

# MINUTES

## Clayton High School PTO

1/6/2020 6:30 PM | *Meeting called to order by* Stephanie Abbajay, Co-President

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### In Attendance

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Katie Sandquist, Stephanie Abbajay, Gina Bernstein, Susan Brown, Gina Nakis, Celeste Gillette, Diane Willingham, Falcia Lewis, Angela Quigless, Kim Whittle, Rula Winings, Lois Stemmler, Gary Pierson, Cathleen Fleck, Jacqaya Coleman (student), Douglas Fuchs (student)

Dan Gutchewsky, Principal; Amy Chappuis, ESL Teacher

Co-President Stephanie Abbajay opened the meeting. Attendees introduced themselves.

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### Principal's Report

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Dan Gutchewsky reported on the following:

- At the start of the new semester today we have several new students bringing the total student population to 907.
- Winter sports are well underway. The Coaches vs Cancer basketball game in December was well attended and CHS won the fundraising challenge for the first time in years. Proceeds go to cancer research.
- Since our last PTO meeting we have had a fire, snow days and finals. We were happy to get our final exams completed before the winter break despite the altered snow schedule that week.
- Juniors will be taking a practice ACT test on January 15 and the real ACT test on February 25.
- Sophomores will be taking the PSAT10 on February 25.
- Freshman and Seniors will be off campus on February 25 due to the ACT/PSAT10 testing. The Freshman will have organized college visits to SLU and Wash U. The Seniors will have an organized day of service.
- The incoming freshman curriculum fair night will be January 16. 8th graders will visit CHS on Friday 17th to attend some classes and to shadow a CHS student.
- Spring Parent Teacher Conferences will be on March 10 and 12 to help Wydown Middle School with their Parent Teacher Conference scheduling. WMS is a polling place on March 10 and therefore cannot hold PTC's that evening and will move their meetings to the evening of March 11.

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## Committee Reports

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**Activities**, presented Dan Gutchewsky:

- The Winter Musical “Wizard of Oz” is coming up January 30-February 2. Tickets on sale soon.
- Peppers Dance is scheduled for February 8. There might be some changes to the event. Stay tuned.
- February 7 is Trivia Night. It is run by the Junior Class but is intended for all Clayton Families to be invited.

**Staff Appreciation**, presented by Gina Nakis:

- The holiday staff meal went really well. We used Zia’s for catering and it was very good and relatively inexpensive.

**Parent Connections**, presented by Gina Nakis:

- The Juniors have a college meeting scheduled for January 15.

### **After Prom**

No updates at this time.

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## Treasurer Report

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Gina Bernstein presented the current PTO Budget and account balance.

- The Simmons Checking account has \$61,597.17.
- The paypal account has \$100.00.
- 194 families at CHS have donated to the PTO/Funds for Excellence
- An email was sent out in December to generate funds for the special ACT test prep class that Carolyn Blair is putting together. So far \$4,230 has been donated via the PTO Care Fund.
- Tax letters will go out this month.

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## New Business

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**Robotics Club**, Presented by Jacqaya Coleman (student), Douglas Fuchs (student):

Jacquaya and Douglas visited to say thank you from the Robotics Club for past support from the PTO. They are excited for the upcoming season and the new game theme “Infinite Recharge”. Anyone interested in seeing what they are doing is welcome to stop by the engineering room. The Regional Competitions will be in St Louis and Alabama. They have done well raising money so far for their events but if they go to the World Competition they will need additional funding.

**New Family Welcome Buddy Initiative**, Presented by Amy Chappuis

There is a need for new families to the Clayton School District for assistance with questions and support in learning about both the schools and living in Clayton. There was discussion about forming a call list and possibly a committee to create a welcome packet and resource list. There are generally 70-80 new families each year throughout the Clayton School District that could use support. There was a brief discussion about printing a small number of Buzz Books for inclusion in a New Family Welcome packet.

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**Next Meeting**

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A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Angela Quigless and seconded by Rula Winings.

2/3/2020 6:30 PM, Clayton High School Library