

School for Creative and Performing Arts

General Meeting

PTSO Meeting Agenda: January 13, 2026

President Updates - Brigid Huey

1. December: staff had a holiday party and PTSO provided drinks and desserts.
2. This month we will be providing a comfort station for external auditions 1/20-1/22. Snacks, water, bandaids, etc. and info will be provided. Volunteers will be solicited on a sign up genius.
3. February 12: supporting the Black History Month program with a matching donation drive. We will match up to \$400 for this event to cover food costs for cast and crew.
4. Dance for 7th and 8th graders coming April 24th! This will be held right after school from 3:15-5:15 in the cafeteria or gym. Free for students with decorations, food, drinks, and music. Jenny Rachford will need some volunteers and the sign up genius will go out at the end of January. Students will be helping to make the decisions.

VP Fundraising- Kevin Whitman

1. Please sign up for Kroger rewards to benefit the SCPA. Instructions on how to do this are the wearescpa.org website.

Treasurer- Bridget Kennedy and Joe Brennan

1. You can also sign up for the Box tops app. We raised \$550 from Kroger and \$95 from Box Tops this past quarter.
2. We paid for drinks and deserts at the staff appreciation party (\$750)
3. We received about \$550 from Kroger rewards and \$95 from Box Tops
4. We assisted Dance and Vocal Music in their recent fundraising efforts (Dance—helping manage money collected for student meals and their fundraising for nutcracker and their extracurricular work hiring a professional dancer), Vocal for fundraising for Kings Island trip.

LSDMC Representatives-Teresa Dinwiddie-Hermann

1. The gala is Friday, January 16th.
2. The process to replace Mr. Owens will be starting soon. We are working with the district to get a timeline going for that.
3. LSDMC will have input into that hiring. Community involvement will be sought after with surveys.

Administration/Principal Updates

1. 2nd semester Resetting
 - a. We will reviewing our benchmark and testing data both individually and by grade level
 - i. 3rd grade math team gets a shout out for a 70% success rate on testing at benchmark or above.
 - b. Students will be reminded of expectations in the building.
 - c. Attendance is being evaluated- 25% of our students are considered to be chronically absent. We have an attendance social worker that's working with families. Chronic absences affect test scores, funding, staffing, etc.

Artistic Director

1. Invitation to all to come see Orphan Train and Hamlet presented by our drama departments
2. External auditions are coming up January 20-22
3. An Internal Recruitment Team is in place to determine what we are looking for in these new students- work ethic, grades, commitment, etc.

Open Question/Answer

1. Garden Klub(Cybele McGrazi)-Ms. Martich is leading the Garten Klub effort and has recently spoken to Mr. Draud about some of our progress. In the last month, we were awarded \$1,000 from the Cincinnati Seeds of Change Urban Agriculture Mini-Grant. YAY! We have successfully recruited science teachers Ms. Broerman + Ms. Burns to jump on board; we met with a representative from the City of Cincinnati's Keep Cincinnati Beautiful program who is assisting us with the application for their Safe & Clean Grant; and we plan on officially going public next month by launching a school wide Garten Klub Logo design competition and/or Seeds and Supplies drive.

2. New SCPA parent/teacher group that is just finding its feet. We have started meeting regularly. There are two options for monthly meetings:

- **AFTER SCHOOL: 2nd Mondays 5pm @ SCPA.**

(Meeting notes available + online Zoom option)

- **BEFORE SCHOOL: Last Mondays 8:30am @ [Red Tree Cafe \(229 W 12th St\)](#).**

(Relaxed "coffee chat;" no meeting notes or Zoom).

The next meeting will be Monday 1/26 at Red Tree Café at 8:30am.

Our goal is to build community among SCPA music parents, teachers, and students. We are in the beginning stages of planning a few events for this year.

Contact Cybele McGrazi for more information! cybelesings@gmail.com

Discussion followed with the PTSO board

- Bridget Kennedy (Treasurer) said that PTSO could manage the MPTSO money, and there is already a custodial account set up for the individual music departments (vocal, orchestra, band, etc)
- Concerns were raised about the lack of communication regarding the MPTSO so far. Three music student parents in attendance said they have not received an email pertaining to the MPTSO.
- This was all news to me and will be addressed at the next MPTSO meeting

3.Prom-Ms. Calloway secured the convention center. Asking for \$1000-2000 to subsidize prom. This would be to cover expenses. We usually cover a few hundred dollars worth of desserts.

4.5th grade parents are saying there's too much homework. This is a pandemic class, so this class is struggling. Teachers are trying to catch them up and this strategy isn't working according to parents. Teachers are really trying and are concerned. Compassion for the kids is there and parents know that. Character Strong is the new socio-emotional learning program that will be implemented next year. Administration can have a conversation about the parental feelings that are happening.

