

Clinton Elementary PTA
Executive Board Meeting Minutes
February 21, 2018

Present:

Andrea Beck, Ann Bodnar, Kimmberly Bulkley, Jonelle Delk, Jamie Ebright, Liz Gordan, Kali Fields Williams, Annie Horcasitas, Jeffrey Lehman, Michael Mack, Jess Murphy, Renata O'Beirne, Mary Clair Sonneman, Ambra Teague, Katie Walmsley, Traci Zaretska, Celi Jimenez, Jerusha Oleksiuk, Mark Truscinski

Absent:

Jennifer Cudmore, Paul Gaykowski, Anne Harding, Donna Herley, Kathleen Hong, Maureen Jones, Kelly Mortimer, Margy Nolan, Ava Padmore, Judy Tu, Norman Villatoro

Jonelle Delk moved Kimmberly Bulkley motion to open the meeting.

Kali Fields Williams moved and Jonelle Delk seconded the motion to approve the January 2018 meeting minutes.

Celi Jimenez and Jerusha Oleksiuk provided the Clinton Auction Report;

Celi and Jerusha shared that the planning is going well. They could use a few more volunteers. There are 5 live action items including tickets to see Hamilton and the Lion King.

Mark Truscinski provided the Clinton Show Report:

We have 2 ½ weeks to go and we are in good shape. We should have the green room assignments in a few days. Mark took questions from the board and the board thanked Mark and the Clinton Show Producers for all their work.

Jonelle Delk provided the Treasurer's Report:

There is \$67,304.80 in the PTA account. Jonelle reminded the teachers to submit receipts for field trips. Many of the teacher grants that the PTA is helping to fund have been fulfilled. There will be an email in the next few weeks advising the teachers of a second grant application window.

Ann Bodnar provided the Principal's Report:

Principal Bodnar shared that Mrs. Robinson's first grandchild was arriving this week. Read Across America is coming up and on March 2nd there will be student athletes from Seton Hall University who will come to the school to read to students and talk about being a student athlete.

During the weekend of the Clinton Show parking will only be allowed on one side of the roads surrounding the school.

The final Leader In Me professional development workshop was completed in early February along with a training session for parents. It was a great program and we had a good turn out from the parents.

There is a Leader in Me train the trainer program on March 7 in Linden. It runs from 8am-3pm. Principal Bodnar would like a few volunteers to attend the training. The certification would allow these volunteers to train other parents in our community. Ideally the volunteers interested in attending would be from k-2 families. If interested, please contact Jess.

Thank you to Traci for the amazing assemblies. The children are really enjoying the programs.

The Assistant Principal position is posted and Ms. Bodnar will be forming a panel to interview candidates. The panel will include administrators, teachers, union representation and PTA representatives. Internal and external candidates will be interviewed.

Clinton Administration is aware of the potential student walkout dates related to the recent school shooting in Florida. Careful consideration is being putting into determine the appropriate way for Clinton School to demonstrate support for school safety and inclusiveness for all members of the Clinton community. More information will be available shortly.

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

Ms. Lachmund will be delivering her first child this summer. The board extended their congratulations to Ms. Lachmund.

The Leader In Me action teams are hard at work and over half of the fulltime staff is involved.

A kindness assembly was held in February and a manners assembly will be held in March.

The teachers would like to explore whether a system could be established to provide copying support through volunteers. The PTA will explore how this need can be met.

Andrea Beck provided the **Honorary Emeritus Report**:

Thank you to the teachers for all the gifts for the auction. Our Artist in Residence for the 4th grade this spring will be Spirit Tree. The theme will be leadership and the design will be a dinner table with leaders in attendance. The students will learn about the art form as well as the selected leaders.

The International Dinner will be on April 26th.

Jess Murphy provided the **Courier** Report:

The next deadline for submissions is March 9th.

Annie Horcasitas provided the **ELL** Report:

We are waiting for quotes from the translation vendors. We hope to have the information by the next meeting.

Jamie Ebright provided the **Fundraising** Report:

Jamie is exploring an alternate vendor for school photos. She shared promotional materials from Barksdale and explained their offerings.

Jamie also asked for feedback on a potential fundraiser at the Somerset Patriots game. She will continue to explore the options for this type of fundraiser.

Great job Liz! Trivia night was a big success with 240 people attending.

Traci Zarertzka provided the **Cultural Arts** Report:

The BOTS assembly was very well received. Next month the assembly will be Bash the Trash.

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

Special Education information is being included in the Clinton Courier as well as e-Blasts. April is Autism Awareness month and April 2nd students will be encouraged to wear blue. Ava will coordinate with the multi-age classrooms regarding events available for this awareness campaign.

Mary Claire Sonneman and **Katy Walmsly** provided the **Member at Large** Report:

Mary Claire had a meeting with the green team and their projects are progressing. They donated an auction basket to the school auction. In the fall a sponsored walk/bike to school day will be established. Four of the raspberry pies are working and gathering data. The other 2 need repair. Mary Claire would like to look into a green fair for the fall.

Katy shared that the tours are going well and the fifth grade tour guides are doing a great job.

Jess Murphy provided the **Presidents'** Report:

During the most recent Elementary Presidents' Council, the top safety concerns for elementary schools were discussed. The issue with the most movement was the district allergy policy, which has now been adopted by the Board of Education.

At the Presidents' Council, the MAC scholars from CHS shared that they are available for private homework support. The rate is \$15 an hour. 6 more floating subs will also be hired in the district to alleviate the substitute shortage. The district is considering paying more to substitutes who commit to working a certain number of days a month.

Keith Bonds, the Director of Technology, spoke to the presidents' council and shared that the district will be moving staff email to the cloud. His team is working to balance technology in the classroom with digital citizenship. The district is also looking to move to online registration and online teacher assignments in the near future. The district is upgrading their website and hope it will be ready by August.

A Special Needs Soccer session will be happening. Clinton School PTA is donating \$50 to help defray the costs of the soccer experience.

Research is being done into a Digital City Assembly.

Jess shared that the weekly email will be moving to another platform and more information will be coming.

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

The show t-shirts have arrived and will be distributed early.

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

Liz Gordon, Jamie Ebright and Kimmberly Bulkley will be the Nominating Committee. More information regarding the proposed slate will be provided soon.

Thank you for Trivia night – it was very successful.

There were no ELL, Community Events, PR, Membership or Webmaster reports.

Jonelle Delk moved to close the meeting and Kelli Mortimer seconded the motion. The meeting was closed at 9:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly Bulkley

