

CHS PTO MEETING MINUTES  
AUGUST 10, 2009  
7 – 8 pm

On August 10<sup>th</sup>, the Clayton High School PTO held their monthly meeting in the CHS Library, from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. There were 21 people in attendance: Sue Hodapp, Christy Breckenridge, Peggy Bowe, Tina Holland, Susan Ryffel, Louise Losos, Debbie Polinsky, Sonia Beard, Betsy Wack, Cindy Rapponotti, Marcia Goldsmith, Marguerite Garrick, Patty Paster, Lisa Avery, Yun-Ho Sikora, Jeanne Golden, Karen Stern, Connie Evashwick, Patty Cooper, Jamie Marvel, and Robin Rivard.

The agenda was as follows:

**1. Welcome, introductions and contact information check:**

Sue Hodapp, 2009 PTO Co-President, greeted everyone, with thanks for attending and volunteering. People present introduced themselves; any contact information that was incorrect was noted. Each attendee was provided with a folder containing information to be discussed at the meeting.

**2. PTO meetings: Events**

Sue Hodapp indicated that with few exceptions, PTO meetings would occur on the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of each month. Meetings will typically open with a message from CHS Principal Louise Losos, and then follow with a Treasurer's report, and committee reports. Meetings may also include relevant speakers.

A review of the current event calendar prompted the addition of a September 22<sup>nd</sup> Parent Connections event. Marguerite Garrick mentioned a PTO Council event coming up in the next week. An email with more information will be forwarded to PTO Representatives.

### **3. Organizing your event: Planning and Timeline, Volunteers, Communication, Flyer, Website**

Sue Hodapp reviewed information regarding planning PTO events, including posting events to the website, and reimbursements. Tina Holland, Treasurer, emphasized that PTO members must use the tax-exempt letter (included in the packet). She will not reimburse for taxes paid. The Principal's Office also has available a Sam's Card (like a credit card) which must be used for tax-exempt purchases from Sam's.

PTO letterhead is available, in electronic form, from Sue Hodapp. It should be used for solicitations, PTO correspondence, etc.

### **4. Treasurer's Report: Proposed budget, Money matters – Tax letter, reimbursement form**

Tina Holland indicated that the tax letter had been adequately covered. She asked that representatives please review the proposed budget. Tina then made a motion to move money out of a certificate for use. The motion was seconded and approved.

Tina made a motion to accept the current budget. Barb Wack asked that she correct the amount listed for Open House, and Jeanne Golden asked about Miscellaneous Expenses. Cindy Rapponotti questioned the amount for FFE mailings, may be too low for what the group has planned. Cindy and Sue recommended tabling the budget approval until next month. Tina will present the budget for approval with any changes at the September meeting.

### **5. Committee Reports**

**Open House.** Betsey Wack indicated that herself, Bonnie Sternberg and Sharon Storm, is handling the 2009 event. They have plenty of cookies and volunteers. They will be looking for people to take over the task in 2010. Any leftovers from the event will be turned over to the Homecoming Bonfire folks; water may be stored in the recently organized PTO closet.

**Staff Appreciation Dinner.** Sue Hodapp reported that Lori Cohen would be handling the Staff dinner before the Open House, and a

December cookie event. Mai Lee will cater the Staff dinner, and the tables will have an Asian theme. Mary Gartner is helping.

**Buzz Book.** Sonia Beard indicated that the Buzz Book is on track to be completed before the Open House. She also indicated that the early date for the Open House might result in some parent/student information not making it into the final copy.

**Website.** Sue Hodapp reported that Russell Buchanan will be at the September meeting to review the PTO Website, and procedures for adding information and events to the website. There is a blue sheet in the packet that reviews the procedures.

**Senior Parent Connection.** Jeanne Golden and Karen Stern indicated that they needed dates of other events before they moved ahead. A parent has agreed to supply their home; they will consider either the weekend before or after Thanksgiving Break. For a spring event they are considering an event with topics tailored to Seniors and their families.

**Centennial Funds for Excellence.** Sue Hodapp indicated that this year's graduating class would be Clayton's 100<sup>th</sup> graduating class. In meetings with Louise Losos and others, the decision was made to commemorate the event with a new artwork, positioned at the entrance to Clayton High School. The objective is to provide a significant memorial of the 100<sup>th</sup> class, and to clearly identify the proper entrance to the High School. (Jeanne Golden suggested Visitor Parking availability would also be an improvement, Louise will take her suggestion under consideration.)

Construction will include "Way Signs" to direct traffic away from Stuber Gym and toward the proper High School entrance. The base of the statue will include seating, and small plaza, and possibly donor bricks. Kristner did the design; Bond Wolff will do the construction. Any contacts at the Gateway Foundation would be appreciated.

Cindy Rapponotti will be leading the fundraising team for the monument. She reported that the team includes Barbara Brinkman, the district's new Director of Development, and Denise St. Ivany, a new parent in the district. Denise will focus on Cornerstone (significant) donations. The target budget to be raised is \$100,000. Cindy also indicated that Ann Gold will be focusing on fundraising events, which should include students through DECA and StuGo, Barb will be focused on Alumni, and Mary Neil will be working on grant

applications for the project. She also reported that because of Proposition S construction, the timeline for the Centennial memorial has been delayed, which allows more time to plan and fundraise.

## **6. Principal's Report**

Louise Losos reported that teachers will be reporting for the new school year tomorrow, Wednesday will be an orientation for all high school students new to the district, with Thursday the orientation for all Freshmen students.

Freshman Parent night is set for Thursday, August 20<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 pm.

Some changes have been made in response to thefts last April and May: locks are being changed, and the staff will be locking the fire doors at 6:00. There will still be some access, but the goal is tighter security.

Mike Nelke is the new Student Activities Director, replacing Erik Hamylak. Annie Etlely has returned to the Math Department, and there are several new support staff.

Proposition S will begin soon, the schools are waiting for Board approval. Starting in October some classes will be moving into "Classroom Annexes" (trailers). The front circle will be made into parking during construction. There will be some disruption but every effort will be made to minimize noise during testing days.

## **7. Next month – Committee reports – Junior Parent Connections and Bonfire**

## **8. Adjourn.**

The meeting adjourned at 8:30. The next meeting will be Monday, September 14<sup>th</sup>, from 7:00 to 8:00 pm in the CHS Library.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Ryffel  
CHS PTO Secretary