



**Copper Beech PTA Meeting
Tuesday, October 3, 2017**

Attendance: 29 members signed in

Board Members in attendance: Dave C., Dottie C., Jason P., Betsy K., Tanya P., Cathy R., Kristin G., Dana M.

Appendices: June 2017 General Meeting Minutes, August 2017 Budget Final, September 2017 Budget Draft, 2016-2017 Annual Budget Final, Principal's Report Agenda

Call to Order

- Dave Clark calls the meeting to order at 7:05pm
- June meeting minutes approved and seconded.

AEF Presentation

- Christine Strange, Chair of Abington Education Foundation
- AEF is 501c3 that serves every child in the district
- Initiatives are at the building level and district wide
- Programs include Chromebooks, Silver Pen Awards, and addressing needs of individual schools. Examples include Robotics at McKinley and Rydal, interactive pens, fitness, etc.
- They are also working on bringing virtual reality education into classrooms and 3D anatomy to the high school.
- This year they are elevating the programming. They are kicking things off with an event in January. Info will come soon.
- They are planning family-friendly event on the Jr/Sr High School grounds in June.
- There will be two Harlem Wizards games in April. Tickets will go on sale in either January or February.
- Follow them on Facebook for up-to-date info @abingtoneducationfoundation-PA or <https://www.facebook.com/AEF.PA/>

Meet Mr. Brenner

- Introduction to the new VP
- 17th year in the district, all at McKinley
- Was on the AEF Board
- Looks forward to meeting more parents and working with us to bring more wonderful programming to CB

Report from Board, Standing Committees

President's Report – Dave Clark

- Welcome to new families and returning families
- The Sign up Genius (SUG) has been sent out for parents to sign up to help with coordinating for events and fundraisers. Thanks to everyone who has already signed up to coordinate an event or fundraise. There are still some spots so please take a look and see what's available!
- The updated Coordinator Handbook is now posted to the PTA website. It's a great tool for keeping us all aligned with planning of events. Link: <https://copperbeechptaotorg.wordpress.com/aboutwp-admin/for-volunteers/>
- Please provide reports to the Board as plans move forward. If you don't know your Board Liaison, they will be sending introduction emails this week.
- Library Volunteers – SUG has been distributed or you can contact Amanda Clark or Kris Irwin if interested.

- Girls on the Run is in need of coaches – contact Lisa Kosik or Dave Clark if interested in being a coach. Online training is required.
- Updates on past events
 - K Social: Was very well attended. It was wonderful to see the new parents.
 - Teacher Luncheon: Nice turnout by teachers, who enjoyed a Mexican themed catered lunch.
 - Mums Sale: Thank you to everyone who purchased mums. It was a nice way to kick off the fundraising season.
 - Open Houses: Well attended.
 - 6th Grade letter has been distributed: The letter details the plans for 6th graders and the activity fee that funds the events. If you haven't received the letter, please see a Board member.
 - Yankee Candle Fundraiser: The packets were distributed to students and the fundraiser is officially underway. If you didn't get a packet, please see a Board Member.
 - Clubs: Starting this week; more details from Tanya.

President Elect – Dottie Coccimiglio

- Pancake Breakfast hosted by the 6th grade
 - Sunday, November 19th from 8-11:30am (it starts 30 minutes earlier than last year)
 - Held at the Knights of Columbus on Limekiln Pike
 - This event is run by the 6th graders who help to organize and execute the event.
 - A save-the-date will be sent through Skyward and a physical flyer for the event will be sent home.
 - You can pay on-line or can send cash/check to the PTA office.
 - SUG will be created for the 6th grade families and sent end of October/early November.

VP1 – Jason Porter

- Cougar Chronicles are newly updated for this year. They have been sent every other week via email. If you have feedback about the new format please let Jason know.
- Children's Art Fundraiser (Square 1 Art): You should have received your art papers and Skyward announcement with the paper attached. One page is meant for the art for the kids to draw on. That art can be put on mugs, keychains, and other fun stuff. Drawings need to be back by 10/11. If you don't have the paper, you can use plain white paper.
 - Question: is there a theme? Yes! It's fun in the sun but feel free to draw something else if your child wants.

VP2 – Betsy Krol

- Fall Clothing Drive:
 - Saturday, November 11th from 9am-3pm
 - Kris presents the list of accepted items: clothing, accessories, stuffed animals, toys, shoes, and much more.
 - No books, electronics, or breakables
 - Donations need to be in thick bags to prevent breakage
 - Kris Irwin has volunteered to let people drop off in the days leading up to the event at her home if they cannot make it on Saturday. Contact Kris for details.
- Fall Festival:
 - Natalie is looking for someone to take over as the Coordinator. That person would "shadow" her during planning and at the event this year. If you are interested, talk to Natalie.
 - We are holding the Cake Walk again. (It's a favorite of the kids.) The flyer will go out electronically.
 - Giant will not donate cakes, they will only donate gift cards. The gift cards will only cover two cakes but we usually have to purchase 10-15 cakes to keep up with demand.
 - Spread the word about parents and kids submitting decorated cakes. There are great prizes including Temple basketball tickets, Rebounders gift card, and Philadelphia Soul tickets.

VP3 – Tanya Pham

- Goodies with Guests:
 - This Friday, October 6th for K students.
 - Each child can bring 2 guests to enjoy breakfast, live music, and library books.
 - The aides are here 30 minutes early if you need to head to work afterwards you can drop off the kids.
 - Wawa donated all of the coffee and Honest donated the juice pouches.
- Assemblies:
 - Kris Irwin reports that the first assembly, a laser light show, was a success! Kids were singing along.
 - Things are a little different this year so Kris is working with Mr. Brenner to coordinate in tandem with the Golden Ticket program.
 - Next assembly is in December and is presented by PECO. A superhero will teach the kids about conserving energy.
 - A Jump rope assembly will take place later this year plus another one being planned for Spring.
- Clubs:
 - Garden Club started today. They are waiting for approval for raised bed veggie garden. The kids weeded and watered the gardens. Last year's potatoes didn't work very well since people threw trash in the garbage cans where they were growing so they will be labeled better next year.
 - Master of the Brick (MOB) starts next week. There were so many people interested that we had to turn away approximately 50 students. If your child didn't get in try again in January and there are 2 more sessions after that.
 - Still need 2 more adult volunteers for Thursday club. (Need at least one to make it happen.)
 - Clubs are after school from 3:15-4:30 and child clearances are required.
 - Book Club is starting soon. Kristin is leading the older kids and the theme is "Which is better, the book or the movie?" Alison is leading the younger kids and the theme is "Voices".
 - There is still a little room left if kids are interested.
- Collections
 - A+ School Rewards via Giant: CB earns money when you link your Giant card to our code: 23734. Go on the Giant website. You don't need to repeat enrollment each year. You can also link to more than one school.
 - Box Tops: Renee O'Brien is the coordinator. We have \$340 so far. Deadline to submit is November 1st.
 - Turn in your box tops in an envelope or bag and marked PTA office. The coordinator will clip and count.
 - We submit 2x per year.
 - Soda tabs collected for the Ronald McDonald House as a good deed. It helps pay for their electric bill, etc. Send with your child labeled "PTA Office".
 - Ink Cartridge recycling: Kristin is handling. If you have ink or toner cartridges, bring them in. It was suggested to set up a box next to the printer in your office and collect at work.
 - Little Bites: Entenmann's offers a TerraCylce program for recycling Little Bites wrappers. No crumbs! Send in a zip top bag to keep the crumbs down. There will be containers in the lunchroom and in the PTA office.
 - We are still in need of a few large cheese curl/pretzel barrels to set up in the café. If you have one, you can drop it in the PTA office.

Marketing Director – Kristin Gaenssle

- Name that Tune Social: Adults only event similar to Trivia but it's all music. A DJ will run the whole thing. Friday, December 1st at the North Penn VFW.
- Membership update: 246 members are signed up so far. Please encourage others to sign up for access to the mobile app and directory.
- Coordinators Handbook is now updated and posted on the CB PTA website.
- Hoagie Night: Rob Raggi is coordinating.
- Stephanie McKenna and Dana Mensah are doing some graphic design for flyers to freshen up things.
- PTA Facebook is very active so join and invite other parents! There will be plenty of info and you can comment again. Please feel free to post questions and make it an interactive community.
- National Custodian Recognition was Monday. We recognized the custodians for their work with a small gift and cards from the kids.

Treasurer – Cathy Richman

- Last Audit took place on August 10th: Audit went well.
- Three budget reports available including last year's closing out the books. Reports will be posted on the website.
- 6th Grade Activity Fees: We are at 50% collected activity fees. \$50 per child.
- State/Federal Filings: August is done and September is being filed soon.
- IRS form 990 from last year is complete.

Secretary – Dana Mensah

- Permits: All fall permits are in and Girls on the Run will be submitted this week. Then it's on to the winter events once dates are finalized.

Principal's Report – Dr. Viola

- Golden Ticket Program as part of SWPBIS. This program automatically offers the reward with the golden ticket as the entrance fee to an assembly or special program at the end of each marking period. Kids receive a strike for anything against CB Cares behavior. Three strikes and you lose your ticket. Kids who lose their ticket will have a refresher about CB Cares behavior. This week was the teaser assembly with laser light show so they can see what it's all about. Kids and staff are excited.
 - We review our discipline data and look for areas to reteach the children (i.e. recess and playground equipment, solving conflicts with friends)
- Great Northeast Shakeout Drill – earthquake drill 10/19 along with all other Abington Schools
- Halloween Parade – 10/31 at 9:30am. Kids can bring the costume to school so kids can walk and the parents can watch. More info coming. Class celebrations handled by teachers.
- November 6th-10th is conflict resolution week
- American Education Week is also in November and parents will be able to sit in on a lesson in the classroom
- November 8th no school for in service
- Some grades went back to recess after lunch

Faculty – Mrs. Sutch / Ms. Cusick

- Mrs. Sutch gave the report. Ms. Cusick was not present.
- The teachers thank the PTA for the teacher luncheon and Target gift cards

New Business

- Book Fair sign up should be out at the end of October. We set up the Friday night before and it goes all week.

Announcements

- Art fundraiser – September 26th to October 11th (ship to S1 on the 13th)
- Yankee Candle fundraiser - September 29th – October 13th
- Goodies with Guests - Friday, October 6th
- Fall Festival - Friday, October 27th
- Name that Tune Social @ VFW – December 1st
- Next PTA Meeting November 8th

Meeting adjourned at 7:55pm

A 6th grade parent informational meeting took place immediately following tonight's General PTA Meeting.