



Orchard Park High School PTO Meeting Minutes
February 23, 2026 @ 7pm
OPHS Library Media Center

Attendance

Maura W., Brandon, P., Ann L., Erin H., Karen F., Karry K.-B., Jen D., Rich H.

Meeting Opened at 7:05pm

Welcome to those in attendance

President's Report – Jen D.

Call for nominations for PTO open positions for the 26/27 school year.

Held a Reception Chair Orientation – meeting was moved online due to the weather. We had good attendance. This meeting allowed for efficiency in providing directions. Informational folders can be picked up at the school – Baker desk. We plan to do this again for new Chairs in the future.

Vice President's Report – Erin H.

Facebook has 229 members and there are 160 PTO memberships

Secretary's Report – Karry K.-B.

Vote to accept January meeting minutes was put in motion by Brandon P. and seconded by Erin H. 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 February financial report

- Business donations for Post Prom are coming in
- We have made a few deposits on Post Prom vendors

Family Solutions Center – Anne Linder

- Community Engagement Series – Event Schedule, March 4 Vaping
- Parenting Enrichment Sessions – Pre-teens & Teenagers, March 17 & 24 Reducing risks
- Contact for McKinney-Vento Homeless Student Act
 - There has been a change in the Orchard Park district population, e.g. grandparents raising grandchildren
 - School attendance has not recovered post-COVID
 - Clothing closet – Emmanuel Hall Parish on Powers Rd. & Food Pantry at Windom Community Church
 - Both accept donations

Member asked whether volunteers are needed. Reply- yes, sometimes at the Churches.

- School supplies and hygiene supplies are provided for students in need

Member suggestion to have information on how to donate school supplies and how to receive in-need school supplies on the school supply lists provided/posted for families in the district

- Future initiatives include providing connections to medical care and local partnerships and resources to support school attendance

Member question whether anyone can use the Family Solution Center. Reply- yes

Member question whether anyone can donate at any time. Reply- yes

Principal's Report – Brandon P.

- Thanked Anne for presenting and for the support that she provides the District.
- Attendance initiative at the High School. Letters will go out for students with 10-18 absences. Have added information in Gazette regarding attendance after Bills games. Have accountability by allowing open campus for students with no attendance issues. May include parking permits as an attendance accountability step next year.

Member suggestion- to have a reward for consistent attendance rather than a punishment

Rich H.- Counselors are trying, complicated since punishment keeps students away

- High school is out of snow days. If needed will move to remote school days. There will be a Google Form for attendance and half hour office hours for each department. These office hours are not required for attendance online.
- 9th and 10th of June are Not Regents Exams – These are Full Session Days. June 12th is the last student day.
- This Saturday is the Circus in the HS gym run by STAP-COMM.

Old Business follow up-

- NHS/Humanitarian hours update – looked to see what other schools were doing - include this information on PowerSchool by creating a class (by graduation year) to input number values.
- Concern raised that the utensils in the cafeteria are not sturdy enough. Reply – Personal Touch is the company. Linda Hullings, manager and Mr. Petris are potential contacts to follow up.
- The Gazette can have important academic dates included, perhaps at the end above the Calendar link.

Member question – interested donor with STEM club. Contacts are Joe Bella, Dinah Thompson, Ryan Quinn

Post Prom Committee - asked for Brandon P. to reach out to teachers for 3 Casino volunteers

Teacher's Report – Rich H.

- English Regents in January – with less than 5 mo. to prepare the class average went up! This does free up English classes to do other things. Students who did not do as well as they would have liked do have the option to retake. May look at the new exam version then decide.

Member question – will this be an option next year to take the Regents in January? This idea has been raised.

Hamburg has routinely had students take the January English 11 Regents.

Member question – will those who have taken the Regents in January have a final exam? The Regents used to be the final. Perhaps a final project if not an exam.

Committee Reports

Instructional Leadership (ILC) - Brandon P.

- Next year the Regents exams will count in the final average. Not more than 10% of the final average.

Member question – why this shift back to Regents impact when State seems to be moving away from the Regents.
Brandon P. - this is a standardized way to allow teachers to evaluate their effectiveness in the classroom, would like to foster an environment where teachers share best practices

STAP-Comm – Karen F.

- Circus is happening on the weekend

Building Effectiveness Team (BET) - Maura W.

- Securly, a pilot program for electronic hall passes was discussed. It would track how often students leave class and could avoid students meeting up. OPMS is already using it and OPHS administrators or teachers will reach out to them to get intel about pros/cons.
- Yondr pouch update- don't see a lot of phones out but don't know that pouches are being used and there is a concern there will be a lot missing at the end of the year. Families will have to cover the cost. Overall, no-phone policy has been effective especially during classes, but lunch and bathroom use has crept back. There will be an inventory check after break and random compliance checks after that.
- Capital project update - this summer all 4 elementary and OPMS will be off limits so OPHS will be busy with programs being moved here. There will also be renovations going on here, so planning is underway to deal with logistics.
- Open Campus Update- there is a push to keep seniors in the building for at least 6 periods. Twenty percent of senior class has 3 opens in a day. There has been an Elective Fair promoting OPHS's 141 electives and dual enrollment classes to encourage them to take advantage of more than just graduation requirements.

Central Council PTO – Jen D. - No meeting

Post Prom – Jen D.

- Red Robin fundraiser March 5, starting up Get Egged with flyer and volunteer SignUp
- Planning is coming along, wrapping up Business donor contacts
- Post Prom Party flyer has been created
- Letter out to Senior Families

New Business

- Science Awards Reception will be able to use the leftover donations from Homecoming
- Staff Appreciation Lunch is on March 20th, will be using donations already in hand and adjusting the SignUp for donations and volunteers

Note New Time **Next PTO Meeting Monday, March 23rd at 6pm.

Note New Date **Post Prom Meeting Tuesday, March 24th at 6pm.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20pm

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