

Clinton Elementary PTA  
Executive Board Meeting Minutes  
September 13, 2017

**Present:**

Andrea Beck, Ann Bodnar, Kimmberly Bulkley, Jennifer Cudmore, Jonelle Delk, Jamie Ebright, Liz Gordon, Anne Harding, Herley, Kathleen Hong, Annie Horcasitas, Jeffrey Lehman, Kelly Mortimer, Jess Murphy, Margy Nolan, Renata O'Beirne, Ava Padmore, Mary Clair Sonneman, Ambra Teague, Norman Villatoro, Kali Fields Williams, Megan Weber, Traci Zaretska

**Absent:**

Paul Gaykowski, Maureen Jones, Michael Mack, Judy Tu

Jonelle Delk moved and Kimmberly Bulkley seconded the motion to open the meeting.

Jonelle Delk moved and Kelly Mortimer seconded the motion to approve the August 2017 meeting minutes.

**Candice Davenport** provided the **Achieve** report:

Candice shared that the Newstead 5k is this weekend. It is one of the events sponsored by Achieve. Achieve is a private organization that supports public educations. The Teacher Grant program is also an Achieve program. Encourage teachers to dream big with their proposals. Proposals are due October 20, 2017.

Achieve also has a tutoring program. Linda Rollo is the liaison for the program at Clinton school.

Any new ideas for achieve should be sent to Candice

**Jess Murphy** provided the **President's** Report:

Thank you to the board members who helped with the back to school coffee. Despite the rain many people stopped by and we sold a lot of spirit wear.

Due to the conflict with SOMS and MMS back to school nights the ice cream social will be held September 19<sup>th</sup>.

The Clinton Guide is almost ready to go to production.

Jess expressed a desire to expand Clinton's social media footprint using grade level pages. Jess agreed to reach out to other elementary schools to determine if groups or pages would be most effective. Anyone who is interested in helping out with this should contact Jess.

NOTE: The November 15<sup>th</sup> Executive Board meeting conflicts with a parenting center event and will be moved to 11/16. Jess will send an update.

The first general PTA meeting will be October 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm

**Ambra Teague** provided the **Vice President's** Report:

Ambra provided an update from the presidents' council. MAPSO Cares presented to the group and shared that they would continue to hold food drives to support the needy in our community. The food drives rotate through the schools and 5<sup>th</sup> graders have opportunities to participate in stocking local food pantries.

Susan Grierson shared that the middle school social studies curriculum will be presented at the next board meeting. The elementary school social studies curriculum will be under review this year.

The code of conduct is also under review because concerns that minority students receive harsher consequences than their peers. Mr. Beaumont is on the committee for this project.

Dr. Ficarra shared that she is revising the organizational chart. The principals will now report directly to the Superintendent. There will be a new security officer role to review safety in our buildings. Dr. Ficarra will be sending a newsletter after each board meeting to keep people involved.

Communication Hierarchy

Teacher -> Principal -> Assistant Superintendent -> Superintendent

Water fountain lead levels in the district are still under review.

Potentially there will be a 5<sup>th</sup> grade mixer in June.

The online sign up for class parents went well.

We will be migrating towards a Harvestfest instead of Halloween. There will not be a trunk-or-treat. There will still be a parade and costumes will be allowed. The school is encouraging students to wear costumes that represent a favorite book. Harvestfest will occur again this year.

**Liz Gordon** provided the **President Emeritus** report:

The Read-A-Thon will be in October and will end on Halloween. Volunteers will be needed. There will be a read-in one evening. Flyers about the Read-A-Thon will be available at the book fair.

The water filling stations will still be installed in school buildings this year.

Liz clarified the purchasing procedures for the district. Any amount over \$500 (cash or goods) needs to be approved. Once the district spends \$6,000 in aggregate in any category further requests must be sent out to bid.

**Jonelle Delk** provided the **Treasurer's** Report:

There is \$52,578.26 in the PTA account.

The budget sent through email to board members to approve. Kimmberly Bulkley made a motion to approve the budget and Kelly Mortimer seconded the motion. The vote to approve the minutes passed with no dissenters.

A separate vote was requested on the \$500 to be donated to the Parenting Center to help defray costs of overdrawn lunch accounts. Jonelle called for a motion for this vote and Renata seconded the motion. The vote to approve the \$500 for the donation to the Parenting Center passed with no dissenters.

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

Principal Bodnar thanked the board and Clinton families for their support the first day of school. Clinton is working on 1<sup>st</sup> day of school rain protocol.

The Leader in Me

- program is going well. It is a three year implementation program.
- we have lots of support/help including an assigned program coach. Our coach is coach Catherine.
- The staff coordinators are Mr. Lehman, Mr. Mack, Ms. Scalfaro and Ms Cutrufello.
- The staff coordinators will work with a few parent volunteers (Liz Gordon, Jonelle Delk and Matthew Smalls) will form the Lighthouse oversight group.
- Clinton will set academic, leadership and cultural goals again this year.

It is likely that Locomania will be replaced with a kickoff pep rally.

Thank you for help with Kindergarten recess.

Dare Officer Concern – Ms. Bodnar was not aware that the officer would be at the school the first day. The school needs to find a healthy balance with the police – it is a necessary partnership; Ms. Bodnar and Mr. Beaumont will be meeting with the police to discuss protocols for the working relationship.

**Jeffery Lehman** provided the **Teachers’** report:

The school year is off to a great start. It would be great if the PTA could look into updating the internal beautification – updating pictures on the walls etc.

**Donna Herley** provided the **Fundraising** report:

They have found a volunteer to run the school store. Display My Art is September 25<sup>th</sup> and Donna will meet with Ms. Bodnar to discuss the role out of the program.

**Renata O’Beirne** provided the **Community Events** report:

The pumpkin patch will be in October. She will work with Mr. Lehman on the pep rally that is planned in lieu of Locomania.

**Kali Williams** provided the **Membership** report:

150 people have signed up today and Venmo as a payment option is a big hit.

**Traci Zaretska** provided the **Cultural Arts** report:

The Farmer’s Market is Friday and help is still needed for many timeslots.

**Member at Large/Honorary Emeritus** Reports:

Ice Cream Social (Margy Nolan): Please sign up to volunteer during the event.

Diaper Drive (Mary Clair Sonnaman): This will be coming soon. She asked for input on best methods to advertise/spread the word.

School Supply Kits (Jess on behalf of Maureen Jones): If you had missing items please complete the missing item form by Friday.

Bookfair (Margy Nolan/Kelly Mortimer) coming soon. Wish List time will be tight and will need help. Also need help on back to school night during the grade 3-5 presentations.

**Ava Padmore** provided the **Special Ed/PTO** report:

Ava will be at back to school night. She is looking to connect with families locally at the school. She is working on some ideas to improve awareness.

**Annie Horcasitas** provided the **ELL** report:

Annie is working on a short document to distribute to families to canvas their preference for language for communications. We need translation help and will focus on most critical translations first. Focus will be on inclusion for events.

There were no, PR, Special Ed or Courier, reports.

Ambra Teague moved to close the meeting and Jonelle Delk seconded the motion. The meeting was closed at 10:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly Bulkley