

CHS PTO MEETING MINUTES
September 14, 2009
7 – 8 pm

On September 14th, the Clayton High School PTO held their monthly meeting in the CHS Library, from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. There were 22 people in attendance: Sue Hodapp, Jan Goodman, Christy Breckenridge, Peggy Bowe, Tina Holland, Pramila Badhri, Susan Ryffel, Louise Losos, Cindy Rapponotti, Russell Buchanan, Margie Kennard, Gayle Martiini, Tony Janneman, Linda Garavalia, Eugene Cho, Denise St. Ivany, Marguerite Garrick, Patty Paster, Liz Smith, Yun-Ho Sikora, Pat Kogos, and Robin Rivard.

The agenda was as follows:

1. Welcome, introductions:

Jan Goodman, 2009 PTO Co-President, greeted everyone, with thanks for attending and volunteering. People present introduced themselves, and talked about what they might do with an extra hour of time.

2. PTO August Minutes:

Minutes from the August meeting were introduced and approved.

3. PTO Website:

Russell Buchanan discussed the PTO Website. He asked that before anyone submits items for the website, that they clear the request with either Jan or Sue, Co-Presidents. Forward any requests to him with instructions for what needs to be done. Word, EXCEL documents are fine, PDFs are the best format. Information is typically removed from the website after events occur. Sue, Jan and Russell will be reviewing standard forms that will be put back up for members to use (Parent Connections, Reimbursement Form, Purchase Form).

4. Committee Reports:

Homecoming Bonfire for Parents. Robin Rivard indicated that plans for the bonfire on October 2nd are proceeding smoothly. Unfortunately, a mailing from the CHS office listed the location as Shaw Park instead of Gay Field (correct location). Louise Losos took

ownership for a phone blast relating to Homecoming, and clearing up any confusion about location. The group has plenty of volunteers, but need a couple of additional people to help with set-up. Pramila Badhri indicated that she would make contact with international families and students about the event. Louise Losos suggested she talk with Karen Hales-Mecham before taking any action

Open House. Thanks were given to the Open House committee for a great event.

Homecoming Dance and Senior Parent Connections. Sue Hodapp reported for Karen Stern. The committee has 13 volunteers for the dance, which should be enough. They have decided against a Senior event in the spring. There will be a Senior Parents event on November 21st at the Root home.

Junior Parent Connections. Yun-Ho Sikora reported that there would be a meeting with Juniors and the College Counselors at the PTO Connections event on September 22nd. Their committee is also meeting with the Junior Class Advisors to talk about the upcoming Junior Trivia Night on November 14th. This event will serve as the Junior Parent Connections event. Yun-Ho also mentioned that they have turned over the marathon water stations event to the Sophomore class, and that the Junior committee is looking for a service project. Robin Rivard suggested they might consider helping with the Girls on the Run event in May 2010.

Parent Connections. Liz Smith reported on the upcoming September 22nd PTO Parent Connections meeting. A police officer will present information on a drug/alcohol program to start the meeting, and then each class will separate for breakout sessions. Freshman parents will meet with Mark Snyder (Freshman Counselor) and Mike Nelke (Student Activities Director). Sophomore parents will hear about driving laws and restrictions. Junior parents will hear about college preparations from Chat Leonard. Louise Losos added that internet/cyber bullying would be a good future topic. Marguerite Garrick passed out a flyer about a November 17th event called "Getting our Kid Outside", being held at the Family Center. Finally, the sophomore class is holding a progressive tapas night on November 14th, plans for the November 7th Freshman Progressive Dinner are going well.

Centennial Monument Update. Jan Goodman provided an update on this project. For the first 3 months, Denise St. Ivany will be focused on high profile donors. The hope is to get 20% of the \$200,000 goal from core donors. This will be a two-year project. The committee will be submitting a grant request to the Gateway Foundation, Cindy Rapponatti will begin fund raising in January 2010, and Ann Gold will begin her efforts in the spring. There will also be involvement from DECA. Jan stated that the project has a sell line: "Clayton High School – The Art of Education."

The budget for the project is split out from the PTO regular budget, so far the only listed expense is for mailing. Tom Townsend is offering marketing services at no charge. More expense details to come. A motion was made to approve the Centennial project budget; the motion was seconded and passed.

5. Christy Breckenridge – Nurse:

Christy reported that the Clayton Charge Nurse is looking for help with the upcoming H1N1 vaccination project. Help will likely be needed with paperwork, sometime in October 2009. Louise Losos mentioned that everyone should make sure that their Power School email address is correct.

6. PTO Budget:

Tina Holland reported that CDs have been cashed and interest reported. PTO dues are in the budget, and more will come in over the next few weeks. The CHS planners were under budget. The Centennial Project has been separated out from the regular budget. A motion was made to approve the 2009/2010 PTO operating budget. The motion was seconded and passed.

7. Wydown Tomorrow:

Sue Hodapp reported on the on-going committee studying facility options for Wydown Middle School. The group will present to the Board of Education on November 18th, providing time for an April, 2010 bond issue. The project has a mandate to be less than \$40,000,000 and to be located at the current WMS location. Tours of WMS are available on Monday evenings, watch for signs. The group and the board are committed to an open process.

8. Principal's Report:

Louise Losos reported that as of week 5, this has been the smoothest start to a school year ever. This week Chris Koster and Brandon Silveri have spoken at assemblies. Peter Raven is coming to speak to AP and Biology students on science, as part of Project Blueprint. She mentioned upcoming events like Homecoming, and Sixth Grade Camp, and expressed thanks for the great Open House food provided for the staff. The CHS Globe is starting an online component, check the link on the CHS website. The Globe will be transitioning to a quarterly publication, and selling photos and ads online to generate revenue. Construction is proceeding; there may a fundraising event for kids to graffiti building before demolition. Finally, Graduation date is moving to Sunday, May 23rd, 2010, in the afternoon. This is to accommodate a 100th Anniversary Hall of Fame dinner on May 22nd. Graduation will still be at Washington University, the onsite rehearsal and picnic will be May 21st.

9. Next Month Reporting – Halloween Dance (Patti Paster and Lisa Avery)

The meeting adjourned at 8:15. The next meeting will be Monday, October 5th, from 7:00 to 8:00 pm in the CHS Library.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Ryffel
CHS PTO Secretary