

Clinton Elementary PTA
Executive Board Meeting Minutes
April 18, 2018

Present:

Andrea Beck, Ann Bodnar, Jonelle Delk, Jamie Ebright, Liz Gordon, Anne Harding, Maureen Jones, Jeffrey Lehman, Jessica Murphy, Kelly Mortimer, Margy Nolan, Renata O'Beirne, Ava Padmore, Ambra Teague, Norman Villatoro, Traci Zaretska

Absent:

Kimberly Bulkley, Jennifer Cudmore, Paul Gaykowski, Donna Herley, Kathleen Hong, Michael Mack, Mary Clair Sonneman, Kali Fields Williams, Annie Horcasitas, Judy Tu, Katy Walmsley

Renata O'Beirne moved and Ambra Teague seconded the motion to open the meeting.

Traci Zaretska moved and Renata O'Beirne seconded the motion to approve the March 2018 meeting minutes.

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

There is \$87,388.92 in the PTA account. Jonelle reminded board members with events that the money needed for the events is available and is expected to be used to help manage the size of the reserve in the budget. Additional discussions will be needed if the reserve is larger than recommended.

Liz Gordon provided the **President Emeritus** Report (Nominating Committee Update):

Liz advised the board that the nominating committee had successfully prepared a full PTA Board Slate for review. The proposed slate was circulated to the current board. The Executive Board will vote on the proposed slate in May and, if approved, the slate will be presented to the General PTA to approve in June.

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

Principal Bodnar shared that there have been no further bedbug sightings at the school.

The state QSAC team visited the school today and the visit went very well.

State PARCC exams start next Monday. Every grade has 6 days of exams because we were chosen to be a test district. Ms. Cudmore is doing a great job coordinating the testing.

The assistant principal candidate search is ongoing. The search committee from Clinton interviewed 15 candidates. The candidates were selected for recommendation to Dr. Ficarra. Dr. Ficarra will make the final decision. It is likely that the Board of Ed will vote on the

selected final candidate at the May board meeting and the candidate would start in the role in July.

Ms. Cudmore and Ms Soldiviero were approved to continue in their current positions through June.

Principal Bodnar alerted the board that the fish in the aquarium are still perishing. Jonelle Delk offered to call the support vendor to discuss the issues.

Principal Bodnar will be meeting with Tom Shea, Director of Security, to discuss discontinuing the use of Clinton School as a voting poll location. She will keep the board posted on the progress of these discussions.

Jeffrey Lehman provided the **Teachers' Report**:

Mr. Lehman shared that he will remind all teachers to submit their supply receipts for reimbursement. Supply lists were discussed in detail and Mr. Lehman will follow up with Mr. Mack on the issue.

Jamie Ebright provided the **Fundraising Report**:

Jamie continues to research options for the school pictures for the 2018-2019 school year. She will present a recommendation for a new vendor at the next PTA meeting.

Jamie is continuing to look into the possibility of a school outing to a Somerset Patriots game. She requested board feedback on the proposed event. Discussion ensued and it was agreed that we should consider doing this next year.

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

Traci reported that the March assembly that was cancelled for weather has been rescheduled to May 29 and the social media presentation for grades 3-5 will be May 31 at 10 am.

Jessica Murphy provided the **Membership Report** on behalf of **Kali Fields Williams**:

Membership numbers are good and an additional teacher joined during the last month.

Renata O'Beirne provided the **Community Events Report**:

Renata reported that she is gearing up for Spring Fair. The taco truck will be back!

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

There will be a SEPAC meet on 4/24. The speaker will focus on IEP basics to support families. More information will be available soon.

Anne Harding provided the **Courier Report**:

Anne Harding reported that they are exploring turning the Courier to a student-produced newsletter next year. A discussion ensued about possible candidates to lead a Beyond the Bell class dedicated to this project.

Jessica Murphy provided the **ELL** report on behalf of **Annie Horcasitas**

Dr. Ficarra presented at the Presidents' council on translation costs. He shared that the district should be paying for the translation of flyers, not the PTA. Ambra Teague will reach out to Suzanne Turner to get more information about this issue. Maureen Jones volunteered to reach out to Karen Weiland and Suzanne Turner as well.

Norman Villatoro provided the **Webmaster** report:

Norman Villatoro started a discussion about the need to update the school website. Andrea Beck shared that she had solicited quotes in the range of \$1k-\$2k to complete this project during her term as PTA president.

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

Andreas shared that the International Dinner is next Thursday and asked the board members to attend.

The Artist in Residence program will feature Carolyn Marco and the children will be creating leaders they admire out of papier mache and recording dialogue from an imagined dinner party.

Jessica Murphy provided the **Public Relations** Report on behalf of **Kelly Mortimer**:

The school facebook page and the weekly newsletter are going well.

Jessica Murphy provided the **Member-at-Large** report on behalf of Judy Tu, Katy Walmsley and Mary Clair Sonneman:

- Jess reported for Judy Tu that the efforts to celebrate Teacher Appreciation week are ongoing.
- Jess reported for Katy Walmsley that the rainbow picture will be taken by Jamie Meier on May 18 at 1:30.
- Jess reported for Mary Clair Sonnenman that Mary Clair is heading up a plastic toy drive and needs volunteers to bring the toys to the organization that is accepting them.

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

Ambra reported on discussions at Presidents' Council regarding:

- improving communication for the district,
- establishing guidelines regarding appropriate categories for the PTAs to fund,
- Dr. Morana doing a gap analysis and prioritizing building a strong leadership team,

- the Board's plan to present in May a proposed plan on architectural changes to the school buildings;
- the timing of the superintendent search; and
- a system ALICE that will replace our current lockdown drills.

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

Jess reported that Ms. Chung requested \$180 for an accompanist at the spring concert. The board discussed and agreed it was fine. Jess also raised for discussion the temperature in the lunchroom. No decisions on that issue were made. Jess departed after her report.

Jonelle Delk moved to close the meeting and Renata O'Beirne seconded the motion. The meeting was closed at 9:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly Bulkley