



**Copper Beech PTA Meeting
Wednesday, November 8, 2017**

Attendance: 20 members signed in

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

Appendices: October 2017 General Meeting Minutes, September 2017 Budget Final, October 2017 Budget Draft, Copper Beech Peacemaker Song & Pledge, ASH Royal Breakfast flyer, Principal's Report Agenda

An informational meeting with Dr. Viola and Chartwells took place immediately preceding tonight's General PTA Meeting.

Call to Order

- Dave Clark calls the meeting to order at 7:34pm
- October meeting minutes approved and seconded.

Ms. Crompton (CB Pink Week/Breathing Room Donation)

- Teachers are trying to make more of a community connection this year.
- During Pink Week they collected 4 boxes of socks and donated to the Breathing Room Foundation.
- This month they will support Bears that Cares program by collecting stuffed bears for kids and adults in hospitals. The collection coincides with CARES week.
- The teachers will also be making a donation during jeans day.
- If you have suggestions for organizations that could use our support, please email Mrs. Crompton.

Nicole Gessing - Parent Council President

- Parent Council is the umbrella organizations for the PTAs and PTOs.
- They provide insurance coverage for the PTAs and PTOs.
- The first meeting was a couple of weeks ago and they reviewed the upcoming renovations with Dr. Sickles.
- The next meeting is about internet safety with the Abington Police Department.
- In March they will cover bullying and teen suicide.
- Reach out with any questions.

Report from Board, Standing Committees

President's Report – Dave Clark

- Recent Events/Fundraisers
 - Fall Fest as successful. Thank you for your support.
 - Square One Art Fundraiser order forms went home. Please check your child's bag.
 - Yankee Candle Fundraiser just wrapped up and delivery will be in the next several weeks. Pick up notices will be going out soon.
 - Goodies with Guests was very successful with about 400 people attending!
- Girls on the Run (GOTR): Due to the large number of coaches, we are able to expand into 6th Grade with the Heart and Sole program. GOTR starts in February.
- National PTA School of Excellence Program is a program that certifies schools for their commitment to the community and communication.

- To start the process of becoming a School of Excellence, we must complete a Family Engagement Survey. This survey has been distributed via both Skyward and printed versions that went home with your child. Please complete one version by 11/10/17.
- After surveys are collected, the data will be reviewed by Dr. Viola and select PTA Board Members. Results will be submitted to the National PTA, who will then provide a roadmap to success for us.
- At the end of the year you'll be asked to complete the survey again so we can assess our success. If we achieve our goals, we'll be a certified School of Excellence.
- **Upcoming Events/ Fundraisers:**
 - 6th Grade Fall Harvest Dance – November 10th
 - Fall Clothing Drive – November 11th
 - Book Fair/Hoagie Night – November 17th Flyers already went out. Order your hoagies and pizza soon.
 - 6th Grade Pancake Breakfast – November 19th
 - Chipotle fundraising night – November 28th (Tentative)
 - Name that Tune Social – December 1st
 - 6th Grade Social (Thunderbird Lanes) – December 2nd

President Elect – Dottie Coccimiglio

- 6th Grade Pancake Breakfast will be on Sunday, November 19th from 8-11:30am at the Knights of Columbus. Flyers were already sent home. You can also order online. A Sign-up-Genius will go out soon for volunteers.
- Library Volunteers: There are still some spots open. Friday only has half of the shifts covered. If you'd like to volunteer, please sign up on the Sign-up-Genius or contact Dottie.

VP1 – Jason Porter

- Cougar Chronicles is moving to once per month. The next issue will go out at the end of the week. If there's something specific you'd like to see featured, please let Jason know.
- Kate gave an update about Square One Children's Art Fundraiser. Orders are due 11/15 via cash or check. You can also order online on the Square One website. Information is in the packets that were sent home.
- Science Fair will take place on 4/5/18. Registration forms will go out after Thanksgiving and will be due by 12/20/17. There will also be a survey we ask for you to complete either electronically or on paper. 1/5 there will be updates and welcome packet with information about how to get started. We've increased to three workshops this year to help parents and students get prepared. We are trying to get some judges to come to the workshops. Workshops will take place before the January, February, and March General PTA Meetings.
- Post Mortem Report is on-line report we will use to help wrap up after events. Coordinators will fill it out with information, best practices, and suggestions. This information will help us be more successful in the future. If you have documents already, you can attach them to the report. The report is available on the PTA website.
- Parent Council Meeting Liaison Report: the last meeting was about the expansions to ASHS. It was a great meeting and Jason learned a lot about the expansion plans and how we're handling the the growing township while continuing to keep reasonable class sizes. The HS is getting a \$75mil expansion. Plans are currently in the conceptual drawing phase. Groundbreaking in 2018. There's also a steering committee that will give updates.

VP2 – Betsy Krol

- Fall Clothing Drive is this Saturday from 9am-3pm
- 6th Grade Dance this Friday from 7-9 at Knights of Columbus. There are 8 chaperones and 3 people signing kids in and out.
 - There will be another 6th Grade Dance on May 4th
- 6th Grade Social is on 12/2 at Thunderbird Lanes. Hardcopy and skyward flyers went home last week. RSVPs must come prior to the event, no walk-ins.
 - On 3/2 6th grade social at the Sports Zone.

- Spring Fair – as of right now spring fair is not happening. We do not have any coordinators. We will not have spring fair if we don't have a coordinator. Now is the time we usually start planning so we need assistance ASAP. Please spread the word so we can get a committee together. It's a big event for the PTA.

VP3 – Tanya Pham

- Assemblies - 12/8 is the next assembly through PECO. It's about saving energy with a super hero who points out ways to be more energy efficient. It was free to we took advantage of the opportunity.
 - 1/9 will be a jump rope assembly.
 - The hope is to do one more assembly in April or June.
- Movie Night will take place on 1/5. The movie is Moana. Admission is one canned food to be donated to the Abington Food Pantry. The PTA will provide popcorn. Bring blankets to hang out on the floor.
- Little Bites/Terracycle – Please keep sending in clean wrappers. We have \$500 coming in for the first check in Jan or Feb. If we collect enough for spring we'll get another check.
- Book Fair is from 11/13-11/17 during American Education Week. Kids visit during their library class and will fill out a wish list that will come home. If you'd like to purchase any of the books please send money in or come in during family night. Teachers also make wish lists if you'd like to make a donation to your child's class.
- Escrips/ A+ School Rewards via Giant –link your Giant card using code 23734 and a percentage of your receipt will be donated to CB. We already have \$289.89 since October. 104 people have designated their cards. Spread the word!
- Clubs update
 - Garden Club is over for the season. We installed a new 3'x6' raised bed garden and planted garlic, which we hope will be ready for harvest in the spring. We are reapplying for the Whole Kids Garden Grant for \$2,000 towards our garden.
 - Book Club hasn't had their 2nd meeting yet. The older kids are reading "The Invention of Hugo Cabret". The current session ends in January. The next session starts in February. Sign up and Raffle Copter will start in December.
 - Master of the Brick still needs a lot of coordinators for many of the sessions. We need at least 3 adults to run as session and many days only have 2 adult volunteers right now. Session 2 starts 1/23. Child clearances required.

Marketing Director – Kristin Gaenssle

- Name that Tune Social tickets are now on sale. The event takes place on 12/2 from 7-10pm and is like Quizzo but with music. You can buy individual tickets for \$25 or a table of 8 for \$160.
- Membership/Directory – there are currently 295 families and 6 faculty PTA members.
- Hoagie and Pizza Night is on 11/17 during the Book Fair Family Night. Flyers went out. We are asking Kindergarten parents to bring baked goods for the Bake Sale. There was a type-o on the flyer.
- Burn Brae Day Camp is our new sponsor for My School Anywhere. We thank them for their support!
- Child Care at PTA General Meetings – this is the first meeting where we are offering childcare. We thank Autumn and Dave for making it possible.
- We sent in 3 boxes of ink cartridges for Funding Factory. Please bring your empty ink and toner cartridges to the PTA office and we will earn money. A company can also sign up to ship the toner/ink directly to Funding Factory and designate CB as the beneficiary. They send a pre-paid mailing label. Just go on their website and create an account.
- The Copper Beech PTA Facebook Group is a private, vetted group so CB parents can have open conversations.
 - 6th Grade Coordinators are welcome to send Kristin content if they need help promoting an event.
 - We also encourage Kindergarten and other parents new to CB to post for help.

Recording Secretary – Dana Mensah

- All fall permits are approved and on file. We are waiting on some remaining 2018 dates and then those permits will be submitted.
- Garden Club/Grant update – see above
- 6th grade T-shirt slogans are in! We had great, creative responses and there are 5 finalists that the kids are choosing from. The winning slogan will be announced Friday and from there the kids will create designs. They will then vote on the design, the color of the shirt, and the ink color. They're excited! Yearbook update
- All school social will be a roller skating party. We submitted dates and are waiting for the rink to confirm.

Treasurer – presented by President, Dave Clark

- Budget Report available
- PTA Membership – 10/15 submission represented 100 new members. That puts us at 91.9% of our goal. Membership is \$15 per family and we're always accepting new members.
- 6th Grade Activity Fees update – Approximately 54% collected to date, which is not bad for this time of year but we need to work towards 100%. If you haven't submitted yet, please do so.
- Cash box needs and/or checks for late November - December events will need to wait until Cathy gets back on 11/12.
- State Taxes- We are paying taxes on Yankee Candle (sales were up this year!)

Principal's Report – Dr. Viola

- Food Services and Chartwells Q&A took place before the general meeting.
- Peace Week is a focus on peaceable solutions and will work in conjunction with No Place for Hate. We are trying to sponsor 3 events throughout the year.
- American Education Week: all grades have visitation throughout the week. Teachers do an interactive lesson.
- Power of One Assembly is Run by the Sorenson company. The assembly will be on Friday 11/17 and is about standing up for yourself and others. It coordinates with the bystander rule. Kids sign a peace pledge.
- Important Dates:
 - Thanksgiving Break, No School: November 23-24
 - Parent-Teacher Conferences: December 5, 6, 7 – Student dismissal at 12:20pm
 - Winter Concert: December 18 at 1:30pm
 - Winter Break, No School: December 25-January 1

New Business

- No new business

Announcements

- No PTA Meeting in December. The next PTA meeting will be 1/16/18.

Meeting adjourned at 8:25pm