

UPPER ST. CLAIR PTA COUNCIL

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES & PTA COUNCIL REPORT – May 7, 2014

PTA COUNCIL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

May 7, 2014

9:30 – 10:15 a.m.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:35 a.m.

Approval of the Agenda/Minutes

The agenda/minutes were approved as presented.

The March General meeting minutes will be approved at the next meeting.

Statement of the Treasurer

- **The USC PTA Council's General Fund** had a beginning cash balance on April 1, 2014 of \$10,437.78 of which \$2,486.51 is the Directory reserve.
- There were no receipts this month.
- Disbursements totaled \$13.26 which includes expenses for:
 - Library Gifts
- This leaves us with an ending cash balance of \$10,424.52 as of May 1, 2014.
- Committees should please submit receipts for the 2013-14 school year.
- **The USC PTA Council's Special Account Fund** had disbursements this month of \$1,186.74 for gifts to the libraries. The account has zero balance and will be closed this month.

Reports

- Executive Committee
 - President, Susan Speer
 - Welcome and thank you to the outgoing unit presidents.
 - 1st Vice President, Brooke Tarcson
 - Thank you to the Administration for hosting and welcome to all the incoming unit presidents.
 - 2nd Vice President, Dr. Patrick O'Toole
 - Open Houses for the schools showcased the hard work students have done all year .
 - Fort Couch received #14 ranking in the "50 Best Middle Schools" in the country.
 - USCHS was listed as a leading high school in U.S. News and World Report.
 - USC listed as #2 in the Pittsburgh Business Times.
 - Fort Couch and Boyce Middle Schools both qualified for LEED Certification at the silver level.
 - National Honor Society members were honored at the Board.
 - Changing the way kids learn and teachers teach -- Finalizing curriculum recommendations including new and different methods such as the iPad 1 to 1 program that will strive in the next 2-4 years, to have iPads for every student in the Middle School grades, 5th-8th.
 - Cuts in support staff will be made.
 - Charter Schools and other matters need to be addressed at the state level.
 - Jeffrey Clay, the Executive Director of the state pension fund, came to talk about PSERS issues. Local levels are better because of new housing and an increase in housing prices.

School Board Director, Amy Billerbeck -- Liaison

- Congratulations on a great year to the PTA Council Board.
- Main focus is on the budget; it has a 30 day posting period and then needs to be passed by the end of June.
- Jeffrey Clay discussed with the Board the need for the funding source to have additional revenue. It is complicated and underfunded.

- There is a STEAM initiative at the HS to develop a FAB LAB.
- With the iPad initiative pilots at FC and Boyce, teachers are receiving professional development to effectively use in the classroom.

Unit Presidents

- Baker – Kim Megonnell
 - Thank you from Dr. M-C and Mrs. Gibson for the gift card.
 - Variety Show was last Friday.
 - “Powered by PTA” Theme-- The 4th level art legacy project promotes more in the school for 4th graders to know what graduating class they are in.
 - Baker Bingo was held on April 11th.
 - The last fundraiser for the year, “Flower Power”, was a success.
 - Upcoming are the 3rd and 4th grade plays.
 - Field day will be combined with the end of the year party.
 - Ending the year with Teacher appreciation, supply kits and Yankee Candles.
- Eisenhower – Jeanne McNamara
 - Book fair was a success.
 - Teacher Appreciation Week was a success.
 - Upcoming events include Field Day and 4th grade farewell.
- Streams – Christine Vinay
 - Today is Teacher Appreciation Day.
- Boyce – Kathy Teresi
 - April: Assistant Principal Erin Peterson presented a video by Ft. Couch students themed “What you wish you (and your parents) knew before you went to Ft. Couch” to our April 9 General Meeting. Information included ways to get adjusted to the move to Ft. Couch, how to navigate the building, clubs and socials. Also on topic was the best way to use time at Ft. Couch to manage school and homework efficiently. Mrs. Peterson also discussed methods for student placement on teams and opportunities to visit Ft. Couch over the summer.
 - Chick-Fil-A Spirit Night was April 10 from 5:00 -8:00 PM.
 - Science Extravaganza was April 10 all day at Boyce.
 - Sixth Grade T-Shirts have been delivered!
 - Deer Valley Field Trips are underway — three teams have rotated through.
 - NASA trip preparation is getting started for the 5th grade teams.
 - Staff Appreciation is scheduled for May 27-30 with something special each day.
 - 2nd Author Day is scheduled for May 28 with Jonathan Auxier, who wrote the book *Peter Nimble and His Fantastic Eyes*. He will be sharing his new book.
 - Sixth Grade Graduation is May 30 at Ft. Couch.
 - Boyce Field Day is June 9.
 - And we will be hosting the district 4th graders and moving up our sixth graders to round out the year.
- Fort Couch – Chrissy Sileo
 - We kicked off the month with a successful fundraiser at Chick Fil A on May 1st. We raised a little over \$150.00. The cow came to school during lunch and team 4 brought in the most sales and all received a coupon for a free milkshake.
 - Friday May 2 and Saturday May 3rd the Musical SHREK was performed at the high school. It was a truly spectacular show and everyone involved worked really hard! The students went to the high school Friday morning for a performance. And both evenings had a full house.
 - May 6th was Celebration of Learning. Teachers were all given a bottle of water and a chocolate dipped pretzel rod to help make it through the night.
 - Staff appreciation will kick off May 19th and run throughout the week. We will recognize all of the Ft Couch staff with a breakfast, luncheon and \$5 gift card raffles.
 - May 20th is the Schools to Watch assembly and celebration. The assembly will begin at 2:00 in the gym and will feature the band, orchestra, chorus and Ft Couch cheerleaders. A dessert reception will be held after school for Ft Couch staff, USC administrators and Schools to Watch officials. All parents are welcome to attend the assembly and reception.
 - Our last PTA meeting will be held on Tuesday May 20th at 9:30am. We will vote on the 2014 -2015 budget and induct our new board.

- The 8th grade farewell will take place on May 29th at the high school. The theme is a beach / boardwalk theme.
- Our final PTA event of the year is field day which will be held on Friday June 6th at Boyce

Standing Committees

- Legislation –Dana Weber-Horton
 - The State Academic Standards are on the USCSD website, Also, the news and media section has recent releases of the \$6.5 million school safety grant.

Reporting Organizations

- High School PTSO – Shelly Snyder
 - April 9 – Jazz Festival
 - April 24-28—Chorus/Band/Pantherettes went to Disney to perform
 - May 5-16 – AP and IB Exams
 - May 19-23 – Keystone Exams
 - May 21 – PTSO meeting
 - May 22 – Senior Banquet
 - June 6 – Graduation Practice
 - June 10 – Prom
 - June 12 - Graduation
 - March 27 – PAC meeting
 - April 23 – PTSO meeting
 - May 1 – PAC meeting
- Community Foundation – Leanne Adamo
 - Blankets are available for purchasing.
 - The Foundation will be selling ducks at Community Day, pricing is as follows: 1 duck for \$5, 6 (a Quack Pack) for \$25.
 - Oktoberfest will be held this year on October 11th at St. Thomas More Church.
- Youth Steering – Amy Billerbeck
 - New members are welcome and encouraged to join. There is 1 meeting per month.

Old Business

- The Budget has been posted on the website for 30 days. There is a Motion to approve the Budget, and there is a 2nd motion. Approval of the Budget was put to vote and passed unanimously.

New Business

- Installation of New Officers. All new officers for the 2014-15 school year were officially installed.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:25 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rachelle Engel

***Next PTA Council Meeting – June 4, 2014
Central Office***