MINUTES

Claymont PTO Executive Board Meeting

September 16, 2026 | 6:30 – 7:30 PM

Call to Order: 6:30 p.m.

1. Welcome
2. Guest Speaker - Dr. Melissa Schneider
    a. Discussion Regarding Prop. P
        i. Budget Shortfall
            1. How we got here? (over the past five years)
                a. Curriculum costs have gone up 40 percent;
                b. Utilities have gone up 58 percent;
                c. School bus costs have gone up 32 percent;
                d. Employees' healthcare costs gone up 32 percent.
                e. Hancock Amendment and Senior Tax Freeze - both pieces of legislation that the District has to abide by.
            2. The vast majority of the District's funding comes from property taxes.
            3. In ten years, there will be a growing operating gap in the budget. Will be going into deficit in 2027.
            4. Last year, cut $12.7 million from the budget.
            5. This year, they cut another $2.7 million.
        ii. Proposed Levy - $0.46
            1. Still less than what it was 10 years ago.
            2. Help maintain staffing recruiting and retaining excellent teachers;
            3. Protect student programs;
            4. Keep safe schools;
            5. Ensure financial stability
            6. This is not a bond issue for construction - where no taxes are raised. The money from Prop. S. cannot be used for this budget shortfall now.
            7. If approved, it will not have an impact on senior tax freeze
            8. Second lowest tax rate in St. Louis County
            9. First time in 20 years that we have asked taxpayers for an increase.
3. Guest Speaker: Carrie Bowers, Parkway parent
    a. Asking to do three things:
        i. Buy a yard sign;
        ii. Canvasing
            1. October 10th and 24th for canvasing for South and West
        iii. Donating to the campaign
            1. Need to send mailers;
            2. Pay for app for canvasing
        iv. See CitizensforParkway.org
4. President's Report – Allie Deno and Anna Jordan
    a. School Supply Kits Update
        i. First time using EPI - any feedback?
        ii. Not all supplies were in the kits for every grade, but that was because there were additions to the school supply lists after providing the list to the vendor.
        iii. Made over $600 from the kits!
    b. Open PTO Committee Positions/Chairs
        i. Co-VPs - please see an executive Board member if you are interested! Or email claymontptopresident@gmail.com
    c. Trunk or Treat coming up October 23rd; need parents to sign up for Trunks!
    d. Multicultural Night is coming up too - November 5th - can learn about cultures of other countries and see performances!
    e. Picture Day - September 24th
5. Vice President's Report - Allie Deno and Anna Jordan
    a. Special Project - Eagle Scout Harper Stokes Outdoor Classroom - this will be happening soon!

    b. Special Project - Improve Teachers Lounge -
        i. New refrigerators, microwaves, fresh paint, air purifier, ice maker
        ii. Nearly done - just waiting on one more refrigerator
6. Treasurer's Report - Anna Jordan
    a. Goal each year is to raise $30,000
    b. Last year raised: $31,552
    c. See budget presentation on the PTO's website
7. Fundraising Chairs' Report
    a. City 2 Game
        i. Ticket sales to be announced soon via classroom flyers, socials and The Claymont Call
        ii. Sunday September 20th at 4 PM
    b. Spirit Campaign
        i. Donate on Infinite Campus

8. Volunteer Coordinator's Report
    a. Update on Membership Toolkit Volunteer Opportunities
        i. Discuss upcoming needs from chairs and their activities
            1. Library volunteers
            2. Trunk or treats
            3. Beautification
            4. Staff appreciation
        ii. Room Parent volunteer status - still need one for Ms. Spence; Ms. Matthis - needs two.

9. Secretary - Motion to Approve Minutes from 5.14.2026?
    a. First: Melissa Hendricks
    b. Second: Abby Heck
    c. Passes unanimously
10. Social Media Coordinator - Melissa Hedrick
    a. Like and share!
    b. Follow us on Instagram!

11. Upcoming Dates
    a. Red Ribbon Week coming up - October 26th - 30th
    b. Food Drive - November 9th
12. Need Trivia Night volunteers! Email claymontrivianight@gmail.com
    a. February 20th

13. Adjournment: 7:26 p.m.

Upcoming Datess

Sat Sep 19 - Kindergarten Social, Ferris Park, 11-1 PM
Sun Sep 20 - City2 Game, 4 PM
Thu Sept 24 - School Picture Day
Fri Oct 23 - Trunk or Treat, 6 PM
Oct 26-30 - Red Ribbon Week
Thu Nov 5 - Multicultural Night, 6pm
Nov 9-13 - Food Drive (Parkway Pantry)
Thu Nov 12 - PTO General Meeting, 6:30 PM