

PTSCO Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, 5:30-6:30 PM, December 4, 2019 | *Meeting called to order by* Maureen Chapman

In Attendance

Parents: Maureen Chapman, Mau Tripp, Pixita del Prado Hill, Wendy Mistretta, Cristina Glover, Cathy O'Day, Tava Shanchuk, Nicholas Penchaszadeh, Melissa Meehan, Megan Stewart

Pelion Garden: Cassandra Seawall

Administration: Dr. Kresse, Mrs. Hannah

Introduction

Meeting called to order at 5:33 pm; welcome from President Maureen Chapman

PTSCO goal: Build community at CHS

Parent Representatives

Representatives: if you are interested in becoming a grade parent representative, please email Maureen at chsclass2019@gmail.com

- 5th grade – Carli Todoro-Rickus and Cristina Garcia Glover
 - 6th grade – Tava Shanchuk, Melissa Lukitsch, Tracy King Rosenhahn, Danielle Grzymala
 - 7th grade –
 - 8th grade – Mau Tripp, Maureen Chapman, Kelly Hall, Megan Stewart
 - 9th grade – Tracy King
 - 10th grade
 - 11th grade – Hilary Rifkin, Liz Urbanski Farrell
 - 12th grade – Amy Galvin
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Previously-held PTSCO sponsored events:

- 5th and 6th grade Ice Cream Social and Haunted Lockers
 - 8th Grade Middle School Dance (last fundraiser for 8th graders)
 - For 7th Grade events – we need a 7th grade parent representative
 - Dr. Kresse will send an email message encouraging volunteers
 - The position can be shared between multiple people
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Upcoming events sponsored by PTSCO:

- Winter Bazaar – December 13
 - Megan Stewart and Tracy King taking the lead
 - Reached out to all clubs and organizations
 - 8 tables have been reserved
 - Suggestion: Use envelopes to collect money from PTSCO organizations so Maureen Chapman/Mau Tripp can deposit the funds
 - Contact Mrs. Hannah for an email reminder
- Teacher/Staff Appreciation Holiday Gift – December 13

- Sponge candy has been ordered
- Maureen Chapman and Pixita del Prado Hill will add tags
- Mrs. Bertucci will hold the candy until Monday for the student council to deliver
- Support to High School Student Senate as needed
- Support to 8th Grade Trip as needed (in May)
- Scholarship for 2 seniors (June)
- Support for 8th Grade Moving Up Day as needed (June)
- Support for the Pelion Garden Strawberry Festival as needed (June 18)
- End of the Year Teacher/Staff Appreciation Breakfast (June)

Pelion Garden Updates

- 5th and 6th Grade Sing-Along – December 19 from 4:00-6:00
 - Flyers for the available
 - Tree was donated last year – celebrating the tree with solar lights and bird ornaments
 - Cocoa and hot cider will be available
 - Seeking a student to serve as the song leader
 - Dress for the cold
- Strawberry Social – June 18
- Volunteer nights
 - Switch to Wednesdays?
 - This means switching the Garden Club to Thursdays

DPCC/SBMT

DPCC: President Wendy Mistretta

- Next meeting next Tuesday
 - Guest speaker: Fatima Morrell
 - Associate Superintendent for Culturally and Linguistically Responsive Teaching
 - 3 Year Plan
 - Disproportionality Training
 - Will discuss how parents can get involved
 - Students from Breaking Barriers and My Brother's Keepers – came to speak about priorities
- For the spring meeting: Anne Botticelli, Chief Academic Officer, has been invited to speak about how to expand access to GT and AP Working to invite Chief of Security to share policy and procedures
- DPCC is one of 5 parent groups in the Parent Congress
 - Met with the Superintendent
 - Will identify short term and long-term priorities
 - Top priority – trauma, grief
 - Say Yes – 5-year campaign to make scholarships available forever looking to involve parents and students in the fundraising

SBMT:

- CHS is the only BPS that hasn't received Title 1 funds for parent engagement – new funds have been made available – some ideas include:
 - I See IB Night – include more parents
 - Information session for parents

- A new mission statement for CHS

City Honors School is a supportive learning community that provides a culture of collaboration and promotes critical thinking through the International Baccalaureate Program at all grade levels and for all students. By providing an accelerated curriculum and an enriched environment, where international-mindedness is promoted and celebrated, City Honors School endeavors to develop life-long learners who are caring and innovative global citizens.

CHS Administration:

- Winter sports are in full swing
- Matilda – musical production is underway
 - Mr. Moses is directing the show
 - Dates: March 26 at 7:00; March 27 at 7:00, March 28 at 1:00 and 7:00
- Speech and Debate
 - More students have qualified for States than in the past
 - Mr. Belge serves as the faculty advisor
- Model UN – competition this Friday
- Mock Trial holding tryouts
- August Wilson competition under Mr. Sharratt’s direction
- Wednesday December 18 the Board of Education is voting on Fosdick Field
- Building:
 - Welcome mural is being designed for the front the building – multilingual will take about 3 weeks
 - At bottom of marble stairs – to make this more welcoming, the walls have been painted company will come in with spirit décor, LED lighting, historical images will be hung as well
- After school program just recently started for students waiting for athletics
 - Math, Science, Social Studies, CTE as well as yoga and cooking
 - Email will go out – all students can participate

Additional Items

- Box Tops are being collected for Pelion Garden
 - They are sent in twice per year
 - By November 1 and March 1
 - Online App is available for scanning when items are bought at the grocery store
- A new program to teach students how to play Bridge
 - Dr. Kresse will include in the Hilltop Notes
- Fosdick Field Questions: Board is voting at its next meeting
 - How will this be shared with the rest of the city? (Similar process for other fields owned by a BPS school)
 - Liability? (Similar process for other fields owned by a BPS school)
- Training for students and faculty regarding sexual abuse?
 - Dr. Kresse spoke with whole student body about how proud he was of those students who came forward
 - CHS swiftly responded using district protocol
 - Faculty and staff were re-trained on mandatory reporting
 - Sought advice from Crisis Services – (help is available on an individual basis; will provide additional training) – more information on the plan will be provided in January

- How would students let someone know that they want to seek this help?
 - Explain they want to go to the Main Office
 - Parents can call the school to advocate for their child(ren)
 - Teachers know to send students to the Student Support Team
- Training for aides?
 - They go through Safe and Civil Training
- Could the resources for accessing services be a part of the Health curriculum?
 - This Friday parents will receive a letter about the upcoming Sex Education (opportunity to opt out)
 - Mrs. Hannah will work with the Health teachers on this suggestion
- Concern about Health Education across all grades
 - The district is out of compliance regarding Health Education
 - DPCC is working on this issue
- What is the policy on bathrooms being locked during the school day?
 - Discussed in SBMT meeting
 - 12 restrooms (6 for each gender) for students available during the day
 - 2 restrooms (1 for each gender) for 5th and 6th grade
 - 4 additional restrooms (2 for each gender) in physical education area
 - New annex – restrooms are difficult to manage, but vandalism and inappropriate behavior in the boys’ restrooms; there is not enough staffing to manage this space; the girls’ restrooms are not locked; hoping to secure another aide – this person will monitor the restrooms

Next meetings (Wednesdays from 5:30-6:30 in LGI Room)

- March 4
- June 3

Meeting ended at 6:31 pm