



PTC Meeting Minutes 05-18-2016 General Meeting

Representatives/delegates in attendance: Rogers, Newfield, Hart, Cloonan, Scofield, Stamford High School, Westhill High School

Regan Allan, PTC Co-President opened the meeting at 7:30 pm

Guest: Geoff Alswanger, BOE President

SPS budget

- Proposed 4.7% increase
- BOF/BOR reduced increase to 3.45%

Mr. Alswanger shared his disappointment and articulated some of the financial demands placed on the district: opening a new school, special education costs, contractual obligations (just under a 2% increase). The state has also reduced the amount of grants and funding available to SPS.

Impact:

- Reduction in after school programs and hours of operation
- Reduction in some special education services/programs

Positives:

- Additional recouped costs through Medicaid reimbursements

Next Steps/Objectives:

- BOE to provide quarterly updates to the BOF regarding expenses
- Will request additional funding if needed
- Proposing a COO position for central office
- Welcome and support our new Superintendent
- Posed a question: How can the SPS system continue to provide a high quality education to our students when funding is not aligned with our population growth?
- Fill Dr. Chiappetta, Director for School Improvement and Prof. Development
- Maintain mental health initiatives

Treasurer's Report

Presented by Carrie Jachimczyk

- SPEF donation, PTC Scholarship awards, budget approved

Scholarship Committee Report

Presented by Lori Johnstson

- Impressive candidates
- 12 applications reviewed
- Awarded 5 scholarships (1-\$2,000/2-\$1,250/2-\$750)
- 4 SHS students, 1 AITE student
- Students will be awarded at the 6/28 regular BOE meeting



Nominating Committee Report

Presented by Lori Johnston and Regan Allan

- Lori Johnston, Senior Co-President
- Lynn Rule, Junior Co-President
- Stephanie O'Shea, 2nd Vice President
- Corresponding Secretary, Marcella Branca
- Open positions: 1st Vice President, Treasurer, and Recording Secretary

Attendees were asked to consider volunteering for open positions or looking within their school communities for possible PT Council Executive Board member candidates.

New School @ Strawberry Hill Update

PT Council is currently assisting in establishing a PTO for the new school

- 7 pm meeting on 5/23 at Rogers
- Developed an informational PowerPoint presentation
- Looking to recruit parents as founding PTO executive board members

Filling in the Blanks Presentation

Tina Kramer, Founder of volunteer organization

Goal: To fight childhood hunger for students who participate in free and reduced lunch program

How: Back pack program for weekends and school summer recess

- 3600 students/children served
- Packing Days seek volunteers to help prepare supplemental food packages
- Looking for drivers to assist with deliveries

Anyone interested in obtaining more information or volunteering opportunities should contact:

Tina Kramer, Co-Founder, Filling In The Blanks, 203-496-0733

<http://www.fillingintheblanks.org/>

tkramer25@hotmail.com

Guest: Sharon Beadle, SPS Public Affairs Officer

Provided brief overview on her responsibilities, professional background, and goals.

Responsibilities:

- Interface with parents, staff, BOE members, and local media outlets
- Superintendent Presentations
- District Events
- SPS Annual Report to the Community
- SPS web site updates and maintenance

Goals:

- Build a positive image of the SPS system to the Stamford community
- Establishing regular updates from our school community regarding positive events
- Getting school specific information on events in a timely manner
- 2 weeks before an event is ideal (provide who, where, when, what)
- Upgrading SPS website to be more engaging and mobile/tablet friendly
- Grow Twitter following

To reach out to Sharon directly: She can be reached at: sbeadle@stamfordct.gov

Public Affairs Officer, Stamford Public Schools

888 Washington Blvd., 5th floor, Stamford, CT 06901

To submit an event/school activity to the SPS office of public affairs.

Please use the attached form:

Parent Teacher Council of Stamford, CT

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



[fill in headline]

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WHO:

WHAT:

WHEN:

WHERE:

BACKGROUND:

MEDIA CONTACT

Sharon Beadle
203-977-4095
203-561-8055
sbeadle@stamfordct.gov

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Stamford Public Schools (SPS) comprises more than 16,000 students, over 1,500 professionals, and 20 schools, including six magnet and two International Baccalaureate schools. SPS has a total of 12 elementary schools, five middle schools and three high schools. The mission of SPS is to prepare each and every student for higher education and success in the 21st century. SPS is proud that our district is as rich in diversity as it is in talent. We have students from many cultural backgrounds and geographic locations—as demonstrated by the more than 65 different languages spoken in the homes of our families. SPS offers our students a learning experience rich in cultural diversity and reflective of the global society in which they will work and live.

SPS Positive PR Initiative

New concept presented by Lisa and Steve Wise. Several community members are interested in creating an organization to generate positive SPS stories. The stories would be shared with the local media and social media outlets They would like to develop a partnership with the SPS Public Affairs office and PT Council.

Guest: Nelson Olivera, Stamford Advocate Reporter

Assigned to cover SPS starting in June. He is interested in cultivating a good relationship with SPS and would like to cover school-based events. However, all school-based information (press releases, photos, story ideas, etc...) must go through Sharon Beadle, SPS Public Affairs Officer. She can be reached at:

Sharon Beadle
sbeadle@stamfordct.gov
Public Affairs Officer
Stamford Public Schools, 888 Washington Blvd., 5th floor, Stamford, CT 06901

Other

News 12 reporter: Gillian Neff is a PSP parent. She is interested in covering SPS events. She can be reached at: 203-556-3197
Use the hashtag: #SPSPRIDE for promoting SPS events on Twitter

Meeting concluded at 9:06 pm

Minutes recorded and respectfully submitted by Nora Taylor, Recording Secretary