

Call to Order: 7:05pm

Head Count: 52

Executive Committee Members in Attendance: Ryan Connell, President, Kim Federico, Vice President of Administration, Traci Robinson-McGinnis, Vice President of Membership, Alison Ray, Correspondence Secretary, Heather Guerke, Recording Secretary

Guests in Attendance: Nick Manolakos, Paul Walmsley, Lower School Dean, Laura Thompson, Board PTO Representative

I. Welcome and Introduction of Executive Committee Members

II. Old Business

Megan White, Chairperson of the upcoming Trunk or Treat reported that the event will be held on Friday, October 13<sup>th</sup>. This fun family event for OCS families will include decorated trunks, lots of candy, a DJ, baked goods, pizza and hot cocoa will be available for purchase and that it is a fun safe way to trick or treat. We learned about the Teal Pumpkin Project which indicated that some trunks will have allergy safe giveaways. Megan said we still need many volunteers for the event and decorated trunks, but there are other ways to help if you can be available—donate an item. See the sign-up genius that was distributed to volunteer for something.

Ryan Connell reported that the Grottos Fundraiser was held in September and it was a successful event. He talked about the Chipotle event upcoming and that we were hoping for a similar success. Ryan let the attendees know that the PTO was active in many ways in September and that our focus for October will be Trunk or Treat and Chipotle. He provided an update on financials including the PTO was involved in the Peaceful playground, funding an 8<sup>th</sup> grade field trip, and campus beautification. PTO provided support at the AHEPA 5k and the recent open houses.

Ryan Connell also mentioned the Capital Campaign that is currently going on and the goal is to build a gym. Ryan let the attendees know that are seeking to increase attendance at PTO meetings. He welcomed suggestions and mentioned some ideas that have circulated are free dress down day coupons for their child to each parent who attends.

III. New Business

A. Administration update: Dr. Nick Manolakos reported he is happy to see huge crowd coming to PTO meetings. He mentioned that this is his 6<sup>th</sup> year at OCS and he wanted everyone to know that the school and depends heavily on involvement

of the PTO. He then mentioned a couple of faculty in attendance including: Mr. Walmsley, Mrs. Baldwin, Mrs. Krajewski, and Mrs. Wolanski. He mentioned that we are very proud of Mrs. Krajewski, Delaware Teacher of the Year and happy to have her as part of his staff. He also stated that things have been busy around school. OCS completed enrollment as of September 30th. Last year, OCS has 1440 students and we are at 1662. Original projections called for 22 children in Kindergarten and we were always at 23 in the past. We raised the seat count to 24 in Kindergarten and 1st grade. He reported that we are still in a very competitive position compared to other schools with that level. This prevented OCS from cutting teachers. The new Greek immersion classes are 23 and 21 students, respectively. He mentioned that the OCS immersion program is up for an award. He also talked about our student population. Dress down day to be held on Thursday, October 5<sup>th</sup>, and Friday, October 6<sup>th</sup>, is an in-service day. He thanked those who attended the AHEPA 5K and said it was a success. He made mention that there had been discussions about the library and that a consultant, a retiree from St. Marks High School, had been hired to help out with the library and Greek tutoring. He also briefly touched on the AR Program which encourages children to read. There are lots of events on the school calendar and he wanted to call attention to sports and other activities on the horizon. Transportation was a hot topic this time last year. Part of the Board's Strategic plan was to tackle the transportation issues. There is the possibility of purchasing a bus fleet, but hiring 19 bus drivers poses a very real challenge. A series of recommendations and incentives derived from the study for the drivers. Evan Winokur, OCS Transportation Supervisor, was not in attendance. Dr. Nick asked if the bus location app is working and several audience members indicated it was not working fully. With regard to Food Service, the High school cafeteria is being finalized. We are waiting on Board of Health to give final stamp to begin operations. If you are hearing from your children that they have little time to eat, improve once they receive approval. We have a great cafeteria and food service has improved under Kim Wolanski's leadership. A parent in attendance requested that the children receive a 30 minute lunch period. Homecoming will be held on October 25<sup>th</sup> at 5pm at Baynard Stadium where the soccer team will be playing under the lights. Finally, the administration is looking to upgrade the OCS website. There is a committee looking at this, and we can expect to see improvements coming.

- B. Board Parent Representation update -Laura Thompson discussed a few upcoming opportunities for students including a United Nations model program, Youth in Government, World Quest, Diversity Club, and the Global Youth Institute.
- C. Treasurer's Report—Kelly Padovani was not in attendance so Ryan Connell briefly summarized the budget and let the attendees know that we are ahead of most of our projected revenues. Traci Robinson-McGinnis spoke about earning opportunities including: Amazon, Shoparoo, Box Tops, Tyson rewards, spirit wear sales during lunch. She reported that the Book Fairs are coming this

October and that Grandparents will be able to come in to shop with their grandchildren during the school day. Traci reported that a sign up genius went out and volunteers are needed. She mentioned that the PTO is really hoping to get more members and teachers this year. Finally, we are accepting donated books.

- D. Yearbook Chairs Needed—Kim Federico reported that Tracie Principie needs help and is seeking photos and someone to help put together the yearbook. We had a couple of volunteers in the audience who offered to help.
- E. Open Discussion-Cub Scouts

Meeting Adjourned: 8:28pm

Next Meeting: November 1, 2017, 7pm

Used Uniform Sale: November 1, 2017, 6:15-6:45pm