# Pinecrest Parent Council Meeting Minutes

April 11, 2017

# Welcome

**In Attendance:** Christe Alwin, Matt Pacer, Amy Webster, Tanya Merritt, Nell Kuhnmuench, Emily Schnurr, Meg Drouare, Susan Passalaqua, Amy Adams, Jen Shangraw, and Ellie Vlahos.

**Call to order:** Christe Alwin called the meeting to order on Tuesday, April 11 at 7:03 P.M.

**Approval of the Agenda and** **Minutes:** The agenda was motioned for approval, seconded, and verbally approved. The March minutes, available online, were motioned for approval, seconded and verbally approved.

# Officer Reports:

**Board Updates -** Christe Alwin, Jen Shangraw, Tanya Merritt, Amy Adams and Ellie Vlahos

* **Marcos Pizza:** There were 51 orders placed during the March Marcos pizza night. The regularly scheduled pizza night for the month of April occurred during Spring Break so sales may be minimal.
* **Treasurer** **update**:
  + **Report:** A report was provided itemizing all expenditures. The report included the current and projected balance, anticipated cost for tax preparation, transactions over the past month, and requested donation by Pinecrest Administration to assist with transportation and field trip expenses. A motion was introduced for approval, seconded, and verbally approved to fully fund the requested donation of $4636.50 providing support for the Big Zoo Lesson (Third and Fifth Grades), Hoffmaster/Meijer Garden trip (Fourth Grade) and Wharton Center participation.
  + **Taxes:** Additional information is needed to assist the local law firm is filing the paperwork to establish the Parent Council as a simple nonprofit. Amy Adams will provide this information to the local law firm. The Parent Council has until May to file its 2016 taxes.

**Principal’s Report** – Amy Webster

* The students of the month were announced.
* The children met their puppy paw goal for March earning a spirit wear day on Friday, April 14th. The April puppy paw focus is on timely entrance into the building when the recess bell rings.
* The Equity Team will focus on autism awareness for the month of April.

**Teacher’s Report** – Susan Passalaqua

* The Fourth Grade Teachers thanked the group for providing financial support to their upcoming trip to Hoffmaster/Meijer Gardens as well as books received from the book fair.
* The Kindergarten classes will be hosting an end the year graduation picnic at Patriarche Park.
* Mileage Club is scheduled to begin this week.
* Erin Wolmar, Pinecrest’s social worker, is considering options for a replacement program for Big Brothers/Big Sisters which may be in the form of a High School after-school mentor program. Ms. Wolmar also sits on the Mental Health Advisory Board. A handout was provided describing the multi-tiered approach to providing Pinecrest students with positive behavior support/social and emotional learning.

**East Lansing Board of Education** – Nell Kuhnmuench

* The bond vote is in three weeks. Informational meetings were held at Marble, Donely, and Pinecrest to discuss the bond and answer questions. The League of Women Voters will be hosting a bond forum on Wednesday, April 12th at 7pm at Hannah Community Center.
* The Superintendent search will be delayed until spring 2018.
* District Administration provided a recommendation for school of choice spots for the 2017-2018 school year. The Board of Education will vote on the number of spots at their April 29th meeting. The number is expected to be the lowest in 10 years.

# Old and New Business

* **Retirements:** Mrs. Passalaqua and Mrs. Rawlinson are retiring this year. The Parent Council will discuss with Mrs. Webster plans to celebrate these teachers.
* **Spring Clean-Up:** Emily Schnurr shared her experience with the spring clean-up last year. It was decided that two events will be held to clean-up the school grounds. These events include moving mulch and improving vegetation as well as an event to clean-up after the carnival. Mrs. Webster will investigate having mulch delivered in time for a clean-up on May 12th. This event is best suited for a couple of adult volunteers. The May 20th event will primarily focus on general clean-up of the grounds following the carnival. Christe Alwin will reach out to the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts for assistance with the May 20th event.
* The **Carnival Planning** is continuing, led by Jen Shangraw.
  + Madhavi and Ellie are securing donations for the raffles. Teachers have been asked to create themed classroom baskets for the raffle, families from that classroom can help donate the items in the basket.
  + Several activity ideas are underway including game truck, inflatables, cupcake walk, and firetrucks and ambulances. Jen Shangraw is preparing a map identifying the location and ticket pricing for the different activities to be distributed with the carnival flyer.
  + Many events will require tickets, which have a cost. Teachers will be able to give out tickets to students as needed for good behavior, prior to the carnival.
  + The online auction component is back on as we learned that the information initially provided was not correct. The online auction process is similar to other Parent Council’s in the district.
* **Parent Council Positions:** The president position is open for next year. The Parent Council is continuing to reach out to parents to fill this positions. A discussion was held on removing the responsibilities of the book fair from the president position and creating a separate position titled Book Fair Coordinator. Christe Alwin agreed to be the Book Fair Coordinator next year.
* **2017-2018 Events:** A schedule of events proposed for next year was introduced. Many of the events have a person identified who has committed to leading the event next year.
* **Upcoming Events**
  + Lugnuts School Night – Friday, May 5th
  + Spring Clean-Up Dates – Friday, May 12th and Saturday, May 20th
  + Spring Carnival – Friday, May 19th

# Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by Christe Alwin.

Minutes submitted by Christe Alwin, Co-President