

**PTSCO Meeting Minutes**  
**Wednesday, January 3, 2024 · 5:30pm**  
**In-Person: LGI Room**

Called to order 5:32pm

In Attendance: Mau Tripp, Jason Tripp, Danielle Grzymala, Elizabeth Masarik, Shannon Meyers, Tava Shanchuk, Carlie Todoro-Rickus, Angela Hannah, Meg Mershen, Cristina Garcia Glover, Mark Brighton, Pam Fitzgibbon, Ellen Farrell, Jen Cox, Colleen Meszaros, Elissa Banas, James Sharratt, Dr. Kresse

- **Old Business/Past Events:**

- Winter Bazaar Recap
  - Carlie- It was very successful. Felt like there was more student participation. More games, raffles, and interactive events that the kids could participate in. Some groups raised a lot of money for their grade level, other groups just had fun. We can do both.
    - Dr. Kresse: we will be purchasing more plastic tables for use at CHS instead of having to call the service center to bring them.
    - MANY KUDOS WERE GIVEN FOR THE WINTER BAZAAR SET UP, RUNNING, AND DECORATIONS!!!!
      - It was a great success. Thank you Jenn Cox.

- **New Business/Upcoming Events**

- Cristina- heard feedback from some clubs. They would like a winter bazaar-like event in the spring. That way spring clubs could do fundraising for those clubs/sports/events too. Tava said she suggested that a few years ago.
  - Jen Cox will lead the planning for that event.
- PTSCO Comedy Night- Danielle Grzymala
  - Fundraiser to benefit all grade levels. We will be selling tickets
  - 125 tickets to be sold. \$25 tickets come with wine/beer. 21+ (no kids)
  - Rob's Comedy House, Tonawanda, NY
  - \$500 deposit to hold the date.
  - They have dates Feb 24, March 8, April 5, April 26th open. We need to vote on the date we would like to hold.
    - Each grade level could donate a basket. Benefits will go to PTSCO for each grade. Another idea: PTSCO can put baskets together from collected donations.
      - Another idea floated: could do an auction.
    - Looking to bring parents, teachers, and staff together in a fun event.
- Proposed dance for 7th/8th grade dance
  - Is it possible to do a dance at the school for middle school?

- Dr. Kresse: it depends on the date. If PTSCO can provide volunteers that makes it easier. Dr. Kresse is open to the idea of a middle school dance held at the school.
  - Potential date: May 3rd
- **Update from Administration - Dr. Kresse/Ms. Hannah**
  - High school musical: Carol King's Musical "Beautiful"
    - A flyer will be going out to students regarding tryouts, practices, etc.
  - Keeping the Dream Alive: Feb. 12th
    - Posters are coming out on social media 1/3/24
  - Regent's Week
    - If a high school student does not have an exam, they are off for four days. Regular class schedule for 5-8 students
  - 8th grade science exam- NAEP
    - CHS has been selected to administer the assessment.
      - They bring in their own team of proctors and devices
  - Winter sports is going great!
    - Cheer team has been phenomenal
    - Basketball, swim, bowling going great
  - Looking for curriculum adjustments to be enacted for Fall 2024:
    - Wanting to do an IB literature and language instead of two years of only literature. Explores advertising, newsprint, and other media forms of language.
      - Admin believes it will be more accessible and interesting for students.
    - We have two main tracks in sciences: Physics and Biology. A third small AP Environmental and Anatomy is also available.
      - Looking to change this third track that is spread over two years. Includes a unit on environmental law, environmental politics. Tenth-grade parents will receive a survey to see if they are interested in this third track.
- **Update from SBMT- Tava Shanchuk**
  - SBMT updates are the same as Kresse's updates
  - The next meeting will be going over the SCEP plans. (Planning document for school building.)
- **Update from BPTO- Danielle Grzymala**
  - Last meeting the social/emotional department from BPS discussed wellness teams. Looking to build the wellness team at CHS.
    - Looking to address fun and joy: what ideas might kids have that would do that in the school day
  - National Assc. of Mental Illness Buffalo Chapter also presented at the meeting. They work with families with mental illness support and help families connect to mental health resources.
  - Next meeting: Jan. 20th at East High School

- Will discuss how parents can learn where to go for resources in the district
  - BuffaloSpree featured Danielle Grzymala in an article about the Buffalo Parent Teacher Organization (BPTO)
  - Update on DPCC
    - Next meeting will be Jan 9th, 6-8pm at East High School
      - Reps for Kids Escaping Drugs will present at the meeting
- **Pelion Garden Update- Cassandra Seawell**
  - January 15 MLK Jr Day of Service: time TBD.
    - Volunteers needed: 1-3 carpenters.
    - Looking for a parent/HS student to monitor the camp stove and serve cider or cocoa. <https://www.facebook.com/events/891989375901536>
  - Totality Shenanigans at Pelion Outdoor Classroom APRIL 8, 2024 PLANNING MEETINGS. If folks would like to help plan some Arts, photo-crafts, PICNIC, poetry, snacks, games, or seed-starting with us, please connect with Cassandra Seawell.
- **Other business:**
  - Question: Coach Lester wants to do a team building for JV girls team at Canalside
    - Question if kids who don't have a bus pass can get issued a train pass to get to Canalside
    - Ms. Hannah will work on that
  - Elissa Banas: ib coordinator and former CHS parent
    - Feb. 6th 5:30 pm in LGI room: ib diploma parent meeting
    - The Culturally and Linguistically Responsive Initiative (CLRI) team will be hosting the CLRI of Arts and Olmsted here at CHS and showcasing our program
  - Mr. Sharrat: We need four more parent chaperones on file for Pathfinder to complete BPS Application (spots were filled from PTSCO members)
    - Suggested that an evening parent informational night be held to gather more interest from grade level parents.

Next Meeting February 7, 2024 at 5:30pm Google Meet Link  
<https://meet.google.com/usa-urwd-xnn>

Meeting adjourned 6:23pm