

School for Creative and Performing Arts

General Meeting

PTSO Meeting Agenda: September 8, 2026

Attendance: Kellie Hunkler, Katie Overbeck(4thgrade parent), Teresa Dinwiddie-Hermann, Morgan Makinen, Christa Walker, Melissa Jones, Brandon Jones, Brigid Huey, Tywana Watson, Clara Cornelius, Elizabeth Blackburn, Shannon Stewart, Kevin Whitman, 2 additional parents, & several zoom attendees

Monthly Theme: CELEBRATE COMMUNITY

Welcome - Brigid Huey

Administration

-Principal/Asst.Principal

1. K-6 Dismissal Procedures
 - a. The board has recommended that there not be any elementary walkers unless they are in 5th and 6th grade. It's not a safe area with big roads and public places. There is a carpool lane but people have been leaving their cars, security is working on that.
 - b. Communication for parents going from 6th grade to 7th grade could be improved. Parents don't know the procedures for this grade shift. It was recommended that a video of procedures could be helpful. **Christa Walker and Kevin Whitman** along with Digital Media students stepped up to lead this.
 - c. Could police officers be provided? \$100 an hour for an officer, so it would be a city request. Ms. Makinen said if the city council approves, then we can definitely use them. **Elizabeth Blackburn** has agreed to take the lead on this endeavor.
2. K-6 Before & After Care-meeting with Champions next week
3. Volunteer Opportunities
 - a. Star Store on Fridays is a great opportunity for parents to volunteer. They can pick a 30-45 minute slot. Mr. Draud will take the lead in asking for volunteers.
 - b. **Out of the Blue** teacher appreciation event on October 5th- admin purchases snacks to be in lounges or on a cart to be delivered to teachers throughout the day
4. Resource Coordinator Appreciation-next week for Mr. Jordan Talley
5. **ILT Representative Needed**-one parent (instructional leadership team) needed for this committee on curriculum. Meetings are the second Wednesday of the month 4-5:30. Contact Mrs. Makinen to volunteer
6. Upcoming Events
 - a. Conferences - 9/24
 - b. After Hours - 10/2
 - c. Concert - 10/3
 - d. Picture Day is 9/18, Re-Take Picture Day - 10/6
 - e. Literacy Night - 10/15 all funded through Title 1

f. Homecoming - 10/17

-Mr. Jones, Artistic Director

1. Major Musical
 - a. **Policy adjustments** - feedback was appreciated. 450 people auditioned from the drama, vocal, and dance departments. These departments have always been required to audition. **Policy change beginning next semester**-students will not be required to audition for the major musical unless they are interested in being casted.
 - b. **Communication:**
 - i. Shows are not always double casted.
 - ii. Costuming for this show needed to be supported.
 - iii. Parents/students would like the expectations to be communicated. All auditionees should be contacted about callback and cast lists. This helps parents as well to plan for pickups. Also, being up front about how callbacks and casting process will work.
 - iv. It was recommended by parents and Mr. Jones that we have some instruction on how to train your child to deal with rejection. Parents could also benefit from learning how to support your child when they don't get what they were hoping to get.
 - v. Tywana thanked Mr. Jones for listening and hearing the parents and keeping open mind
 - c. Rogue facebook pages are targeting students. Brigid encouraged us all to not be a part of that group. There's no place for hateful talk. Join the PTSO facebook page as a safe space to ask questions and get information.
2. Elementary Drama-46 students casted, parent meeting tonight
3. Private Music Lessons-77 applicants, 75 got lessons! Still working to find lessons for the last 2 kids
4. Navy Band SCPA Visit - 9/14 & 9/16 Ms Garrison and Mr. Stuckey
 - a. Quintet-Ms. Garrison's
 - b. Combo-Mr. Stuckey's
5. SCPA Cindependent Memorial Hall - 9/17 Independent Film Festival- 1 student in media arts is in the show
6. Broadway Beyond the Classroom
 - a. Creative Writing & Costuming See The Great Gatsby National tour - 9/24
 - b. Creative Writing - curricular connection with Script writer of Gatsby musical - 9/25
7. Visual Art Best of Boards Gallery opening - 9/24
8. Visual Art 4-6 Gallery opening - 10/1
9. M.A.L.I.T.A. (Making A Living In The Arts) Session #1 - 10/7 Targets juniors and seniors in all artistic fields. Pre-registering will happen a week before, there are 50 spots available and students will be fed since this is during lunch bell
10. BLINK Light Festival - 10/8 - 10/11
 - a. SCPA is first High school to have an exhibit in the festival as one of the 88 artists who have been chosen

President- Brigid

1. Parent/Teacher Conferences
 - a. Is the PTSO providing food? Yes!
 - b. Can Mr. Draud be the point of contact for delivery? Yes, or some administrator will be available
2. Mini Grant #1: Launching September 15
 - a. Can Ms. Makinen send an email to academic teachers only? Yes! She will email it out on September 15th
3. New Harp Custodial Account- we hold money for groups in the school that would be a non-profit and we take care of those funds for them so they don't have to go through the process of setting that up.
4. Literacy Night
 - a. Date Change to October 30
 - b. Resource Request from Ms. Wallis for candy and volunteers
 - i. Budget for this event is \$100
5. *What Can the PTSO Do For You?* Survey Results See results below.
 - a. We can advocate for our teachers. It was suggested that we put needs like desk chairs on our website to see if we could get those donated.
 - b. Status of breakrooms-can we work on making these places of respite with the correct supplies
 - c. Do we need to reassess how to appreciate the teachers-conference meals? Could some of these be covered by Title 1? Then we could use those funds for other items besides food.
 - d. Maybe create one place for teacher wishlists so parents can access them. Wish tree during the major musical set up with concessions.
 - e. Crayons to computers info sent out so teachers can understand how that program works and how to obtain supplies for their classrooms

VP Administration-Teresa

1. Requesting bottles of booze or wine for the After Hours Event
2. Carpool lane 😊- Sandwich board/sign for sidewalk to communicate the procedure as a reminder to STOP, DROP and ROLL

VP Fundraising- Tywana

1. After Hours Update
 - GET YOUR TICKETS and PROMOTE this event through sharing on social media and encouraging people to attend.
 - Auction items: We have secured major musical tickets with parking and concessions, graduation packages with VIP seating and parking, and performance tickets. Keep sending in gift cards and auction items!
 - Childcare has been secured through the Sisters of SCPA and will be available for the duration of the event
 - Teresa is collecting bottles of wine and booze for her bar cart of cheer donation

2. Class of '27 Yard Sign fundraising-tabled till next meeting

Treasurer- Bridget & Elizabeth

1. Our current balance is \$16,614.76

Communications-Clara

1. 176 website subscribers

Volunteer Director-Shannon

1. Conference Sign Up-Mr. Draud or another admin will be there to receive the food
2. Literacy Night Volunteers-only need a couple of people to handle our table for this
3. After Hours Sign Up Needed-Kellie Hunkler will handle this
4. Frozen Volunteer Sign Up-TBD

LSDMC Representatives- Christa,Roxanne,Melissa,April

1. The opening meeting was held on the first day of school so a few people were missing.
Routine updates.
2. Next meeting - Sept 16, 2026

Questions/Comments

- K-6 Playground updates requested by Sidra Allen-this will be moved to next months meeting

Dates to Remember

- September 15 - Mini Grant Cycle #1 opens
- September 16 - LSDMC Meeting
- September 24 - Conference Night
- October 2 - After Hours
- October 8-11 - Blink
- October 13 - PTSO Meeting

How Can the PTSO Help You?

I know it might sound crazy, but we don't have a functional breakroom on each floor. Copies, cutting paper, organization overall (and sometimes not having a working bathroom for months) is lacking. We sometimes don't even have copy paper or toner.

Even a space where staff can take a minute to be able to have a working coffee maker, a clean microwave, a table that doesn't wobble, etc. would be ideal. It's the little things sometimes that can go a long way. Thank you!

I can't think of anything now, but I'll let you know.

I would love for PTSO to partner with our PBIS Committee in finding fun and meaningful ways to celebrate and appreciate our staff throughout the school year. In previous years, PBIS has hosted quarterly staff events such as our Chili Cook-Off, Tailgate Party, Valentine's Bake-Off, and Taco Party. These events have always been so much fun and are genuinely enjoyed and appreciated by our staff!

Last year, unfortunately, we were only able to hold one of our planned events. This year, I would love to see PBIS and PTSO work together to bring these celebrations back and possibly even explore other ways we can recognize and celebrate staff throughout the year.

Support would include financial assistance with food, prizes, and volunteers to help with setup, running the event/space, and cleanup or partnering with us on additional staff appreciation ideas.

In a dream world, I would LOVE a comfortable desk chair that doesn't have rubber falling off the wheels :)