

Call to Order: 7:04pm

Head Count: 15

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

Guests in Attendance: Ashley Sorenson, OCS Administration, Zachary Plerhoples, OCS faculty, Evan Winokur, Head of Transportation, Laura Thompson, Board PTO Representative, Kim Wolanski, Food Service Manager, Christina Baldwin, OCS faculty

- I. Call to Order
  - a. Ryan Connell welcomed all for attending.
  
- II. Old Business
  - a. Ryan Connell reported that PTO held a fundraiser at Bertucci's where over \$300 was raised. He announced that the 2017 Holiday Shop is in full swing and seems to be a hit among students. He also notified those in attendance that the PTO was sponsoring Santa on his fire truck this coming Friday evening from 5p-6p. That same day, there would also be a Dress Down Day for all students in exchange for a stocking stuffer to benefit Toys for Tots or used uniform donation.
  - b. Volunteers needed. Unfortunately, we had to cancel the December Used Uniform sale because the PTO Board is dedicating its resources to the Holiday Shop this month. The Used Uniform sale will resume in February. PTO is still seeking volunteers for their events as we do not have the manpower within the Board to hold all events. We discussed ways to get parents attention that their time is very much needed. We have many events where Chairs are needed as well. We discussed approaching the High School Honor Society students to see how they may be able to help in exchange for community service hours.
  
- III. New Business
  - a. Treasurer's Report: Kelly reported that the Peaceful Playground has been completed at the Lower School. Our goal is to have one at the Intermediate School in the near future. She mentioned that the PTO Poinsettia Sale is still active, but coming to a close. The PTO will benefit from a Five Below fundraiser the entire month of December, but you must bring in your voucher in order for the school to get credited.
  - b. PTO Executive Officer Reports
    1. Kim Federico talked about the success of the Holiday Shop and noted that she still needs volunteers.

2. Traci Robinson-McGinnis said that the Box Tops fundraiser is ongoing so keep sending them in. Also she is selling spirit wear and we now have lanyards, bracelets and navy blue hoodies available. There will be a spirit wear dress down day in February 2018.
- c. Administration Update: Ashley Sorenson reported that the OCS holiday concerts are upcoming. Grades K-3 will take place during school in the small gym on campus this year. Grades 4-High School will be held at Dickinson High School on Wednesday, Dec. 13<sup>th</sup> at 7p. She also mentioned that OCS just hosted open houses for potential incoming students. They were well attended and some students shadowed in the High School grades. Faculty recently attended a professional development day in Dover recently. The Delaware Charter Schools Network held their holiday meeting hosted by OCS on December 6<sup>th</sup>. A paving project will take place near Building 22 starting Dec. 18<sup>th</sup> depending on the weather.
  - d. Board/PTO rep Update: Laura Thompson reported that efforts to improve transportation are underway. The transportation committee is looking at short term and long term solutions. All emergency transportation issues should be reported to Evan Winokur, Head of Transportation. Laura discussed the OCS Capital Campaign and how we can all work together to spread the word and support the building of the large gym. There are ways to donate online and they are tax deductible. Dave Carroll suggested that anyone who donates should first check with their company to see if they will match donations. Laura also mentioned that it is possible more parents do not participate in events and meetings because they do not know about them. How can we get more parents involved with supporting the school and its functions?
  - e. Transportation Update: Evan Winokur reported that measures are being taken to improve transportation for the short term and long term at OCS. The transportation is currently looking at the five particular buses with daily issues. There will be a solution by January 15, 2018. Evan mentioned that he is on the phone with First Student daily trying to work through the problems he hears about. OCS is aware that this is not what a bus company is supposed to look like. He will be working through Christmas break to resolve the problems. He recognizes that what the parents are tolerating is not okay and First Student is not doing enough to remedy the situation. Evan said that 2018-19 transportation is going to look a lot different than it does this year starting with the purchase of a small fleet of buses and moving toward possibly owning our own buses. If parents or faculty know anyone willing to drive a bus and willing to obtain their CDL (or already have one), please identify them and let him know. Evan thanked those in attendance for their support given the transportation issues affecting all of us.
  - f. Open Discussion: Zach Plerhoples discussed the school garden initiative slated for spring 2018. He said that they will need donations of garden tools and supplies. He also discussed the ongoing recycling initiative in the cafeteria, and what a huge, but worthy, undertaking it has been. He is also working with others to have an energy audit conducted at OCS to determine cost saving measures that the staff and students

can help support. He mentioned that the High School is doing their own Walk-A-Thon on April 27, 2018 to fundraise for a water dissolution system in Africa. He mentioned that Athletics needs our support so please communicate if there is interest in helping out there. Finally, the PTO will be hosting a Walk-A-Thon this coming spring and additional information will be forthcoming once a date is decided.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:14pm

Next Meeting: February 7, 2018, 7pm

Used Uniform Sale: February 7, 2018, 6:15-6:45pm