

Clinton Elementary PTA
Executive Board Meeting Minutes
January 18, 2017

Present:

Andrea Beck, Ann Bodnar, Eileen Campos, Jonelle Delk, Paul Gaykowski, Liz Gordon, Annie Horcasitas, Verna Jackson, Jess Murphy, Margy Nolan, Ambra Teague, Katie Rumley, Norman Villatoro

Absent:

Arden Canecchia, Candice Davenport, Sharon Geraghty, Anne Harding, Kathleen Hong, Donna Herley, Maureen Jones, Jeffrey Lehman, Michael Mack, April Mason, Renata O'Beirne

Jonelle Delk moved and Eileen Campos seconded the motion to open the meeting.

Jonelle Delk moved and Annie Horcasitas seconded the motion to approve the December 2016 meeting minutes.

Ann Bodnar provided the **Principal's** Report:

Principal Bodnar shared that Clinton has submitted its 2017-18 budget to the Board of Education for approval. The proposed budget includes a substantial amount to help fund the Leader in Me program at the school. Principal Bodnar shared that she also has \$8,000 saved to support the costs of this program. The first year is expensive and in addition to the monies outlined here the school will need \$11,000 to complete the first year of the program. She is requesting that the PTA provide the monies needed.

Considerable discussion about the program was entertained. Principal Bodnar is gaining additional information to respond. After the additional information is provided the board will be asked to vote on this expense.

Liz Gordon provided the **President's** Report:

General PTA meeting: The next General PTA meeting is February 2, 2017. Mrs. Latimer and Ms. Tischio will be speaking about the intersection of writing and art. They will provide examples of some of their collaboration projects.

Trivia Night: Trivia Night is January 20, 2017. Come if you can it will be a lot of fun.

Meeting Start Time: A motion was made to move the start time of the monthly meetings to 7:30. The motion was seconded and all voting members voted in favor of the motion. The meetings will start at 7:30pm beginning in February 2017.

Raz-Kids: The proposal for the PTA to provide funding for the K-3 grade classes (including Mr. Korellis' self-contained classroom) was circulated by email for a vote. The proposal passed without opposition.

Spring Party – Liz suggested having a spring party for the board that would include families. Please send her your suggestions.

Read-a-thon - This will take place from February 6th – March 3rd. The logs are electronic and focus on time spent reading not money raised. Each child can contact teachers and family to support their reading goals. It is very collaborative. The goal for the event will be 10,000 minutes read. Vanessa Pollack donated bookmarks for the event. We may host a “read-in” one evening for the kids to come in pjs and read. If you could help with this event which will likely be on Tuesday February 28th please let Liz know.

School Tours – We are going to have 5th graders conduct the tours with supervision. It is a great way to let the students lead.

Teacher’s Lounge Microwave - It is broken and the PTA is paying to replace it.

Jess Murphy provided the **Vice President's** report:

Presidents Council: (a) Substitutes - Dr. Ramos discussed the shortage of substitutes. They are looking at other ways to increase the pool of substitutes. (b) the search for a new Director of Special Services was not fruitful and an interim head has been put in place – they hope to have a new slate of candidates by March (c) Inclusion signs - “Hate Has No Place Here” signs will be discussed with the principals for possible posting at the schools. (d) Concerns have been raised about the portables at the schools in the district – the concerns are being researched.

Jonelle Delk provided the **Treasurer’s** report:

\$52,359.54 is in the bank account.

Gentle reminder: Please work to update the event report as soon as you can after the completion of the event.

Andrea Beck provided the **President Emeritus** report:

It is time to start thinking about preparing for the nomination process for the 2017-2018 school year. Please let Andrea know if you would like to remain in your role (if your term has not expired) or be considered for another role. Please also let Andrea know if you have any recommendations for new board members.

Andrea has been working on the Artist in Residence Program for the 4th grade for the spring. We are exploring the Newark Print Shop for a program that will result in an art project contributed to by the whole class. The Spirit Tree group is a possibility for the following year.

Eileen Campos and **Margy Nolan** provided the **Fundraising** report:

We will not move forward with the shoe drive.

Trivia night is this weekend and read-a-thon is in February. All is going well so far.

The Tricky Tray Auction is March 24th. The PTA board will be asked to contribute to the wine pull. If you have not contributed, please bring a bottle of wine to the next meeting or donate \$20. Grade basket themes will be assigned this year and will be distributed to class parents shortly.

Liz Gordon provided the **Courier** report on behalf of **Anne Harding**:

The deadline for the next Courier is January 25th.

There were no Public Relations, Teachers, Member at Large, Community Events, Garden reports.

Liz Gordon provided the **Cultural Arts** report on behalf of **Candice Davenport**:

This Friday there will be an assembly. The Rock Creek Steel Drum Band will perform for all grades. The next assembly will be on March 3rd.

The Achieve foundation Night of 100 dinners will be on March 4th. If you are interested in hosting a dinner contact Candice for more information.

Maker Madness will be held at CHS on April 29th. Volunteers are needed.

Annie Horcasitas provided the **ELL** report:

Annie has met with all the ELL teachers and will be working on parent outreach.

Katie Rumley provided the **Special Ed/PTO** report

David Lieberman is the interim Director of Special Services. He is very well regarded.

Penny Petchers, one of the District's behaviorists, will be the speaker at the next meeting.

An I/me form was shared to assist students transitioning to new schools. The form is available on the website for Special Ed/PTO.

Jess Murphy moved to close the meeting and Eileen Campos seconded the motion. The meeting was closed at 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly Bulkley

