

**UPPER ST. CLAIR PARENT TEACHER COUNCIL
GENERAL MEETING MINUTES & PARENT TEACHER COUNCIL REPORT
FEBRUARY 6TH, 2019**

February 6th, 2019
9:30-11:26 am

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:35am

Approval of Agenda/Minutes

The agenda/minutes were approved as presented

Statement of the Treasurer

Reports

- Executive Committee
- President, Suzanne Wynne
 - a. No report
- 1st Vice President, Batool Nulwala
 - a. No report
- 2nd Vice President, Dr. John Rozzo
 - a. Dr. Rozzo reported that delays and cancellation will be call earlier as possible.
 - b. For Friday, January 25th, 2019 cancellation, Public works contacted and said roads are getting worse and not ready for buses to be out on the road.
 - c. Dr. Rozzo explained that during delays and cancellation, the decision is made by communicating with Public works, directors of transportation and communication with neighboring school superintendents.
 - d. Safe2Say was launched on January 14th, 2019. There are 5 members of staff who will overlook it. There are 2 information sessions for parents regarding Safe2Say on February 5th, 2019 at 7:30pm at Boyce theater and February 13th, 2019 at 7:30pm at Boyce Theater. There will be information available on website as well.
 - e. Dr. Rozzo also reported that the sprinkler system at USC HS was malfunctioned on February 2nd, 2019. This has caused the high school gym to be closed for at least 6-8 weeks. The entrance off the athletic wing has been closed. Both gym floors have to be replaced as the water has seeped under the flooring.
 - f. Dr. Rozzo stated they are working with school board to have the next school year calendar adapted by February 21st. Moving forward the spring break will be observed before Easter weekend.
 - g. Tentative last day of school as of February will be June 14th, 2019 unless School boards forgives the snow make up days. In our school calendar,

our school session is for 183 days, but Pennsylvania mandates 180 days.
We have the flexibility to forgive snow days.

- Board Advisor, Daphna Gans
 - a. No report
- School Board Director- Daphna Gans
 - a. District representation at the last month Board meeting was Athletic Director. This month Ft. Couch administrators and students were present at the meeting. They talked about positive action plan. It is school wide approach to encourage:
 - 1. Kindness, be responsible and good citizen
 - 2. Explained reward program.
 - 3. Bought 4 students to go thru meditation exercise.This a good cultural change happening in our school building and seems like it is catching on.
 - b. Construction happening as scheduled.
 - c. Safe2Say was discussed in all building.
 - 1. Hiring potential another officer at the high school is in talk to give Chief Bryson flexibility to be in different buildings. However, school board needs to approve it.
 - 2. There are full-time police officers at all buildings.
 - 3. Dr. Rozzo, also reported that Chief Bryson is a lead on Safe2Say. Also, there are 7 officers present everyday at the school buildings. It is also crucial to have another officer at the high school, given it has large footprint and need more than 1 officer.
 - 4. All officers in the school district do rotate between different school buildings, so they are aware of the school layouts.
 - d. ALICE training- Mandated safety program by township police and neighboring townships. It was approved at last school board meeting. This program allows all security officers to have same language in case of emergency and it is like police form.
 - e. Amy Billerbeck- reported on Fast-track curriculum recommendation. It is District wide program focused on student support and empathy. It is adopted based on Rachel's Promise and "No place for Hate". This new curriculum adaption is important for our community.
 - 1. Suzanne Wynne- stated that this will address the peripheral issues we have in our schools.
 - f. Board also had a recognition of Dr. Rozzo with 10 school board members and High school Choir performed.

Unit Presidents

Baker- Lindsay Beck

- 1. Despite weather cancellations three days in a row, the Baker Variety Show was able to go on! Thanks to Dr. Rozzo and his office for allowing us to hold both our dress rehearsal and the show itself on days when school was

- cancelled. We had 95 children participate in the show who would have been so disappointed if we couldn't go on. We appreciate it more than we can ever say!
2. We held a Spirit Night at Sub Zero Ice Cream on January 16th and raised a total of \$196. Heather Warmke also offered to host a second spirit night after the Variety Show and is giving us 20% of the total sales from that time—we appreciate her generosity!
 3. Our third annual Read-A-Thon is completed and the assembly announcing the total minutes read will be held tomorrow, February 7th. Students were encouraged to chart their minutes read and ask family and friends to pledge funds for each minute read. We hosted our “Baker Bedtime Stories” evening as part of this event on January 29th, where teachers and staff came to read aloud to students. We also had a delegation from the USC Fire Department present for a few reading sessions as well!
 4. I was hoping to be able to give some exciting news about two after school activities happening, learn to play lacrosse and TGA golf, but unfortunately, yesterday we received word that we are no longer permitted to schedule after school programs in our gym due to EDS's contract with the district. We had upset and confused parents as we had to cancel the lacrosse clinic one hour before it was scheduled to begin yesterday. We are unsure as to why this is currently a problem as in the past, Baker has never had an issue sharing the gym with EDS once or twice a year when we run these programs.
 - a. Dr. Rozzo offered to look into this issue.
 5. Our next PTA meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 7th at 10:00 am in the LGI at Baker.

Eisenhower Updates:

- Friday January 11th, 2019- Eisenhower had their annual BINGO Night. Over 500 students and families were in attendance. This is a fun family night where 15 different games of Bingo are played. Mr. Miller and Mr. Grote split the time being the callers. Prizes are awarded to the winners after every game. Raffles prizes for adults and children occur throughout the evening as well. Jennie Grigonis was this year's chair and many new and seasoned volunteers are there to help us serve pizza, drinks and snacks through the evening. It was successful event.
- Spelling Bee took place on Jan. 24th. Twenty-two 4th grade spellers were enrolled. The winner was Siddharth Kumar.
- Social- slight delay in our social due to the weather forecast.
- 1st level social will take place this evening. Animal Trainer displaying wild animals to our 1st graders students and parents. Thank you to Jess Strub and Laura Lisien.
- K-social will take place on Feb. 12th Al Mazing will mystifies our Kindergartners are parents. Thanks to Laura Lisien and Amy Tomczyk
- February Eisenhower Extras kicked off yesterday. 4 sessions on Tuesdays- Computing Club for 4th level students. Thank you to Suzanne Wynne for bringing this program to Eisenhower and keeping it alive. Gemini Children's

theater- 34 students are enrolled in this creative workshop. Theater games, improvisational exercise help develop our children's imagination. Outside the Box, Clay Café, Snapology and GOLF are back!! Very popular science, pottery class, Lego and sports class. OTB has a session for K-2nd level and then 3-4th Yoga is our new offering. Record enrolment for all our classes. Thank you to Emily Crichton and the Patil family for helping us bring this to our students. Also, thank you to our many parent volunteers who help me and our instructors manage the children.

- Feb. 14th- ice cream social for all the students. Thank you to Jess Strub and James Reik.
- Feb. 21st- 2nd level social- GAME night. Thank you to Gina Swanson and the 2nd level volunteers.
- Lastly, the SHIM drive will take place all month long. The Kelly School Distribution will take place this Friday the 8th. Our collections from the December Hat and Mitten Drive will be presented. As well as the school supply packets assembled by our 3rd and 4th graders will be distributing to the students of the Kelly School. Members of the Exec. Board will be accompanying Gina Swanson and Jen Schnore to the school.

Streams Updates:

- Last week's 3rd Grade level night was cancelled due to weather- will be rescheduled for some time in April
- Arts in USC is ongoing. We will have a working session at school on Wed, Feb 13 where materials will be provided and kids can work on their submissions. Thank you to Rebecca Smith for coordinating.
- Streams Bingo will be February 15 at USCHS Cafeteria. Doors open at 5:30 pm. The whole community is invited. [Click here for details or to register](#). Thank you to Michelle Holzer for chairing Bingo Committee.
- Box Tops Contest is running through February 20. Thank you to Trisha Krofcheck for chairing the committee.
- Streams will have 2 opportunities for 4th grade to sing the National Anthem at baseball games this year:
 - Thursday, April 4, 2019 @ 7:05pm (Pirates vs. Cincinnati Reds) Thank you to Kristi Tranquilli & Karena Allsopp for organizing.
 - Friday, May 24, 2019 @ 7:05pm (Washington Wild Things vs. Gateway Grizzlies). Thank you to Andi Sowers for organizing.
- Children for Children Event supporting SHIM will be on February 21 from 6-8 pm at Streams. It is open to the public. Event details can be found here: <https://streams.ptoffice.com/children-for-children-2019/>. Thank you to Dr. Miller, Mrs. Smirniw, Mrs. Bogus, Mrs. Graceffo and all the parent volunteers.
- We are looking at Gift to School options. Students are working with Dr. Miller to make suggestions to the board.

- Next PTO Meeting is Tuesday, February 12 @ 9:30 am.

Boyce- Jennifer Schnore

- Revolutionary War Day- For 5th graders on January 25th, 2019
- Read for -a-Reason- donate to Panther program at Boyce. Raised about \$1600.00 by 237 students who read over 100,000 minutes.
- Spelling Bee was held on January 29th. Amy Sarkett was the head chair for this committee.
- Deer valley parent meeting was rescheduled due to school cancelation. New meeting is on February 7th, 2019 at 6:30pm.
- Valentine Gram is offered by Boyce student councils.
- Year books are been offered to students. There are soft cover and cost less money. We changed it from Jostens year book company. Because pictures thru out the year where been missed. This year yearbooks will deliver at the end of school year and will have a section for Deer Valley pictures in it.
- Staff appreciation event will be held on February 15th. Still looking for food donation and volunteers to help.
- Chess club is in session with 30 kids.
- Boyce Bash replacement is on February 23rd hosted by youth steering committee.
- SHIM collection has been started and Boyce student council taking over the project, so they can take ownership for the project.

Fort Couch Middle School- Kathy Loomis

- Spelling Bee was help on January 7th. Thank you to Ponny Jahn for chairing it. Total enrollment was 7 kids.
- Valentine Dance- February 15th from 7-9pm. It is a special event. Last year over 400 kids participated and kids dress up. This year they are having a hard time getting volunteers to help with event. They are using sign-up genius to recruit more parents.
- Ft. Couch PTO purchased life-sized games, checkers/chess/ Uno/Jenga.
- Valentine grams are sponsored at school for fun and not as a fund raiser.
- Next PTO meeting is on February 19th. Focus is transition to 9th grade.
- Ft. Couch Musical - "Joseph Amazing Tech. Dreamcoat" (May performance) Mr. Lang is conducting it with Pittsburgh Orchestra. Also, it was reminded by

Catherin Deep that costumes and props are loaned to other districts. (Districts typically donate these costumes)

- SHIM- Ft. Couch student council are also involved.

USCHS- Shannon Gallagher

- Sadie's Dance is in the week of February 12th.
- Musical- "Hello Dolly" is ready to debut.
- Coach Junko (hired replacement)- setting good tone with sports team. He is getting kids involved to support other sports teams.

Standing Committees

Wellness Committee- Libby Mascaro - Daphna Gans reported

- Transition old pool space into new Wellness center
- Katie Ramirez and Libby Mascaro
 - Working on bringing speakers to the community
 - Dr. Michael Shaba (?) regarding danger of smart phones and how to manage smart phones
- Working with Community Foundation to bring in lecture series for parents.
- Facebook page- Wellness Committee page- Request to join. Anybody interested can join in.

Arts in USC - Kathy Ginsburg- Suzanne Wynne reported

- Four student advances to national art and writing competition and also named 2019 Gold Key recipients in the regional Scholastic Art and Writing Awards. Junior Isabela Couoh and Eden Auslander, sophomore Manjiri Paleyekar and freshman Judy Wang now move to national judging in New York City and will be considered for national Gold and Silver Medals and Special Achievement Awards.

Spelling Bee- Colette LeKachman

- In progress

STEAM- Suzanne Wynne

- Programs at elementary schools are going well. Thankful to all High school volunteers and Mr. Miller at High school, computer science teacher.
- Creative Computing club- last for 4 weeks

Directory- Beth Huzjak/ Stacey Friday

- Hard copies are available for sale.

GATE- Penney Miller

- Toward the end of January, I had a constructive meeting with Amy Pfender, the Director of Student Support Services. While a search is conducted for the replacement of Melissa Garvin, Mrs. Pfender will serve as the District's GATE contact. Mrs. Pfender and I are coordinating on planning a meeting in April for parents to learn about gifted programming in USCSD and meet the representatives of GATE teachers from all academic levels. We would like to have a question/ answer format with questions submitted beforehand from interested parents.

Open Mike- Batool Nulwala

- Spring Open Mike will be held after Spring Break. Venue and date will be announced soon.

Reporting Organizations

Community Foundation- Daphna Gans/ Beth Erlanger

- Grants RFPs to becoming more transparent and accessible.
- The policy and scoring criteria are been assigned for grants
- These grants are focused on health wellness, arts and STEM related programs.

Odyssey of Mind- Laura Murtough/ Meridith Markovitz

- Season is moving forward.

Youth Steering- Amy Billerbeck

- Program on Opioids Addiction was success
- Repurposing High school old pool area. Working with Wellness committee.

- Working on bringing more speakers series in the community.
- February 23, 2019- Boyce Winter Bash

New Business

- SHIM Drive- District wide effort.
 - Suzanne Wynne- grateful for Jennifer Schnore effort for organizing the entire district wide food drive.
 - Jennifer Schnore-
 - Has flyers from SHIM to distribute.
 - If schools need more boxes- SHIM bought boxes or we can buy boxes for the drive.
 - On March 4th, South Hills movers will pick up all the boxes from curb front entrance or loading docks of schools.
 - Daphna Gans made comment to contact Chief Bryson about the pick-up day. So, school police officers are aware of the South hill's movers.
- Pennsylvania's School Bus stopping law
 - Remind to pay attention to stopping laws
 - Caution to drive carefully around bus stops
 - Police very responsive in helping to manage.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:26am

Respectfully submitted,

Batool Nulwala

The Next PTC meeting

March 6t, 2019

7pm at Boyce Middle School LGI