy Loomis

- Box Tops have been submitted. We should receive our check in April in the amount of \$155. Thank you to everyone who participated in this program. These funds will go toward the Fort Couch Gift to School.
- The Annual Valentine Dance was held on Friday, February 15th with approximately 300 students attending. The student council did a fabulous job with decorations and created a great atmosphere. The life sized games proved to be a success and were utilized for the entire social. The games combined with pizza, chips, DJ Steve, a photo booth, drinks and amazing baked goods donated by parents made the dance a huge success! Thank You!
- Our next and last social of the year is next Thursday, March 14th. We need parent volunteers to chaperone in order to hold the event. In addition to pizza, chips, drinks, DJ Steve and life sized games, Sub Zero will be serving vanilla, chocolate and cotton candy ice cream with toppings - all paid for by the PTSO.
- Valentine Grams were a success. The 3 snow days did add some extra challenges, but we were able to take orders and distribute the Valentine Grams on Valentine's Day. Thank you to Susan Coyle and Amy Shegan for organizing and to the teachers for helping out.
- The 2019 yearbook is coming together beautifully! The books will be distributed to students at lunch the LAST week of school so they can sign, have their friends sign them, and even get teachers signatures and well wishes! Visit Josten's today to order your copy.
- Mr. Palmer, as part of our Teacher Guest Series, spoke on 8th grade scheduling/transition to the High school during our last PTSO meeting. We were excited to have about 30 parents attend and want to thank Mr. Palmer for an amazing presentation.
- Our next PTSO meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 19th. Mr. Palmer has again agreed to be our teacher guest and, along with community resident Mike Burch, will present 'Bryan's Story'. This program has been given to every Upper St. Clair student who is

entering the HS (or has graduated from the HS) for over 10 years. In the spring, every 8th grader will hear 'Bryan's Story' in Guidance Class. This session addresses the dangers of prescription pain-killers and heroin, which have been a nation-wide epidemic for years. Students will learn about Mr. Burch's son, an Upper St. Clair student who tragically died of a heroin overdose. As in February, we will have a shortened business portion of the PTSO meeting in order to allow Mr. Palmer and Mr. Burch time to present. Please consider attending this March FC PTSO meeting, especially if you are the parent of an 8th grade student.

High School - Shannon Gallagher

- They are currently looking for Vice President and Secretary.
- Staff appreciation luncheon was held.
- The musical Hello Dolly will have its final shows on 3/8 and 3/9.
- The Mini-Thon will be held at Ft Couch Middle School on 4/5. Information can be found on the website. Sign-ups at the high school will be 3/11-3/15.
- ShopUSC made t-shirts "Kindness Matters". These can be purchased online.
- The National Honor Society inductions will be on 4/10.
- The next PTSO meeting will be on 3/20 at 9:30 at the High School.
- The PAC meeting will on 3/21.

Standing Committees

Arts in USC - Kathy Ginsburg - No report

Directory - Beth Huzjak/Stacey Friday

- The contract with A to Z was renewed for the next 2 years.
- Kerstin Goodworth is working with A to Z to see how we can further use the software.

GATE - Penny Miller

- An informational session for parents interested in GATE will be held with Mrs. Amy Pfender on 3/21 at 9:00 am. The meeting place will be announced in the future. Mrs. Pfender will review state guidelines and address general questions about GATE in the school district.
- Due to scheduling constraints, the target date for a Meet and Greet with GATE teachers from different grade levels was moved to the Fall 2019.

Open Mike - Batool Nulwala

Partners In Education - Anne Marie Shaw/Frances Scher - No report

Spelling Bee - Colette LeKachman

- The activities of the Spelling Bee Committee are winding down as our 5 USC champs head to regionals at Robert Morris University this Saturday.
- Committee lineup for next year:
 - Baker - Amber Zevallos
 - Boyce - Carrie Fick
 - Eisenhower - Carrie Fick
 - Fort Couch - Erin Barringer and Shaila Miglani
 - Streams - TBD

Caring and Sharing - Leira Miles - no report

STEAM - Suzanne Wynne

- Creative computing clubs were held in the elementary schools. There was a total of 8 high school students that assisted with the program. 52 4th grade students attended the computing clubs.

Wellness Committee - Libby Mascaro

- Youth Steering, Wellness Committee and St Paul's Nursery School are able to bring in a widely recognized author, Dr Michele Borba. Received a grant from the Community Foundation of USC to bring this program. There will hopefully be a community wide presentation as well as teacher training. She works on the empathy crisis and how to build empathy. A recommended book by Dr Borba is her book - The Unselfie.
- Wellness Center - A meeting will be held at the High School on 3/13 to discuss plans.

Welcoming Committee - Kim Megonnell - no report

Reporting Organizations

Community Foundation - Daphna Gans/Beth Erlanger

- They are working to increase transparency with the community.
- There is a grant for the wellness committee and another grant up for discussion for Mini-Thon.
- They will hold an After Party again this year after Community Day on 5/18 - music and food trucks.

Odyssey of the Mind - Laura Murtough/Meridith Markovitz

- 14 teams competed in regionals
- 7 teams are going to states

Youth Steering - Amy Billerbeck

- Partnered with Boyce to hold Winter Blast at the Rec Center. 270 kids attended the event,
- There will be another event for all middle schoolers in April.
- Partnered with Wellness Committee and St Paul's to bring in Dr. Borba.
- Bryan's Story will be presented again this year and are still working on a date for the presentation,

New Business

- SHIM drive - district wide food drive was held in February. The food drive was a huge success. Final numbers will be provided once Streams provides final numbers from their additional fundraising efforts in March. Preliminary numbers are 4,147 lbs of food which provides 3,437 meals.
- Budget 2019-2020 - The budget will be presented online for 30 days and will be voted on as an executive committee.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:28 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Michele Unice

The Next USC PTC Meeting
April 3, 2019
Baker

