



PTC Meeting Minutes 01-11-2016 General Meeting

All representatives/delegates were in attendance except:
Hart, KT Murphy, Toquam, Rogers, Northeast, Rippowam, and Springdale

Regan Allan, PTC Co-President opened the meeting at 7:32 pm

Guest: Mr. James Connelly, Interim Superintendent of School

Official start date: 01/04/2016

Having no previous history with SPS, Mr. Connelly has been visiting all district buildings and meeting faculty and staff members. As our interim superintendent, being visible and inclusive is one of his top priorities. Staff members and students need to see him visiting their buildings and must feel comfortable speaking with him. Mr. Connelly cited "Niche," a school system rating organization, which rated SPS very favorably among Connecticut school systems.

Goals/priorities:

- Focus on positive news within the district
- Turn around negative perceptions within community
- Help resolve issues at individual building levels
- Budget process
- Construction of the new school at Strawberry Hill
- Meeting with our Mayor and other city governing bodies

Guest: Geoff Alswanger, Board of Education President

Mr. Alswanger concurred with Mr. Connelly's views and perceptions of SPS.

Discussed the ongoing search process and the search firm's credentials and experience.

Goals/priorities:

- Superintendent search and hire
- Budget
- Getting new BOE members up to speed

Meeting deviated from agenda to be respectful of guest presenters' time.

PTC Maureen Tobin Memorial Scholarship (<http://stamfordptcouncil.org/scholarship.html>)

Guests: Laura and Kate Tobin

Laura and Kate (Maureen Tobin's daughters) thanked PTC for the continued support of the Maureen Tobin Scholarship. PTC and the Tobin family will review and possibly modify some scholarship application criteria and qualifications.

- Sought parent volunteers to serve on scholarship committee
- In order to serve, volunteer must not have a current senior in SPS

Parent Teacher Council of Stamford, CT

888 Washington Boulevard | Stamford, CT 06904 | www.stamfordptcouncil.org

Naviance Presentation

Naviance is a comprehensive college and career readiness solution for middle and high schools that helps align student strengths and interests to post-secondary goals, and improve student outcomes.

Guest: Carolyn Conte, Stamford Public Education Foundation (SPEF), Dr. Michael Fernandes (SPS), Mr. Mike Meyer (SPS)

Ms. Conte presented a step-by-step review of the numerous benefits to our students and parents available through Naviance. Students and parents are provided access to Naviance through a personal log-in, log-ins are assigned through SPS guidance offices.

Parents in need of log-in information should contact their building's guidance department. Please review the presentation, which is attached below.

Tonight's Focus

What is Naviance?

How to Access Student & Parent Accounts

Tour of *Family Connection*





Treasurer Report

Presented by Regan Allan

- Reviewed deposits (Scholarship donations and dues)
- No withdrawals
- Budget approved

ECS/CCJEF Trial and SPS Informational ECS/CCJEF Forum Update

Trial begins 1/12/2016

- Forum on hold until trial is underway
- PTC will prepare an informational fact sheet to raise community awareness

Additional/background information can be obtained by contacting Regan Allan at:

regana@optonline.net

Several recent articles regarding ECS and CCJEF:

Wendy Lecker: "State's most vulnerable children to get day in court"

<http://www.stamfordadvocate.com/news/article/Wendy-Lecker-State-s-most-vulnerable-children-6378743.php>

"Trail over Connecticut's public school funding system begins"

<http://www.stamfordadvocate.com/news/education/article/Connecticut-school-funding-system-on-trial-6752347.php>

PTC General Business

Nominations for "Educator of the Year" due by 2/5/2016

Presidents' meeting: 1/28/2016

PLTI (Parent Leadership Training Institute) applications are still available

- To learn more about PLTI: https://www.cga.ct.gov/coc/plti_about.htm
- Interested community members should contact PTC representative Regan Allan at: regana@optonline.net

Participant Suggestions:

- Organize "Task Force" to raise awareness regarding ECS funding
- Invite Dudley Williams to speak to PTC regarding SPS funding
- Invite Mayor Martin to speak to PTC regarding SPS funding

Meeting concluded at 8:53 pm

Minutes Recorded and respectfully submitted by Nora Taylor, Recording Secretary

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