

# MINUTES

## Clayton High School PTO

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09/17/2018 6:30 PM | *Meeting called to order by* Stefanie Litteken, Co-President

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### In Attendance

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Stefanie Litteken, Katie Sandquist, Susan Brown, Gina Bernstein, Gina Nakis, Celeste Gillette, Diane Willingham, Bruce Butler, Alex Berger III, Peter Sparks, Paula Sparks, Angela Quigless, Noelle Collins

Dan Gutchewsky, Principal, T'Shon Young, Student Activities

Co-President Stefanie Litteken opened the meeting. Attendees introduced themselves.

### Principal's Report

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Dan Gutchewsky reported that the year is off to a good start.

- The athletic teams are all doing really well. The big Clayton /Ladue Football showdown is this Friday at 7pm Gay Field.
- Progress Reports went out today. Parents can access them via PowerSchool.
- 6th grade camp is next week.
- Parent /Teacher Conferences coming up Oct 17-18.
- The Fall Play is "Men On Boats" Oct 25-28.
- Technology Roll out for this year.... every student has a chrome book in hand. The chrome books have the ability to download a full website ahead of time for use and access later when WiFi is unavailable. Through a generous donation by a private donor, 10 MiFi hotspots are available for check out from the CHS library.
- Professional Development focus is Mental Wellness and Equity. The goal is more inclusion and more culturally responsible activities in classes including increased awareness by teachers to identify student stress and anxiety.
- During Homecoming week a former CHS grad Leah Warshawski will be presenting her documentary "Big Sonia" in the CHS Auditorium on Thursday Oct. 4th at 7:00pm. It will be open to the community. Reservations required. Leah and her husband will meet with Sophomore classes during the day and will host a Q& A after the screening.

### Committee Reports

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Activities Report, presented by T'Shon Young:

- Homecoming is October 6.

- StuCo picked 3 themes this year and the Administration team selected the final theme... “Decades: Clayton Through the Years”.
- **Sunday, September 30:** Brahley Ball Games at 2pm, Powderpuff Games at 4pm
- **Monday October 1:** “Mayhem Monday” Students dress in pajamas for school.  
 Decoration of halls 3:30-9:00pm
- **Tuesday, October 2:** “Team Tuesday” Students dress in class colors:
  - \* Freshmen - yellow
  - \* Sophomores - red
  - \* Juniors - green
  - \* Seniors - black
- **Wednesday, October 3:** “Winning Wednesday” Students dress in their favorite college/ professional team jersey.
- **Thursday, October 4:** “Themed Thursday” Students dress to their class theme:
  - \* Freshmen - 1920’s - 1930’s
  - \* Sophomores - 1950’s-1960’s
  - \* Juniors - 1970’s - 1980’s
  - \* Seniors - 1990’s
  - \* Staff - dress like the decade of your teen years. (Students will vote for best dressed staff member)
- **Thursday, October 4:** Students will decorate 1/4th of the Commons to their theme. 3:30-9:00pm
- **Friday, October 5:** Entire student body will dress in CHS gear or blue/orange. School Pep rally 2:20pm, Class Competitions and Bonfire 7pm, Gay Field. The Bonfire event is to include Parents! The actual Bonfire usually starts around 8:15pm after the student games are over.
- **Saturday, October 6:** “Homecoming Day” CHS Homecoming Parade at 11am. Students and any others participating in the parade need to be there by 10am for line up. Homecoming Football Game vs Parkway Central at 12pm, Gay Field.  
 Homecoming Dance at 8pm (Stuber Gym). Doors open at 7:30pm

Staff Appreciation:

- The next event is a staff dinner Wednesday night during Parent Teacher Conferences. Please sign up to volunteer via the PTO website.

Funds For Excellence:

- Always collecting. Donations still accepted.

Homecoming Bonfire, presented by Celeste Gillette:

- The Bonfire is an event for Parents, Families and Students on Friday October 5th at Gay Field 7pm.
- Refreshments and baked goods are donated by parents. Volunteers and baked goods still needed. Baked goods can be store bought. Contact [zetcher@aol.com](mailto:zetcher@aol.com) or [byceleste2004@gmail.com](mailto:byceleste2004@gmail.com) to volunteer or donate.
- The Homecoming Parade is on Saturday October 6th leaving the High School at 11am en route to Gay Field, followed by the football game at noon. Everyone participating in the parade should be there for line up at 10am.

Parent Connections:

- Freshman will have a tent at the homecoming parade near the Family Center on Oct 6th.
- Sophomores will have an event Nov 8th at J.McGraugh's.
- Juniors just had a parent connections event on Friday, September 14th.
- Seniors.... TBD

CHS 101:

A link to Frequently asked Questions and Answers will soon be posted on the CHS website. If you are looking for an answer to a question that you can't find, please notify the PTO to add it to the list.

Volunteers:

Please sign up through the PTO website. We are always looking for volunteers!

PTO Tablecloths:

Orange and Blue Tablecloths are available to be used for sports banquets or any club event held on campus. Please just notify the PTO to reserve them.

All In Clayton Coalition, presented by Bruce Butler:

- The coalition was established to promote healthy and sober choices. Anyone who would like a yard sign "Don't be a Friend, Be a Parent" should contact [allincoalition@gmail.com](mailto:allincoalition@gmail.com)
- A traveling exhibit will be available during Parent Teacher Conferences on October 17th 3:30-8:30pm in the Clayton High School Auditorium. "Hidden in Plain View." Tour at your convenience.
- 2 Volunteers are needed to help collect unwanted medications at the football game. Please contact [allincoalition@gmail.com](mailto:allincoalition@gmail.com) to volunteer.

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## Treasurer Report

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Gina Bernstein presented current PTO Budget and account balance. (See attachment).

The Simmons Checking account has \$53,213.12 (after checks for Jr. Parent Connection and Open House)

The Paypal Account has \$8,849.15.

Total funds: \$62,062.27

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## New Business

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Alex Berger visited as a representative of the Clayton Education Foundation. The foundation provides financial support to programs that offer unique learning experiences for students in each of our six schools. The Foundation supports innovative learning opportunities for Clayton students by awarding grants to Clayton teachers, covering programs beyond the District's budget.

The CEF is raising money to fund the Adzick Field Renovation and is looking for a donation from each of the Clayton School PTO's. They are asking for \$5,000 from each PTO which would be matched by Centene (up to \$600,000).

The field renovation will include a new astro turf field which will help lessen game delays due to poor/wet field conditions.

Gina Bernstein said that while we don't budget for special asks, there is enough money in the prior year reserves to cover the cost if a vote approves the donation. Not all Clayton PTO's are able to donate, but some are still considering. The vote to approve or not will be at the next CHS PTO meeting on October 1, 2018.

The CEF will be hosting it's first fundraising Gala on Saturday November 24th at the Ritz featuring guest Andy Cohen and event emcee Ben Hochman. Tickets (\$200 each) will go on sale in the next couple of weeks but for those who would like to purchase advance sponsorships (\$2,500 - \$7,500), please contact Elizabeth Macanufu ..... [elizabethmacanufu@claytonschools.net](mailto:elizabethmacanufu@claytonschools.net) Visit [claytoneducationfoundation.org](http://claytoneducationfoundation.org) for more details.

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## Next Meeting

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A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Gina Nakis and seconded by Celeste Gillette.

10/1/2018 6:30 PM, Clayton High School Library