

Clinton Elementary PTA  
Executive Board Meeting Minutes  
December 13, 2017

**Present:**

Andrea Beck, Ann Bodnar, Kimmberly Bulkley, Jamie Ebright, Kali Fields Williams, Jeffrey Lehman, Michael Mack, Jess Murphy, Margy Nolan, Mary Clair Sonneman, Ambra Teague, Ava Padmore, Traci Zaretzka

**Absent:**

Jennifer Cudmore, Jonelle Delk, Paul Gaykowski, Liz Gordon, Annie Horcasitas, Anne Harding, Donna Herley, Kathleen Hong, Maureen Jones, Kelly Mortimer, Renata O'Beirne, Judy Tu, Norman Villatoro, Katie Walmsley

Ambra Teague moved and Kimmberly Bulkley seconded the motion to open the meeting.

Ambra Teague moved and Kimmberly Bulkley seconded the motion to approve the November 2017 meeting minutes.

**Jess Murphy** provided the **Treasurer's** Report on behalf of **Jonelle Delk**:

There is \$67,031 the PTA bank account.

The Read-A-Thon, while not finalized, made \$5,200 of its \$10,000 goal. We are exploring whether to hold a second fund raiser.

Membership has 295 members – annual goal is met.

Field trip reminder to teachers: The following monies remain for field trips:

- K \$205
- 1<sup>st</sup> \$1500
- 2<sup>nd</sup> \$890
- 4<sup>th</sup> \$2000
- 5<sup>th</sup> \$3015

Also, teachers are reminded to turn in their classroom expenses (up to \$100) for reimbursement.

The PTA now has business accounts at: Target, Amazon, Restaurant Depot, Staples and Home Depot. If you are buying supplies for the PTA/School please connect with Jonelle to get the tax exempt forms for the stores.

**Kali Fields Williams** provided the **Membership** Report:

We have 295 PTA members and are closing in on our goal. Kali will be circulating the google form soon to solicit more members. Kali has been working with the Venmo platform for payment to provide another payment option.

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

The district will keep Tim Beaumont in the central office until March 31, 2017. Jen Cudmore will continue to perform the Assistant to the Principal role at Clinton School during this timeframe.

The staff participated in another Leader in Me workshop during the afternoon of December 11<sup>th</sup>. The workshop provided an opportunity for the lighthouse committee to spend time focusing their goals and initiating action plans. The Lighthouse coordinators are: Mr. Mack, Mr. Lehman, Mrs. Cutrufello and Ms. Scalfaro.

The next Leader in Me workshop will be on February 5<sup>th</sup>. There may be some opportunity at this workshop for parent training.

The Lighthouse coordinators and Ms. Bodnar also attended training/coaching last week which provided an opportunity to interact with and share with other Leader in Me schools. The other schools are at different points in the implementation process so it was very helpful to have chance to interact with them and learn from them.

At the end of the year Clinton will host a Leadership Day and will invite representatives from the other district schools to participate.

**Michael Mack** and **Jeffrey Lehman** provided the **Teachers'** Report:

In February Clinton will be hosting a Leader in Me coaching day and will be reaching out to the PTA for help with snacks and other preparations for the coaching day guests.

The Leader in Me training that Clinton is focusing on relates to two of the pillars – Culture and Leadership. The third pillar – Academics – will be the focus of later training. The Lighthouse coordinators are building out six action plans for sub topics within the Culture and Leadership pillars.

The Lighthouse Coordinators are brainstorming some new fundraisers – duct tape the principal and a movie celebration are ideas they discussed at the recent training.

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

The Winter Craft Fair was great! Thank you to all who helped and attended. Thank you to everyone who donated and assisted with the Cafeteria Breakfast. The posters from the kids were very well received.

The PTA board holiday party will be January 12<sup>th</sup> at the Murphy's home.

We will be reconstituting a teacher grant review committee. The committee will create a rubric to review the grants. Andrea provided some background on the initial year of teacher grants. Input was taken from Mr. Mack and Mr. Lehman about the process and timing of the application/grant process. Jess asked for volunteers for the committee. The committee will be: Jonelle Delk, Margy Nolan, Andrea Beck, Kali Fields Williams and Kimmberly Bulkley. Teachers should get their grant applications in by January 5<sup>th</sup> for consideration and decisions will be made prior to the January PTA meeting.

Jess also shared that the Presidents' Council is a resource for all board members. If you have a question about how your counterparts at other schools are handling an event or issue let Jess know and she can raise it at a council meeting.

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

A summary of the Presidents' Council was provided. The district has hired an interim Assistant Superintendent, Curriculum & Instruction. Dr. Ficarra shared that he will be circulating a proposal for building use/improvements. He will be doing a "roadshow" presentation to explain the projects and analysis related to the proposal.

Dr. Ficarra also shared that in general there is no need for the police to be called to the school. However, families should be aware that when a 911 call is placed many types of units respond including the police.

Dr. Ficarra shared that "early registration" will now be called "registration" and the previously named "registration" will be called "late registration" to improve the process.

**Jamie Ebright** provided the **Fundraising** report:

The auction chairs (Celi Jiminez, Jerusha Oleksiuk and Maureen Jones) have started the process of soliciting for gifts. More volunteers are needed for various aspects of the auction – volunteer if you are able. The Auction will be February 23<sup>rd</sup> at St. Josephs.

Trivia night will be January 26<sup>th</sup> also at St. Josephs.

The Charleston Wrap fundraiser raised approximately \$1,400.

The individual school picture retakes should arrive next week.

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

Tracey is working on the 4<sup>th</sup> assembly. There is a “Music of the Earth” assembly that combines instruments from around the world and information about country culture that looks promising.

Ambra is also gathering information on the “Starts With Hello” assembly. The assembly focuses on teaching skills to avoid social isolation.

**Ava Padmore** provided the **Special Education** Report

The November joint SEPAC/PTO meeting was very well attended. The Executive Director of Special Services & Youth Development presented and took questions. She will be returning to the board meeting on December 18<sup>th</sup> at 7pm to provide answers to some of the questions raised in November.

Ava encouraged everyone to look for the teacher Donors Choose projects. Jess shared that the Donors Choose projects are listed in the Clinton Weekly Events e-blast. Current Donors Choose projects include:

[Ms. Cutrufello: Pedaling Our Way to Better Learning](#)

[Ms. Soldiviero: The Comfort of Flexible Seating](#)

[Ms. Latimer: We Unplug for STEAM Education](#)

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

Katy Walmsley (by Jess Murphy) – We are in good shape for the holiday cookies and the teacher luncheon. The tours are also going well.

Mary Claire Sonneman provided a green team update. The raspberry pie devices have arrived and she will be distributing to the teachers who have agreed to monitor the heat patterns in their classrooms.

Mary Claire also initiated a dialogue about increasing the indoor recess options. An engaged discussion followed. Ms. Bodnar reiterated the district and building policy which encourages outdoor play unless weather and/or safety concerns exist. Indoor classroom play is the best indoor option currently. Use of the auditorium and video content is a last resort. Mary Claire will be researching short videos with educational content for consideration.

There were no Honorary Emeritus, Community Events, Public Relations, ELL, Courier, or Webmaster reports.

Kali Fields Williams moved to close the meeting and Ambra Teague seconded the motion. The meeting was closed at 8:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly Bulkley