



Orchard Park High School PTO Meeting Minutes
November 24, 2025 @ 7pm
OPHS Library Media Center

Attendance

Erin H., Deb S., Melissa G., Natalie J., Debbie K., Karen F., Dana K., Maura W., Karry K-B., Rich H., Jen D.,

Meeting Opened at 7:03pm

Welcome to those in attendance

President's Report – Jen D.

Open positions are filled. Jen D. will fill the nominating chair, PTO Board will run staff appreciation lunch and there is a new person shadowing, NHS chair filled.

Vice President's Report – Erin H.

Facebook has 228 members and there are 145 PTO memberships

Secretary's Report – Karry K.-B.

Vote to accept October meeting minutes was put in motion by Debbie K. and seconded by Maura W. Approved.

Please sign in to our PTO meetings and I will be sending the minutes to attendees for review before we vote on them at the following meeting.

Treasurer's Report – Karen F.

Review of the November financial report

- Donations are coming in for the general PTO fund and Post Prom Party
- Restaurant fundraising nights for Post Prom have been successful
- Post Prom donations have a good start

Principal's Report – Jen D. for Brandon P. (not present)

Continued work with Physical Education department on swim unit. Will need to still include the unit since they need to use the pool space.

Member – would it be possible to explore other options given the constraints, such as allowing students to make up the swim unit (to allow an overage to the number of make ups allowed)? Jen D. will follow up with Brandon P.

Homework update – students can send an email to a teacher assigning weekend work for an excuse if they have weekend activities. Weekend work is being used to determine whether students are keeping up with the material.

Member – this is a quality-of-life issue for the students and families, remains an issue, seemed like the assignments on the weekend were going to end, however it has not. Not all students know about the ability to be excused from weekend work by sending an email.

Member – request has followed the correct path, student to teacher, then principal. Could go to the District Curriculum person with the request.

Teacher's Report – Rich H.

Asked teachers about weekend homework. Determined that this is not widespread.

Student of the Month - will identify one student per grade per department called down to the Principal's Office to be recognized.

Committee Reports

Instructional Leadership (ILC) - Brandon P.

- No update

STAP-Comm – Karen F.

- There are a lot of restaurant fundraisers on the calendar.

Member – Does STAP-Comm advertise to the students in the building or in the Gazette? Do they advertise in the Backpack? More advertising may allow them to be more successful.

Member – Post Prom will be wrapping up the restaurant fundraisers.

Member – SPAM emails are being sent from PTO, and they are very specific. Jen D. indicated that the PTO will never ask for money transfer of any kind (e.g., gift cards) by email. Check the From line in the email to see if the email address is correct. You can also email Jen D. or other PTO members to see if they sent an email.

Building Effectiveness Team (BET) - Maura W.

- Freeman Rd. drop-off safety concerns. Non-OP families are dropping kids off incorrectly, and this is creating an unsafe situation.

Member – do these families receive OP email messages? Answer – yes. Could use police enforcement.

- Change to Yonder Pouches where each student has a pouch assigned is going well.
- Change to Open House proposed for next year. Would like PTO input. Instead of parents/guardians walking the schedule just have teachers present in their classrooms for a period of time. Direct families to the online videos so that during Open House teachers could showcase other activities happening in the school. Looking for feedback.

Member – Virtual open house is good. OPHS still plans to include this. Families with more than one student in the HS cannot walk both schedules.

Rich H. - videos are posted that cover the same material as what teachers cover during Open House. Teachers repeat the same information multiple times during the Open House. The videos could be better advertised to have families view them before Open House, then allow for Q&A/Meet & Greet at the in person Open House. Perhaps earlier in the year. Perhaps 10-minute parent/guardian timeslots to sign up.

Member – some concern that the Meet & Greet format would turn into a Parent-Teacher conference. Walking the schedule allows the family to see the spaces their child is in.

- Staffing is more limited, harder to be proactive in catching vaping in the bathrooms; students are more reporting after the occurrence. Some bathrooms are locked as a deterrent. Rich H. - stalls are clogged and not functioning at times

Member – are there vape detection devices that are effective? Look into it again, perhaps better technology.

Central Council PTO – no meeting yet

Post Prom – Jen D.

- Restaurant fundraising was successful. Some issues with Chipotle; will be avoided in the future.
- Work on business donor letters happening. These will be sent out soon.
- Theme is Under The Lights/Tangled
- Created an Amazon Wish List for families to purchase prizes
- Extending the pre-sale for Krispy Kreme donut fundraiser. Pre-sale orders are slow going. Families pick up pre-sale donuts at the school.

New Business – Jen D.

- Post Prom meeting Monday Dec. 15 at 6pm
- Jan. 15 Panera restaurant fundraiser
- Jan. 23 Staff Appreciation Lunch – PTO will be asking for volunteers and food donations. During mid-terms week.

Member – what mid-terms are taking place? Rich H. - Each Department decides.

Member – it is difficult for students to not be able to eat lunch when they have 2 or 3 exams in the day. Can students take mid-term exams in class instead of having exam week?

Rich H. - there has been some discussion of change to exam week

Member – because not all students go into school exam week (Special Ed.) and students do not have full days all week during exam week – this decreases the instructional hours for students. Question as to whether all students are meeting the instructional hours needed.

Jen D. call for other New Business - none

Next PTO Meeting Monday, Jan. 26th at 7pm. Post Prom Meeting at 6pm.

Meeting adjourned at 7:50pm

PTO BOARD Contact Information

President	Jen Domzalski	jmdomzalski@hotmail.com
Vice President	Erin Homer	happymume@gmail.com
Secretary	Karry Kazial-Backes	kazial@fredonia.edu
Treasurer	Karen Fuentes	karen.fuentes8888@att.net

Minutes Submitted by Karry Kazial-Backes