

# Clayton High School PTO

March 7, 2016

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## ATTENDEES

Celeste Gillette and Jamie Marvel, co-chairs; James Gladstone, Student Activities Director; Brad Bernstein, Moira Jablon Bernstein, Patty Bloom, Paula Brandenburg, Lori Elliott, Sally Harrison, Jean Heusel, Tracy Holmes, Jayne Howard, Cathy Krucylak, Stephanie Littiken, Carolyn Morris, Gina Nakis, Gary Pierson,

## AGENDA

### Welcome and Introductions: Celeste Gillette and Jamie Marvel

### Superintendent Council Meeting: Celeste Gillette

- The Superintendent has an advisory council made up of the PTO Presidents. Below are highlights from a recent meeting:
  - On April 11, Director of Student Services is hosting a speaker, Mark Norwine (Walking Man) who walked across Missouri to raise awareness for Mental Health. The event will feature a Mental Health Resource Fair from 6-7 p.m., a screening of ["Walking Man."](#) a documentary about mental health advocate Mark Norwine's 200-mile walk across Missouri to bring awareness to the issue of mental health, and the opportunity to participate in a question and answer session with Norwine. . He will be discussing Mental Health and how it affects adolescents. Juniors and Seniors also will be seeing it during the day.
  - The PTO Council discussed factors that indicate a successful graduate
  - A variety of parenting programs are offered through the Clayton Family Center.

### CHS PTO Speaker Series: Celeste Gillette

- On April 13, at 6:30 p.m., CHS counselors will speak and answer questions about building resilience in high school. They request that parents submit questions to Jamie or Celeste in advance. The counselors are available for more than scheduling and college.

### Treasurer's Report: Jayne Howard

- March 1 balance: \$50,421
- February 1 balance: \$64,433

- \$14,012 spent on:
  - \$5,050: After Prom
  - \$1,872 on Care Fund Donations and Staff Appreciation
  - \$7,090: FFE grant
- PTO Owes:
  - \$2,500: Robotics Grant
  - \$2,500: Arts Fair
  - \$871: FFE grants
  - \$1,900: chairs for idea lab
  - Chairs for Innovation Lab: approved \$2,000

### Student Activities Report: James Gladstone

- **Dan's father** died March 4. They were very close.
  - Memorial Service will be held March 19 at 1 p.m. at Chapel Hill Mortuary, 10301 Big Bend Blvd in Kirkwood
  - Funeral will be followed by celebration of his life at Sunset 44 Restaurant at 2:30 p.m.
- Thanks to all who helped with **Pepper's Prom**. It was low key with no risky behavior. Abraham Park was the Pepper's Prom King.
- **Winter Spirit Week** raised more than \$3,000 for the American Cancer Society. It ended with a Pep Rally and Varsity boys and girls basketball games against Ladue.
- **Spring Sports** began last week. Water Polo games start next week.
- The **Pro Start Team** completed in Springfield and had two top 5 finishes. Culinary team placed second in state. Management team placed fourth in state.
- **Mock Trial Team** ended the season undefeated. They will compete in the state championship.
- **Inclusion:** Kate Pavelson and Rick Horace were honored for inclusion by the high school.
- **Parent teacher conferences:** So far, 327 parents signed up for spring conferences. This is slightly ahead of last year. Conferences are March 16 and 17
- **Vietnam Day:** March 17, a half day for students, and will be Vietnam day for sophomores. They will have breakout sessions and speakers.
- **The Robotics team** participating in 3-day regional competition at Chafetz and will travel to Florida for competitions over spring break.
- **Spring Break** is March 21-26
- The **Varsity Basketball Team** made it to District Finals
- Center of Clayton during Lunch: A discussion ensued about students being banned from using the basketball courts during lunch. James will check on rules, but believes students should have access to the courts.
- April Events
  - **Beautification Day:** April 2
  - **Annual Arts Fair:** April 7. There is no school that day.

- **Prom:** April 16 at the Randall Art Gallery, 999 N. 13th Street. Tickets go on sale April 4. Cost is \$65.

### After Prom Celebration: April 16, 11 p.m. - 2 a.m.

- After Prom will take place at the Moolah Theater and Bowling Alley, 3821 Lindell. It is 2.6 miles from Randall Art Gallery
- Kids will have a place to change clothes.
- Activities include: Casino, karaoke, photo booth, food, bowling, movie
- Great prizes. Students must be present to win.
- Cost is \$10, and kids do not have to go to prom to attend after prom.
- Volunteers are needed! Contact Lori Elliott at Lorielliott417@gmail.com

### Committee Reports

- **Senior Parents Connection:** Senior parents will gather at Craft Beer Seller on April 8.
- **Staff Appreciation Dinner:** On the Wednesday night of parent teacher conferences, PTO will serve fried chicken. Parents are bringing different salads. There are snacks for parents in the library.

### Board Elections: April 5th

- Gary Pierson: Has children at CHS (grade 9), Wydown (grade 7) and Captian (grade 2). His wife, Laura, is parent educator at the Family Center. Gary is an attorney who wants to support the district that has offered so much to his family.
  - Priority 1: Student success, and not just for the top students. He'd like to Close the achievement gap.
  - Priority 2: Supporting teacher development
  - Priority 3: Financing of the district.
- Brad Bernstein: Has 3 children who went to Meramec through CHS. Two are now alumni and his youngest is in 10th grade. Brad comes from family of educators, and is an alum of CHS. He has been involved for many years.
  - Priorities: Maintaining quality of schools. 1. Supporting the superintendent, 2. Academic excellence and achievement. 3. Fiduciary responsibility 4. Board working together.
  - Started his 2nd board stint in 2010.
  - He says the board is young and needs his experience. He does not plan to stay forever, but would like to serve while his daughter is in school.

### New Business

- Stephanie Littiken and Jean Heusel will be PTO Chairs next year! Anyone wanting to take on a leadership role should let Jamie or Celeste know.

- Mr. Harnid runs a book club, and parents are invited. The next meeting is March 30. They will discuss William Maxwell's "Time will Darken It"
- Graduation is Friday, May 20 at 6 p.m.

**Next PTO Meeting: Monday, April 4 at 6:30**

Respectfully submitted by Patty Bloom