**UPPER ST. CLAIR PARENT TEACHER COUNCIL**

**GENERAL MEETING MINUTES & PARENT TEACHER COUNCIL REPORT**

**January 8, 2020**

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9:30 – 10:30 a.m.

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 9:38 a.m.

**Approval of the Agenda/Minutes**

The agenda/minutes were approved as presented.

**Statement of the Treasurer**

* **The USC Parent Teacher Council’s General Fund** had an opening cash balance on December 1, 2019 of $17,322.76.
  + Receipts totaled $450.00 for Streams Unit Contribution in December 2019
  + Disbursements totaled $353.43 for New Family Welcome Dinner in December 2019
  + The ending cash balance totaled $17,419.33 as of December 31, 2019.

**Reports**

1. Executive Committee

* President, Batool Nulwala
  1. PTC hosted a Holiday Brunch for the administration and staff on Dec 4th. A tribute was presented to Mary Ann Stabile for her retirement, including a performance from the high school chorus students.
* 1st Vice President, Kerstin Goodworth

1. No report.

* 2nd Vice President, Dr. John Rozzo

1. Mary Ann Stabile retired on Jan 2nd after 33 ½ years with the district. She is replaced by Sarah MacDonald.
2. Construction on the high school pool are behind schedule but hope to be complete on the inside by the end of January. The outside will be completed in the Spring.
3. The School Board has approved the school calendar for 2020-2021
4. Boyce and Ft Couch were both recognized as PA schools to watch
5. Strategic Planning will begin – the current Strategic Plan expires this year. Will be looking for input on the new plan
6. An Extended Teacher Certification program has been implemented to assist with the substitute shortage. Two informational sessions will be held on 1/14 and 1/23. Over 70 people have shown interest in the program.

* Board Advisor, Suzanne Wynne

1. No report.

* School Board Director, Daphna Gans

1. The School Board has created a subcommittee to address and assess board function and recommend changes
2. There is 1 vacancy on the School Board. The board will interview candidates and the candidate will fill the rest of the 2-year term.

**Unit Presidents**

Baker – Betsy Wilson

* We hosted spirit nights in November and December at Chipotle and Anthony’s Coal Fired Pizza. We will be hosting a January spirit day at Duck Donuts on January 20th, a day the students are off school, so if head out that way be sure to support Baker PTA.
* We held our annual “Enchanted Shop” event in December, where the students come and shop for gifts for family and friends. This was our third year utilizing the Penguin Patch shop company and we will continue to use them in the future.
* Our Variety Show is coming up on January 24th. Like last year, we moved the show to earlier in the year to accommodate the district’s need for theater space in the spring.
* Our 4th annual Read-a-thon will begin on Feb 21st. Students are encouraged to chart their minutes read and ask family and friends to pledge funds for each minute. Baker Bedtime Stories will be held on Feb 25th where kids wear pajamas and teachers and staff read aloud to them.
* Kids of Steel will take place beginning early February and culminating on May 3 with the 1 mile kids marathon. Baker parent Melissa DePuy and school nurse Holly Fisher started the program last year and were named the race’s Rookie of the Year due to great participation.
* Our next PTA meeting is scheduled for tomorrow, Thursday, January 9th at 10:00 am. We will have refreshments and a gift card drawing and will also live-stream on Facebook.

Eisenhower – Natalie Livingston

* Holiday Mart – used a local vendor (J Robbins, which is now Oakbrook). There was positive feedback from chairs (timely restock) and shoppers.
* Bingo night will be January 24. It has moved to a new location, Ft Couch in the cafeteria.
* First grade social, Wild Animal theme, will be January 29th.
* The 100th day of school will be celebrated on Feb 3rd.
* PTO will fund indoor recess kits for all classrooms this winter.

Streams – Amy Hollingsworth

* Snuggle up and read and book swap was held in November.
* Holiday shop was a huge success in December.
* Upcoming events this month are the Talent Show and Spelling Bee.
* In February the Children for Children event will take place.
* Planning has begun for the graduation party.

Boyce – Gina Swanson

* Boyce Middle School was named as a Don Elchorn Schools to watch in December. This is a recognition of schools achieving academic excellence, based on 37 criteria established by the National Forum to Accelerate Middle Grades Reform.
* In December, the PTO hosted a Staff Appreciation Holiday Lunch, complete with some amazing raffle prizes and dozens of cookies. Many thanks to the SAC committee and all who donated food and prizes.
* We started a new budget item this year – team enhancements. The PTO grants each team money to spend as they feel would benefit their team. Happy to report that two teams have already used their allotment. One team purchased some testing support supplies and another team ordered a ton of games for indoor recess.
* We have just concluded a very successful Spirit Wear Sale. The items were delivered before winter break. We used Century Sports and they were great to deal with. Total profit was just under $900. We anticipate having another sale in the Spring.
* The Spelling Bee will be on Jan 30.
* The winter session of Chess Club will start on Feb 5.
* Yearbook will soon be online. Sales will be online, with delivery of yearbooks prior to the end of the school year. Please purchase in advance as that helps us determine pricing and how much content can be added. If you have photos of school events, please email to Michele Urban or Gina Swanson so they can be used in the yearbook.
* The Science Extravaganza and Authors Day are also in process.
* Our next general PTO meeting will be Jan 15 at 9:30 in LGI. No meeting in February but we are planning on having a committee chair meeting on Feb 12.

Fort Couch – Stacey Cobb

* The Reach Out assembly was held on 12/20 where over $20,000 was donated to four charities.
* Yearbook flyers will be sent out soon.
* Spelling Bee will be on 1/8.
* E-cycling event for small electronics will run through 1/15.
* The social will be held on 2/13 as well as Spirit Night at Bonefish.
* Outreach program and Caught you Being Good will run from 12/9-12/20
* Next meeting will be 1/21. There will be no meeting in February.

High School – Deonna Dreher

* No report

**Standing Committees**

Arts in USC – Kathy Ginsburg – no report

Wellness Committee – Hallie Snyder

* There will be 2 screenings for the documentary Screenagers on Feb 11 at 10:00 am at the MAC and at 7:00 pm at the CRC. There will be 2 screenings for Screenagers: Next Chapter on March 10 at 10:00 am at the MAC and at 7:00 pm at the CRC.
* At the high school, award winning youth speaker on resiliency Kate Fitzsimmons, will give two 50-minute talks on Feb 21.
* The Wellness Committee will send 10 students to Streams for the Children to Children event in February. The event will support Why Care and Horses for Hope.
* A group of high school students will attend the NAMI adolescence conference on 2/28.

Partners In Education – Anne Marie Shaw/Frances Scher – no report

Spelling Bee – Colette LeKachman – no report

Caring and Sharing – Leira Miles – no report

STEAM – Suzanne Wynne

* STEAM has partnered with a high school student to create a new club called Spark Girls into STEAM. Working with the administration at Boyce for her to come and provide an after school mentoring club for Boyce girls in the Spring. It will be held in March for 4 weeks.
* Coding Club in February

Directory – Beth Huzjak/Stacey Friday

* Working to setup a process to give teachers access to the online directory.

GATE – Penny Miller

* The GATE committee hosted a meeting for those parents interested in gifted education on November 8 at 1:00pm in the USC Township Library multipurpose room. The meeting was attended by approximately 40 people. The assistant director of student support services, Lauren Madia, was on hand to discuss topics related to gifted education in USC and shared some resources with parents. For a copy of Mrs. Madia’s slides, see GATE Presentation November 2019 that is currently posted on the GATE website.
* The website subgroup met on November 14 to discuss GATE website design and content. Members of the subgroup are currently working to address identified design and content needs. If you have GATE related information or opportunities that you wish to share on the website, please contact Penny Miller at gateuscptc@gmail.com.

Open Mic – Kerstin Goodworth – no report

Welcoming Committee – Kim Megonnell – no report

**Reporting Organizations**

Community Foundation – Daphna Gans/Beth Erlanger

* The Community Foundation assisted with funding for Dr Borba and Screenagers.
* Collaborating for the 3rd year with Little Lake Theater at the high school and Boyce. Last year assisted Boyce with Deer Valley skits.
* Donated $14,000 to the school district to update the infrastructure for communication in a crisis.

Odyssey of the Mind – Laura Murtough/Meridith Markovitz – no report

Youth Steering – Amy Billerbeck

* There were about 400 in attendance for the Dr Borba presentation.
* A panel discussion on vaping was held on 12/11. There were about 40 in attendance.
* General Planning meeting will be held on Jan 8.
* Will hold WinterBlast on Feb 22 for all 5th and 6th grade students.

**New Business**

* SHIM Food Drive
  + A district wide food drive will be held at the schools from Feb 1-28. South Hills Movers will pick up all boxes on Monday, 3/2.
* Extended Teacher Certification (ETC) Program
  + An informational meeting will be held on Jan 14 in the Boyce LGI room.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:34 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michele Unice

The Next USC PTC Meeting

February 5, 2020

Fort Couch Middle School