

MINUTES

Clayton High School PTO

08/20/2018 6:30 PM | *Meeting called to order by* Stefanie Litteken, Co-President

In Attendance

Stefanie Litteken, Katie Sandquist, Melissa Clark, Susan Brown, Gina Nakis, Celeste Gillette, Jeffrey Leurs, Adrienne Davis, Ryan Davis, Suzy Oge, Stephane Oge, Rachel Bennett, Christa Braun, Lois Stemmler, Susan Furdek, Valerie Brinkman, Stephanie Vallo, Caroline Early, Susan Kronemer, Betsy Sinclair, Robert Paty, Thais De Four, Heather Akred, Nancy Donohoo, Pamela Speh, Neena Aggalheal, Diane Willingham, Yuan-Churn Tai, Wanda Sams, Gina Bernstein,

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

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

Principal's Report

Dan Gutchewsky reported that the year is off to a good start with 907 students enrolled at CHS. Freshman Orientation went really well and 820 Chromebooks were successfully distributed before the start of school. This year lockers and combinations were distributed to students through an app instead of paper as in the past. The Chromebooks are an additional resource for students to use, not a replacement for good instruction.

The Professional Development focus is half Mental Wellness and Stress/Anxiety and half Continuing Equity work at the high school.

CHS has added a lot of new staff this year:

- Counseling – Jacelyn Cole
- Science – Susan Murray
- World Language – Victoria Ferris
- Social Studies – Bradley Durnell
- Social Studies – Kate Lyons
- P.E./Health – Steve Hutson
- P.E./Health – Sarah Gietschier-Hartman
- Math – Nicholas Kremer
- Choir – Raynard Brown
- Learning Center – Brenton Jamison
- Technology Intern - Trenton Fulton
- Activities Director - T'Shon Young
- Library Assistant - Bethany Kavanaugh

Open House is this Thursday 7-9pm. All are encouraged to come. It's a great opportunity to meet your student's teachers. A meeting for Freshman Parents will be held at 6pm prior to the orientation.

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.

Committee Reports

Activities Report, presented by T'Shon Young:

- She met with the Student Council during their retreat to YMCA Trout Lodge.
- There will be a Staff Appreciation Dinner before the Open House this week provided by the PTO.
- Picture Day is Tuesday, August 21.
- Homecoming is October 6.
- Please check the website for a list of activities available to students on the CHS website.
- There will be an Activities Fair this fall during lunch for students to learn about different clubs. More info to come later. Students can join most clubs at anytime of the school year.
- The Daily Announcements will soon be available on a You-Tube Channel. Please check the CHS website for a link.

Staff Appreciation:

- We will have several events throughout the year including a Holiday Lunch, Parent/Teachers Conference Dinner in Fall and Spring as well as an end of the year lunch. Volunteers needed.

Funds For Excellence:

- A mailer went out in early summer requesting donations for FFE but anyone can still contribute. Please check the PTO website for more information or a link to donate.

Homecoming Bonfire, presented by Celeste Gillette:

- The Bonfire is an event for Parents, Families and Students on Friday October 5th at Gay Field.
- Refreshments are donated by Parents.
- 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.

Parent Connections:

- Each Grade has a Parent Connections group that will have one social event and one counseling event per year.
- Parent Connection committees need to check with Andrea in Dan's office for date and room availability if they need to use the school facilities or reserve a room.
- All expenses over \$200 need to be approved by the PTO.
- Junior Parent Connections will hold their first event on September 14th. Details to come.

Volunteers Needed, presented by Susan Kronemer:

- She is the volunteer to help committees find volunteers or to help connect volunteers to committees. We always need volunteers and there is a place for everyone. Please contact her if you would like to volunteer.

All In Clayton Coalition, presented by Beth Deutsch:

- The next meeting is September 4th 4:30 - 5:30pm at the Clayton School District Administration Building. All are welcome and encouraged to come.
- The group will have information available during Parent Teacher Conferences on October 17th 3:30-5:30 in the Clayton High School Auditorium.

Gina Bernstein presented current PTO Budget (please see attachment).

- We've had generous donations from 135+ families to the Funds for Excellence totaling almost \$21,000. Our current balance in the bank to start the year is just under \$55,000.
- For those who would still like to donate, there is a PayPal option via the website or checks sent to the school are also accepted.
- The Care Fund was established for families in need of unforeseen expenses of basic necessities. The PTO is only a conduit for collecting the money which is then passed on to be used by the discretion of the Principal and counselors.

Gina Nakis motioned to approve the budget. Katie Sandquist seconded. Motion passed.

New Business

Betsy Sinclair visited to advocate for a group from Brittany Woods Middle School that is collecting clothes for students in need. If you have clothes to donate, please contact Betsy at team@magnifyyourvoice.com

Next Meeting

9/17/2018 6:30 PM, Clayton High School Library