

Clarkston High School PTSA  
General Membership Meeting  
January 8, 2019



**Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Meg Pardee**

**I. Welcome:** In attendance were Amy Metz, Kathy McCarty, Meg Pardee, Kim Hardtke, Dianna Zabinski, Josh LaMay, Nancy Ritchey, Mary Herzenstiel, Andrea Rozman, Jamisen Sivak and Evan Hall

**II. Action Items:**

**A. Meeting minutes from the November 13 meeting were reviewed.** Jamisen Sivak motioned to approve the minutes as submitted. Mary Herzenstiel seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously.

**B. Ways and Means Requests:** Kim Hardtke

Ms. Hardtke presented four requests for the board's consideration, two requests from the December meeting, and two from the January meeting. Prior to the meeting, the requests were considered by the members of the Ways and Means committee.

First, Patricia Schneider requests \$750 for the German Club to attend the German Day competition at the University of Michigan. The \$750 covers both the cost of bussing the students, as well as the ticket price. This request has been made in years past, and it has been decided by the board in earlier years that the PTSA would cover the cost of the bussing (\$600), but to leave the ticket price for the students to cover individually. This recommendation has been made this year as well by the committee. No motion is necessary based upon the committee's recommendation, and the board votes unanimously to grant the \$600 to Ms. Schneider for the cost of bussing only.

Second, Carolyn Clarke requests \$209.99 for a product called Touchpoints which are wearable devices that provide bilateral stimulation to help kids with anxiety. The devices are worn on the wrist, and would be provided to students when they report experiencing mild levels of anxiety. Ms. Clarke has provided a lot of explanation, and the committee has not provided a recommendation on this item. The board has a lengthy discussion regarding the devices, including whether and how parent approval will be sought, and what the effectiveness of the devices has shown to be. In addition, other methods of anxiety relief are discussed that may have a longer lasting impact on the students. Ms. Clarke indicates that the request will affect between 20 to 40 students. A motion is made by Meg Pardee to approve the request, and seconded by Mary Herzenstiel. The motion passes unanimously to grant the requested amount to Ms. Clarke.

Third, Patricia McMillen has requested \$413 to purchase additional Amino Acid 3D model kits for her classroom. The additional kits are necessary to enable all of the students to participate in the project at the same time, and these kits will cost \$314 of the total amount requested. The additional funds requested are for a Phospholipid & Membrane Transport Model Kit – 3 group set (\$99), which Ms. McMillen also seeks for her advanced and AP Bio classes. She anticipates that 160 students will be affected by these purchases. The committee has recommended granting this request, and a board vote passes unanimously for Ms. McMillen's request in full.

Fourth, Lori Yegge requests \$150 to purchase gift cards for ELA students to be distributed as encouragement for reading more. The committee recommends this request and a board vote passes unanimously for Ms. Yegge's request in the amount of \$150.

**C. Career Day Recap & Senior Celebrations:** Kim Hardtke

Ms. Hardtke reports that Career Day took place in December and went very well, seeming to run much more smoothly than in the past despite last minute changes and substitutions in the speaker roster. She offers some quotes from students including a student who reported that “it was like watching Grey’s Anatomy” in the health & human services room. The students overall seemed to enjoy it very much and it was reported also that student participation and contributions were improved from earlier years.

In addition, Ms. Hardtke reports that the senior celebrations chairperson has withdrawn from the event for personal reasons. She believes that one additional person is considering taking on the role, but that a co-chair is important for this role, and that position has yet to be filled, as well. She will keep the board updated on the status of this event.

### **III. Reporting Items:**

#### **A. Treasurer’s Report:** Andrea Rozman

See Financial Report and Bank Statement in meeting packet. Our checking account balance is \$12,855.97 and our cash balance is \$11,266.15. Our Ways and Means currently available balance is \$3,795.15 (prior to today’s approved requests).

#### **B. Membership:** Nancy Ritchey

We currently have 203 members which includes 69 staff members.

#### **C. Volunteers:** No report

#### **D. Web-site:** No report

#### **E. Scholarships:** Dianna Zabinski

The application form for the 2019 PTSA Scholarship award has been updated and will be available shortly on our website and in the counseling office for students.

#### **F. Advocacy and Sparkle Awards:** Meg Pardee for Mary Herzenstiel

The Sparkle Awards is an event held by the Clarkston SEPAC group every spring. Staff and parents are encouraged to nominate staff members who have put in special effort to assist students with special needs and/or an IEP. This year, nominations are due on or before February 27, and the ceremony will be held Tuesday March 26<sup>th</sup>. This is the fourth year for this event, and every year it is well attended and more nominations are received. Forms are available on the Clarkston PAC website.

#### **G. Kroger Rewards:** Meg Pardee

The December Kroger rewards check was received in the amount of \$2821.25, which is down \$320 from last year.

#### **H. Health and Wellness:** Amy Metz

Ms. Metz reports that the PTSA will be supporting a new initiative during exam week, the “Zen Zone.” Staffed by volunteers and put together with the help of community members and donations, the Zen Zone will be a comfortable space for students to relax and relieve anxiety both before and after exams, as well as before school and for a short time after each day. Melissa Bridgman and Katie Lambert are co-sponsoring this event on behalf of the CHS staff. The space will allow places for studying, and hot tea will be provided by Brioni Café. Each day will feature a special “event,” including therapy dogs (Tuesday), yin yoga (Wednesday), mindfulness (Thursday), and chair massage (Friday).

#### **I. Principal’s Report:** Josh LaMay for Gary Kaul

Mr. LaMay reports that AWOD week went extremely well, and thanks Melissa Bridgman and her students for their considerable efforts in putting the events together, the theme this year was “You Matter.”

On January 21<sup>st</sup>, all staff will work with the Alice Planning Committee to participate in simulated SWAT team trainings along with the Oakland County Sheriff's Division. Mr. LaMay reports that there is much to be learned from these trainings, and that the district will be ALICE certified after this session.

The All School Tutorial will take place on Saturday, January 12<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 to 12, and the Learning Showcase will take place on February 4<sup>th</sup> from 5 to 7:00 pm.

Charity week will take place from January 28<sup>th</sup> to Friday, February 1<sup>st</sup>, with the Sadie's dance on Saturday at CHS at 7:00.

Mr. LaMay provided a detailed explanation of the staff/teacher cohorts and their respective tasks/areas of engagement. These include:

Cohort 1: Personalized Learning

Cohort 2: Environment

Cohort 3: Teacher Labs

Cohort 4: Wolf Time

Cohort 5: Whole Child: Mental Health and Wellness

Cohort 6: Drug and Alcohol Awareness

Cohort 7: Student Support

Cohort 8: Learning Showcase

Cohort 9: Social Media

Cohort 10: Cell Phones and Technology

The counseling department presented the College 101 night for 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> grade students on December 12 at 7:00 pm for both students and parents.

The CHS Thespian Club recently attended the Thespian Festival in Grand Rapids. 38 students attended the event and many participated in competitive events and received multiple awards, including several "Superior" ratings.

**J. President's Report:** Meg Pardee

On January 9<sup>th</sup>, the PTAC will hold a disbandment meeting at CHS at 7:00 pm. The meeting is mandatory for the disbandment procedure under the MIPTA guidelines, representatives from each school are invited to attend.

**IV. Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 8:24 pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by  
Amy Metz  
Clarkston High School PTSA Secretary