

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF  
THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE PTO COUNCIL FOR  
THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF CLAYTON

SEPTEMBER 21, 2016

A meeting of the Board of Directors of the PTO Council for the School District of Clayton (the "Board") was held, as scheduled pursuant to due notice, on September 21st, 2016 at 6:30pm CST and the School District of Clayton Administration Building.

The following members of the PTO Council Board were present at the meeting: Sarah Melinger, Ann Marie Kerr, Susan Kronemer, Caroline Early, Alison Hoette and Chrissie Wojciechowski.

The following ex-officio advisors and PTO members were also present at the meeting: Dr. Sean Doherty, Karen McBride, Laura Pierson, Brad Bernstein, Tim Dilg, Stefanie Litteken, Debbie Reilly, Laura Seelbach, Jenny Abeles and Tanya Hayden.

Sarah Melinger and Ann Marie Kerr welcomed members of the Board and reviewed the agenda for the meeting.

Introductions: The current PTO Council Board and ex-Officio Advisors present were introduced. All members present at the meeting introduced themselves.

**Review of PTO Council Purpose and Mission by Anne Marie Piana Kerr,  
PTO Council Co-President:**

The PTO Council is comprised of six officers and the six presidents from each school. The purposed of the PTO Council is to facilitate the function of all the schools and to be a resource for other PTOs at each school. We collaborate with each school to help address issues that may come up over the yeas and we oversee the financial operations of each of the schools and support and facilitate transparency at each school.

Please make sure to review the PTO Handbook. It is a great resource for the presidents of each PTO. The PTO Council is the over arching 5013C and therefore ultimately responsible for reporting the finances of each PTO for tax purposes.

Although the PTO Council is the over arching Council of the PTOs, the governing rules from each PTO differs from school to school and each PTO operates separately.

### **PTO Council Budget Report by Caroline Early, PTO Council Treasurer:**

The PTO Council budget for the year is \$3,000.00 . Each school will get a bill for \$500.00 and that is to cover quickbooks online payments, insurance and tax preparation.

There is a line item for the voters forum and voters guide for the BOE election. The budget for this event is \$200.00.

A motion to approve the budget was made. The motion was seconded and all those present voted. Motion passed.

### **Overview and update from the Family Center, elementary schools, middle school and high school:**

High School: During Homecoming Week there is a different Spirit day every day and pep rally on Friday. There will also be a Bon fire on Friday night. All parents and siblings are welcome to attend. The parade begins at 11am on Saturday starting at the Stuber gym. The football game starts at noon and the dance begins at 8pm. Clayton will host Parkway Central for the football game. We also have conferences come up in October. Signing up is easy and a great way to meet the teachers.

Family Center: New this year will be a Barnes and Noble book fair. It will be the Friday night before halloween and will feature costumes and cookie decorating. In November, we will have our wine and dreams fundraiser.

Meramec: The Meramec Movie night is coming up. We will have the projector outside and sell concessions. New this year is a Barnes and Noble book fair and we are trying a new fundraising idea. Since it is an off year for our large fundraiser, we are trying a raffle this year.

Glenridge: In September we have two exciting events, our annual Book Fair and Ice Cream Social and our multi cultural event, Taste of the World.

Captain: This year a Captain team is riding in Pedal for the Cause. There will be twenty one kids riding in the event. The Auction, our largest fundraiser is coming up. This is how we raise most of our money. We also have our International Night coming up soon.

Wydown: 6th grade camp is coming up next week. The Social Justice League is doing a fall fundraiser in October. We are showing Screenagers again at Wydown for those community members who have not see it.

### **Update on the Board of Education by BOE Representative Brad Bernstein:**

At our meeting on August 4th, Maripat Gatter resigned for personal and family reasons. The next two meetings were about filling that vacancy.

At the August 22nd meeting Sean presented a new structure of how the board meetings are going to run. This new structure will allow our meetings to run more efficiently.

At the August 31st meeting the Assistant Superintendents presented the state of the curriculum. The board also approved a demographer to look at the demographics of the district and to put together a report outlining our District demographic.

At the September 13th meeting we met with the Board of Alderman. The Board's role is to make sure the Center of Clayton is the best for our students. The Board also reviewed a Proposal to revamp field 7 at the baseball fields.

At the September 28th meeting the study items will included the curriculum in early childhood education, health and PE.

And at the October 5th meeting we will discuss the budget and long term financial planning.

The BOE encourages people to get involved. There are lots of opportunities for people to get involved in the District.

### **Comments by Dr. Sean Doherty, Superintendent of the Clayton School District:**

Dr. Doherty has been spending a lot of time visiting schools and attending meetings. His responsibility is to see the curriculum in action and build relationships with teachers and students.

He Attending 6th grade camp for a portion of the week and loved seeing the amazing work our 6th graders were doing.

Dr. Doherty has made some changes to the BOE and structures. He met with the Board members individually and got input from them and decided to look at ways we can change board meetings. It was decided that one meeting will be a working session where the Board can have an exchange of ideas and it is more informal, while the second Board meeting will be a business type of meeting. The working meeting will be for processing and then the business Board meeting will be for voting.

The Board wants to know what is happening in our schools and to recognize our own and will take the first 5-10 minutes of each meeting to recognize teachers who are doing great things in the District.

Some exciting news came this week, that Clayton High School was ranked number 1 in the state and 42nd in the nation. Keep up the good work Clayton!

The Board and Administration is paying close attention to the developments that are happening in Clayton. The board and administration is making sure that they are developing relationships with those planning these developments. The district is trying to be proactive in planning for the next 3-5 years and beyond so we know what we need to do in the District and the enrollment.

The District is hosting an event "How to help your child navigate their whole world" on October 10th at the high school at 6pm. See the e-news for more details.

If the PTOs would like for Sean to come to their meetings he is happy to come. Call Barbra Moore to make arrangements.

We are off school on November 8th and will use that as a professional development day so that no students are in the building as student safety is our priority. The administration felt it was best not to have kids present during that day.

This year the District welcomes Dr. Tim Dilg as the Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources. He will contribute to the betterment of the whole District. He was hired after a very rigorous process and he has extensive knowledge around Human Resources and professional development.

**Comments from Dr. Tim Dilg, Superintendent of Human Resources:**

Dr. Dilg is so excited about being able to recruit and develop the best for the Clayton School District. The capacity of the district is awesome and the spirit of welcoming is great. The PTOs play a huge role in making the district great. Dr. Dilg cares about the district and will go above and beyond for our students.

**Sharmon Wilkinson Summer Opportunities Grant by Karen McBride, Communications:**

Karen McBride works with the Clayton Education Foundation, it is a separate 501C3 that raises funds from alumni and parent population for mostly teacher grants.

When Sharmon retired there was not enough time to properly honor her and the foundation wanted to honor her in a very special way. She was a great supporter of summer camps and the Foundation has started a scholarship fund/grant for Clayton students who would not otherwise go to summer camp, to attend the summer camp of their choice with the help of this grant. Those who qualify for free and reduced lunch will qualify for the grant.

Visit: [chsalumniassociation.net/donate](https://chsalumniassociation.net/donate) to donate or you can pay online via credit card or pay by check and send it to administration office.

PTOs are encouraged to get the word out about the grant and encourage donations. Application forms will come out in January/February for award recipients.

**Preview Topics for the Upcoming Year, Gathering Input and Suggestions for the PTO Council:**

- How to handle sexual harassment/bullying
- Updates on the mobile phone/internet culture
- Keep Kids Safe Summit
- Discussion about the District's plan for the growth and development in the District. How will the District handle the potential influx of new students?

The District has hired a Demographer who will report will be how many kids are coming into the District and what impact the new developments will have on the enrollment.

Further discussion was had about the population explosion at Glenridge and 7th grade at Wydown. Additional staffing has been hired to support the incoming students at Glenridge.

**Conclusion:**

Sarah Melinger did a wrap up and closing remarks.  
Thank you! We are excited to move forward.

February 21st, 2017 is our next meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Alison Hoette, PTO Council Secretary