

Clarkston High School PTSA
General Membership Meeting
April 9, 2019



Meeting called to order at 7:10 p.m. by Meg Pardee

I. Welcome: In attendance were Amy Metz, Meg Pardee, Andrea Rozman, Mary Herzenstiel, Jamisen Sivak, Evan Hall, Cale Herzenstiel, Dianna Zabinski, Kim Hardtke

II. Action Items:

A. Meeting minutes from the March meeting were reviewed. Jamisen Sivak motioned to approve the minutes as submitted. Meg Pardee seconded the motion. The motion approved unanimously.

B. Ways and Means Requests: Kim Hardtke

Ms. Hardtke reports that there is one Ways & Means request this month. The request is from Mike Olsen for \$541 to support the Apiary Project (AKA bee hives) for CSMTech/Clarkston Community Apiary Club – affecting potentially hundreds of students. They have been invited to take part in The Sentinel Project by MSU and the University of Maryland. This project monitors bee colonies across the US and shares the data with other beekeepers, scientists, and researchers to determine how to prevent Colony Collapse Disorder. They will need to purchase monitoring equipment for this collaboration. They need a scale to go under the hives (\$285), humidity and temperature sensors to go in the hives (\$61), and a cellular hotspot that would collect the data from up to 9 hives and make the data remotely accessible from any device (\$195). There is a \$1/minimum/hive cellular data plan upkeep which the Apiary club will pay. They used their first year's sales (also funded by the PTSA) to expand the number of colonies from 2 to potentially 6 colonies. Mr. Olsen's request was approved unanimously by the committee and therefore may proceed to a vote without a motion. Those present at the meeting unanimously approve Mr. Olsen's request for \$541, and he will be informed accordingly.

C. Budget Amendment (Staff Appreciation Week): Amy Metz/Meg Pardee

Ms. Pardee and Ms. Metz introduced a motion for the group to consider regarding the upcoming Staff/Teacher Appreciation week and the funding of this event. Ms. Metz reports that the PTSA has in the past funded a portion of the costs for this week in addition to a donation/contribution from the Clarkston Coalition for Youth in the amount of approximately \$1200. This amount is no longer available, Ms. Metz reports, necessitating an amendment of the budget to supplement the \$500 line item already included this year. It is suggested that various unused line items in the budget be transferred to the staff appreciation amount in order to cover the shortfall, totaling approximately \$1500. The motion is made by Kim Hardtke and includes the following amounts: \$200 from advocacy; \$333.25 from Career Day; \$200 from grounds and beautification; \$235 from Reflections; and \$600 from Ways & Means. The motion is seconded by Dianna Zabinski and passes unanimously. The Treasurer will update the budget accordingly.

D. Difference Maker Award: Meg Pardee

Ms. Pardee reports that at the March meeting, members were encouraged to submit nominations for the PTSA's annual Difference Maker award, which recognizes a teacher or staff member for outstanding service to the school community. Mr. Kaul submitted the only nomination for Ms. Carolyn Clarke, the school's social worker. Those in attendance express approval for Ms. Clarke as our 2019 Difference Maker award recipient. She will receive a \$500 check to be used for any school-related purpose. Ms. Pardee will notify the group as to the time and location of the presentation of the award.

III. Reporting Items:

A. Treasurer's Report: Andrea Rozman

See Financial Report and Bank Statement in meeting packet. Our checking account balance is \$10,954.23 and our cash balance is \$10,120.73. Our Ways and Means currently available balance is \$3,746.70.

B. Membership: Meg Pardee for Nancy Ritchey

We currently have 207 members, which is increased by 2 additional members from March.

C. Volunteers: Kim Hardtke

Ms. Hardtke reports that volunteer positions and/or donation slots are still available for the senior celebrations events in June, and that eblasts will follow with these opportunities. She reports also that the open positions for next year's PTSA/PTO board and committee chairs will be communicated to the junior high PTA board and that any interest they may have will be shared with us.

D. Web-site: Jamisen Sivak reports that she is adding information to the website regularly.

E. Scholarships: Dianna Zabinski

34 applications were received for this year's senior scholarship awards, although seven of the 34 had to be disqualified because the students' parents were not members of the PTSA. Winners have been chosen and will be announced the evening of the senior awards event. In addition, Ms. Zabinski needs to identify six volunteers to help with the reception following the senior awards event.

F. Advocacy and Sparkle Awards: Mary Herzenstiel

State Representative Andrea Schroeder is considering holding programs within the schools that will involve presentations to increase legislative process and government awareness, Ms. Herzenstiel asks the group whether they would be interested in these programs. The general response is that the Clarkston Champions group is intended to address this area of interest, and the group is not interested in additional programming. The Ways & Means committee within the state legislature is considering a bill as to whether additional days will be required at the end of the school year to account for the several snow days this winter. The bill will forgive an additional three days beyond those already forgiven by the governor's state of emergency declaration. Ms. Herzenstiel will keep us posted on this issue. The school calendar has already been revised to account for the extra days. Spring break will now officially occur a week earlier in the Clarkston school year, this comports with a change made at the Oakland County district level. Currently, there is legislation pending regarding elimination of the requirement for high school students to complete the ACT Work Keys. Ms. Herzenstiel reports that the legislation will likely pass and that Clarkston will likely opt out of this testing. Finally, Ms. Herzenstiel reports that Shawn Ryan has extended an invitation to parents who are interested in attending PAT meetings as he discusses the district's strategic plan. She will pass on information regarding dates and times of these meetings as it becomes available.

G. Health and Wellness: Amy Metz

Ms. Metz reports that CHS presented its Real Talk event for students on March 21st and 22nd, led by Ryan Eisele, Rachel Vickers, and Melissa Bridgman, along with several facilitators from the teaching staff, community members and administration, and that the event was again a success. She encourages parents to consider participating, in addition to encouraging their students to participate as well. The event will occur twice next year and more information will be shared in the fall regarding participation.

I. Principal's Report: Gary Kaul

Mr. Kaul reports that CHS will be supporting the CCS initiative to have a "Well-being Spring Break" which provides that there will be no homework assignments due following spring break and no grades will be returned by teachers over the time period as well.

Nathan Sesti, Madison Dryden and Time O'Daniel have been recognized as "qualifiers" for the National Merit Scholarship program.

An update on school vaccination information indicates that if your child is not up to date with MMR vaccine and a measles exposure occurs at the school, they will be excluded for up to 21 days from the date of the exposure. This is from the Oakland County health department.

The Michigan Department of Education will be conducting an administrative review of CHS' school meals program.

Lars Covintree, Kelly O'Melia and Vicki Potter each have reached 25 years of employment with Clarkston Community Schools.

Gary Browne has been hired to replace Jerry Bawks as the evening custodian.

Olivia Torres has been recognized as a Global Problem Solving Semi-finalist at the Problem Solvers State Bowl.

Three Clarkston students were on the winning team for the Michigan ProStart competition, hosted by the Michigan Restaurant and Lodging association, they were Gavin Goik, Danielle Little and Juliana Stuertz.

Make up days for Clarkston resulting from the snow days this year will likely include: May 10 becomes a full day; June 6 becomes a full day; June 7 becomes a full day; additional half days will take place on June 10, 11 and 12.

IV. New Business

A. 2019-2020 PTSA/PTO Board – Ms. Pardee and Ms. Hardtke report that currently, all slots are filled for the upcoming year's board with the absence of a president. The junior high PTA board members will be approached to determine any interest and we will consider other alternatives after that point.

B. PTSA disbandment recommendation – a vote is taken of the Executive Board members present, and the vote is unanimous for the PTSA to move forward with the disbandment proceedings as outlined in the bylaws. Those present and voting include: Meg Pardee, Kim Hardtke, Jamisen Sivak, Amy Metz, and Andrea Rozman. Gary Kaul's yes vote is noted in his absence.

V. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 8:37 pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by
Amy Metz
Clarkston High School PTSA Secretary