

**Boyce Middle School PTO
General Meeting Minutes
January 9, 2019**

Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance

The January 9, 2019 General Meeting of the Boyce Middle School PTO was called to order by Jennifer Schnore at 9:40AM in the Boyce Middle School LGI. Secretary Penney Miller recorded the proceedings. Nineteen (19) people attended including the following executive committee members: Jennifer Schnore, Stacey Cobb, Gina Swanson, Christine Mussomeli, and Penney Miller. Special guests were Amy Billerbeck and Officer Mike Banaszak.

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Reading & Approval of Agenda and Minutes

A motion to approve the January 9th Agenda and November General meeting minutes was made by Andrea Amorose and seconded by Toby Sirota. The motion carried unanimously.

Statement of the Treasurer- Stacey Friday

Mrs. Friday passed out a statement outlining PTO finances from the period of November 13, 2018 through January 8, 2019 (see attached). Mrs. Friday noted the significant amount of \$730 raised for Staff Appreciation. Spirit nights were also successful and raised \$246.53 from Chipotle and \$156.73 from Chick-Fil-A. The PTC paid the PTO \$239.97 from online memberships. An additional yearbook income of \$155 was collected from people electing to purchase a yearbook this fall. The Spirit Wear sale was a very successful event raising \$424 for the PTO. Income for the reporting period was \$2602.03.

Mrs. Friday noted the largest payment was \$1175.81 from the Gift of School Fund to pay for new school wall graphics. Other payments included \$200 for umbrellas for teachers dismissing students, a \$119 reimbursement to Mrs. Friday for purchasing gifts cards for Guidance for Hurricane Relief [from the Book Fair Change Collection], and \$74.89 for Mrs. Friday to purchase a Quicken subscription. Mrs. Friday also pointed out that the PTO paid the Boyce nutrition center for popsicles that were purchased for 2018 Field Day. Payments for the month totaled \$2389.59 (please see itemized listing of other expenses).

Several checks from this period need to clear (see attached) and therefore, the available PTO checking balance as of January 8, 2019 is \$38,094.99.

Mrs. Friday also reported no activity on the Deer Valley account except for interest accruing the last two months, and the available balance in that account is \$6162.34

A question was raised by Prema Sridaran about the popsicle payment. Mrs. Friday confirmed that bill for the popsicles was dated in July [after the end of the 2018-2019 PTO fiscal year].

Batool Nulwala informed the PTO that “Tech Soup” offers Quicken for free to non-profit groups on its website.

Correspondence- Penney Miller-No correspondence to report.

Executive Committee Reports

- **President- Jen Schnore**

Mrs. Schnore asked the General Assembly to make and approve a motion to use funds not earmarked for another purpose to pay for unanticipated Author's Day expenses. Mrs. Schnore explained that the cost of bringing this year's author to Boyce is \$3000 plus her travel expenses. Mrs. Schnore explained the approved 2018-2019 PTO Budget allotted \$2000 for Author's Day and Mrs. Husak has committed the Library's PTO allotment of \$1000 to this effort, providing an amount that only covers the booking fee. Mrs. John, Author's Day Committee Chair, anticipates travel expenses not to exceed \$800. According to Standing Rules, any additional expenses exceeding \$100 of an approved budget item must be approved by the General Assembly. The needed funds were generated from the Spirit Wear and Box Tops fundraisers to pay for this additional expense.

Tobi Sirota moved to approve \$800 to be added to the Author's Day budget.

A question was asked about who the author is. Mrs. Schnore answered the author is Aisha Saeed, the author of "Amal Unbound". This book was chosen for the Global Reading program of which Boyce is a participant. Mrs. Husak has been reading the book to every 6th grader and plans to read the book to 5th graders too.

Mrs. Cobb added that at the Author's Day event, Ms. Saeed will do 2 presentations, meet with Battle for the Books winners, and that we are also asking she conduct a writing workshop for student applicants. Schnore added the Librarian is giving all of her budget to this event while noting that the librarian still has scholastic dollars to spend if she has other needs in the library.

Batool Nulwala seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

- **1st Vice President- Gina Swanson-** No report
- **2nd Vice President- Dan O'Rourke-** No report. Mr. O'Rourke is out of the office.
- **Board Advisor- Stacey Cobb-** No report
- **Teacher Representative- Matt Henderson**
 - Introduced to Officer Mike [Banaszak] who took the floor.
 - Officer Mike share a few anecdotes about himself and made some local connections with some in the audience.
 - Office Mike has 27 years of experience in law enforcement through his work on the City of Pittsburgh and Ocean City, Maryland police forces, and the Upper St. Clair School District.
 - Officer Mike stated the goal of having an officer in the building is to keep kids safe, patrol halls, talk to kids. He encourages kids to talk to him about issues they are concerned about and don't, for whatever reason, feel comfortable talking with a school administrator. He wants kids and parents to feel free to ask any questions and keep aware.
 - When asked what kids should call him, he responded, "Officer Mike".
 - The first Deer Valley meeting is scheduled for January 31, 2019 in the Boyce Theater. Registration tables open at 6:30PM and the presentation will run from 7-

- 8:30PM and cover trip specifics and required clearances. Stacey Liguori, from central office, will be there to help people with volunteer clearances.
- Mrs. Hoedeman conveyed:
 - Look for the prime number paint splats on the lockers. Students calculated which locker numbers were prime numbers and decorated those lockers with a “paint splat” made at Shop-Boyce@USC.
 - February math competitions are:
 - Club 24: A fast pace math game meeting on Mondays from 3:15-4:30PM from Feb 4 through April 1. Cost is \$30. Registration ends January 21 and forms can be downloaded from link listed in the Boyce Bulletin website.
 - Pennsylvania Mathematics League Competition is in February. Information forthcoming.
 - Mrs. Husack announced:
 - The Battle of Books starts next week. Boyce students are asked to read 5 books. See Boyce Library website for more details.
 - Global Read Aloud is about done for the 6th graders. This program connects the entire world by reading the same book to the same age group at the same time around the world. The book read this year is “Amal Unbound.” Mrs. Husack will also read the book to 5th graders to prepare them for Author’s Day assembly.
 - Mr. Hendersen announced that Parents of 5th graders are needed to help Mrs. Criner with baking cookies for Revolutionary War Day. Mrs. Schnore created a sign-up genius form and will be sending that out via eAlert.
 - A question was asked what was Club 24? Mr. Henderson responded it is a mental math game in which students use all 4 operations to get the numbers appearing on the face of a card to equal 24

Special Guests

- School Board- Amy Billerbeck presented for Daphna Gans.
 - Mrs. Billerbeck reported all building projects are proceeding on time despite the weather. She noted that the Boyce field improvements were complete.
 - The Open Mike meeting in December was a success and good information about school safety was conveyed. The Board feels good that officers are establishing positive relationships with kids and staff that are non-threatening or intimidating. Please share any comments.
 - The Board is also proceeding with changes discussed in August to encourage kindness initiatives in the curriculum which include Anti-bullying and Rachel’s Challenge (One of the murdered Columbine students who wrote an essay about being kind). The curriculum will be adjusted to add anti-hate messages when studying topics that allow for these types of discussions (e.g., Holocaust).
 - Pennsylvania is also requiring every district to participate in the Safe to Say Program. This program is a centrally located Tip Line that anyone can call with any concern.
 - Officer Mike added the Tip Line is the Attorney General’s Office response to events at Parkland High School. Students from 5th-12th will be trained

in how to contact the Tip Line. At this time, the Board is considering if the Tip Line App will be put on school IPADS. There are 3 access points to the tip line: a 1-800 number, website link, or App for electronic devices. The information submitted to the tip line will be relayed to the appropriate people in the school district. All involved are hoping to prevent things like suicides, shootings, etc. The tip line will work within and across school districts and has mandatory participation for Pa School Districts. The program will go into effect in mid-January.

- Mrs. Billerbeck commented the tip line was developed in response to the Sandy Hook Promise and that all will be hearing more about it.
- Mrs. Billerbeck also shared that at the Board Reorganization meeting in December, the Board decided to leave their leadership as it is rather than reorganize because of all the transitions, changes, and construction projects occurring in USCSO this year.
- Mrs. Billerbeck announced Jim Render has retired after 40 years and 400 wins. The Board will announce a new coach in upcoming months.
- The Board will consider Fast-Track curriculum changes this month. If anyone is interested in USCSO curriculum, there is a need for contributions to the community curriculum input committee. Please let Mrs. Billerbeck know if you would like to participate.
- The Board has initiated work on the 2019-2020 budget. The process is a multi-month task and begins now to be ready for approval by June.
- Mrs. Billerbeck was asked when the pool at the high school would be done and she responded the Board expected the completion at the end of August/early September 2019.
- Dr. Rozzo has announced he is working on the calendar for next year and seeks input on Spring break timing. Would residents like spring break to occur after Easter? An online form for family feedback will be posted on the district website soon. This spring break change is conditional on PSSA dates.
- Mrs. Billerbeck was asked if the summer school/leadership academy schedule has been determined, and she responded dates were forthcoming.

Standing & Reporting Committees/Reporting Organizations

- **Author's Day- Ponny Jahn**
 - Mrs. Schnore acknowledged the amazing efforts of Mrs. Jahn and Mrs. Husak in making this event work.
- **Band Parents- Andrea Amorose, Kathy Ginsburg, Rhoda Smith.**
 - Mrs. Amorose reported a good band concert on December 12, and band parents assisted Mr. Madge in the Boyce Theater. Chairs also helped with the Dec 14 band concert during the school assembly in the gym.
 - Mrs. Amorose reported the committee plans to host a reception after the Spring concert and noted that the committee will order more cookies and purchase less water. The committee also plans a collection for a gift for Mr. Madge.
 - Rhoda Smith is also communicating with Mr. Madge, Dr. Seybert and Fort Couch band parents to see if something can be done to better bridge the transition between the Boyce and Fort Couch Bands and encourage kids to stay involved.

One idea is to have a joint performance with the Fort Couch kids at Boyce. She will meet with Fort Couch people to discuss ideas and get back with the PTO.

- **Chorus - Sarah Mittleider, Rhoda Smith**
 - Mr. Lang directed the 5th and 6th grade choral programs this fall. Due to scheduling issues, there was a combined concert for Boyce and Fort Couch choirs on December 13 at the high school. The committee collected funds for gifts for Mr. Lang and Mrs. Holly Jones (accompanist) and coordinated parent volunteers.
 - Mrs. Schetley will return to direct the 5th and 6th grade musicals. Mrs. Smith is coordinating with Mrs. Schetley on parent duties and volunteer needs. The committee will also gather donations for gifts for Mrs. Schetley. The titles of the musicals are forthcoming. According to the school calendar, the 5th grade musical dress rehearsals are March 28 and April 2, with the actual shows on April 3, 4, and 5. The 6th grade dress rehearsals are April 8 and 9, with performances on April 10 and 12.
- **Boyce Pride- Michelle Mandler.**
 - Twenty-Seven (27) children were acknowledged for their kindness this month.
- **Chess Club- Batool Nulwala.**
 - The first session of chess club was very successful. Congratulations to the top finishers in the last round of the Chess Club: 1st place: Ishaan; 2nd place: Luke; 3rd place: Shresht. Mrs. Nulwala is coordinating a second session that runs from February through March, and she encourages new students to participate (new students will be given first preference). She wants to increase participation numbers (30 will be allowed to register). Mrs. Nulwala also encourages girls to register and mentioned that there will also be a girl mentor.
- **Orchestra- Prema Sridaran.**
 - Ms. Sridaran reported a successful orchestra concert with the 3 groups performing. Mrs. Shoemaker also provided additional performance opportunities for all groups which included Bravo at PPG Place Wintergarden, Encore went to Phipps Conservatory, and Panther went to the Benedum Center to perform before the Nutcracker ballet.
 - The combined concert for all levels will be next week at the high school at 7PM. The concert is earlier this year because USC will host the String Fest this spring.
 - Orchestra parents plan to use the budgeted funds for a party this spring.
- **Read for a Reason- Stacey Cobb, Ruth Rush**
 - Mrs. Cobb stated this event is the only PTO fundraiser in which the money goes directly back to the students. This year, proceeds will fund the Panther Program, which rewards kids for being kind to one another. Prizes are awarded when kids are “caught” being kind and include autographed baseballs, tickets to sporting events, and gift cards to Best Buy.
 - Read for a Reason will happen January 18-28. Please encourage your kids to read. Ideally, as a goal, the PTO would love to see each child raise \$5. Kids will be rewarded for their reading efforts with prize drawings. This event coordinates with Battle for the Books so children may log hours reading those books and be eligible for prizes regardless of funds raised.
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- **Spelling Bee- Amy Sarkett**
 - The Spelling Bee will take place on January 29 at 5:30 PM at the Boyce Theater. Mrs. Sarkett is still accepting late registrations. Because 45 students have registered, the committee will have a written prequalifying exam which will take place during Pride Time on January 15. Mrs. Sarkett seeks help in administering the written exam.
- **Spirit Wear- Hani Kelly, Shannon Rosenberry**
 - The Spirit Wear committee used the same vendor as last year, and the sale was a great success. Everything was completed the week before Christmas. The committee is thinking of organizing a Spring sale with a more limited selection of goods. Mrs. Schnore thanked the committee for their efforts.
- **Staff Appreciation- Michelle Mandler**
 - The Staff Appreciation Committee held its winter luncheon on December 14th. Thanks to very generous Boyce families, the staff appreciation committee had donations of money, food, and gift cards to provide a wonderful celebration for the Boyce staff. Family Deli catered the food and was supplemented by many lovely homemade dishes. The luncheon featured a cookie bar with dozens of homemade sweet treats for staff to enjoy and take home and a prize raffle. All in all, it was a very nice luncheon, and the staff could not have been kinder and more appreciative.
 - The Staff Appreciation Committee extends their very sincere gratitude to the very many that donated. They could never have put together this size of luncheon without such an abundance of generosity.
 - Staff Appreciation Committee will hold a smaller staff event for Random Acts of Kindness week on February 15th. Information on this event is forthcoming.
 - The next Staff Appreciation luncheon will be May 24th and information regarding this event will be sent out several weeks prior.
 - Ms. Mussomeli thanked the PTO for sponsoring the luncheon and said it was wonderful time to visit with each other.
- **Youth Steering- Jen Schnore**
 - The next Youth Steering fun night will be on Saturday, Feb 23 at the Rec Center and is limited to Boyce-aged Students. Details forthcoming.
 - The event will host fun activities for kids to socialize (inflatables, games, etc.) Organizers need parent chaperones. Please contact Mrs. Schnore if interested.

Additional Business

- The PTC is piloting a district wide SHIM drive for the entire month of Feb. All schools will be accepting food and personal care items. Mrs. Schnore is working on coordinating between all the schools. Please support this cause for our neighbors in need.
- Toby Sirota asked the PTO to consider additional fundraising opportunities.
 - The next Spirit Night is at Chick-Fil-A and is March 20th
 - Mrs. Sirota pointed out that Chick-Fil-A gives 15% no matter what sales and Chipotle gives 33% after they make \$300 in sales. She pointed out there may be better options and asked the PTO to consider selling a coupon sheet that had discounts at area businesses. She offered to look into this fundraiser that is sponsored by Black Bear Fundraising and will report back to the PTO.

- Mrs. Billerbeck reminded everyone that there was a presentation on Opioid Addiction at the Rec Center this evening. She encouraged all to attend.
- Mr. Albert Jablonsky asked the PTO to relay that there was a seating problem at the combined Chorus concert. Because people were saving seats for their friends and family members, other people couldn't find seating. Mrs. Schnore said she would pass this information on to event organizers.

Unfinished Business-no unfinished business to report.

Next PTO Meeting- March 13, 2019

Adjournment was at 10:50 AM

Respectfully submitted by Penney Miller

Date Approved: February 13, 2019

Boyce PTO General Meeting - January 2019

Treasurer's Report

PTO Checking Account

Beginning checking cash balance as of 11/13/18: **\$ 38,505.65**

PTO Income from 11/13/2018 to 1/8/2019

\$ 730.00	Staff appreciation donations 11/16/2018, 12/11/2018, 1/07/2019
\$ 246.53	Spirit Night - Chipotle
\$ 156.73	Spirit Night - Chick-Fil-A
\$ 239.97	Activity fee/Membership 12/11/2018, 1/7/2019
\$ 155.00	Yearbook income
\$ 200.00	Chess Club
\$ 424.00	Spirit Wear
\$ 449.80	Box Tops
\$ 2,602.03	Total

PTO Payments from 11/13/2018 to 1/8/2019

\$ 119.00	Check #1239 Stacey Friday for Guidance Charitable Donation
\$ 1,175.81	Check #1240 Gift to School for new wall graphics
\$ 200.00	Check #1241 Stacey Friday for Gift to School Umbrella purchase
\$ 74.89	Check #1242 Stacey Friday to reimburse for Quicken subscription
\$ 275.00	Check #1243 Denise M Henning CPA for Audit and Tax Filing
\$ 25.08	Check #1244 Toby Sirota for Spirit Night copies
\$ 286.50	Check #1245 USC Nutrition Center for popsicles for 2017/2018 Field Day
\$ 162.67	Check #1246, 1249 for Staff Appreciation
\$ 70.64	Check #1247 Stacey Cobb for PTO Committee Meeting
\$ 2,389.59	Total

Total PTO checking balance as of 1/8/2019: **\$ 38,718.09**

Outstanding Transactions as of 1/8/2019

Cash on hand to be deposited

\$ 40.00 Yearbook income

Outstanding checks

\$ 104.84	Check #1248 Jamie Burnette for Staff Appreciation
\$ 13.02	Check #1250 Sarah Mittleider for Chorus
\$ 195.24	Check #1251 Batool Nulwala for Chess Club wrap-up party
\$ 350.00	Check #1252 Stacey Friday for Caring and Sharing gift cards

Adjusted PTO Checking balance after these Outstanding Transactions **\$ 38,094.99**

Deer Valley Account

Beginning Money Market cash balance as of 11/13/2018: \$ 6,161.83

Deer Valley Income from 11/13/2018 - 1/8/2019

\$ 0.25 Interest payment on 11/30/2018

\$ 0.26 Interest payment on 12/31/2018

Deer Valley Payments from 11/13/2018 - 1/8/2019

No payments

Total Deer Valley Money Market Balance as of 1/8/2019: \$ 6,162.34