



OCES PTO MEETING MINUTES

9-10-15

Place: OCES Café
Start Time: 6:35 pm
End Time: 7:40 pm

Welcome/Introduction: Jean Ricciardella, President, welcomed all to the first PTO meeting of the year. Introduced Julie Rozum – Co-President, Sharon Lee – Vice President, Melissa Portuondo – Treasurer, and Michelle Sargis – Secretary.

Jean discussed that the goals of PTO are improving involvement, success of the school, student and teacher curriculum enhancements and improve Oasis spirit through community awareness and community work. OCES has a very successful and transparent PTO, minutes and by-laws are posted on the website. There are currently 894 students enrolled at Oasis and everyone is always welcome and encouraged to attend meetings.

Principal's Report: Principal Hook began his talk with a moment of silence for those families that are going through rough times. He announced that the year is off to a great start. We have started the double car line for morning drop off. It keeps getting better every day. Dismissal has been going well.

- Principal Hook introduced our new Assistant Principal, Chris Fennel. Mr. Brown is now serving as Assistant Principal of Christa McAuliffe. Mr. Fennel stated that his biggest focus is on technology and becoming savvy. He is working on getting the website up to date. He announced that PTO purchased a new Cricut machine for the staff to use. If you need him, his door is always open.
- Principal Hook said that his main priority is making all children feel important and safe when coming to school
- Patriot Day – 9/11/15 – OCES can wear red, white and blue to school.
- Early Dismissal – We will dismiss at 12:30 on the third Wednesday of every month instead of every other Wednesday. This will allow the teachers to work on their professional development. Childcare will **only** be available through Parks & Rec. for a fee. The early dismissal dates are 9/16, 10/21, 11/18, 2/17 and 3/16.
- CAR – (Charter Authority Rally) This has been turned over to the foundation in order to expedite the finish of the new athletic field behind the school.
- His goal is for each grade level to have a STEM lab. This would be achieved through the funds acquired from the Yankee Candle fundraiser.
- Oasis Singers – Over 100 children turned out. This is a large improvement from the past. He hopes to see Oasis move more toward the Arts, and have more opportunities available to the students.

- Have a Heart Jeans Day – 9/11/15 – This jeans day will support two Oasis families who are experiencing large medical expenses and have had the sudden loss of a loved one. Please send in whatever donation you can. The money collected will be split between these two families. The other \$1 jeans days support the Children’s Hospital and Wounded Warriors.
- His door is always open.

Treasurer’s Report: Melissa Portuondo provided the current bank balance as \$18,306.75. Anticipated income and expenditures are based on previous years and present goals/needs. Records are available upon request. The 2015-2016 budget was passed. 1st Motion – Mrs. Keezer. 2nd Motion – Mrs. Davis. All were in favor. Thank you to Amanda Murphy for doing our annual audit for 2014 – 2015. It was a clean audit.

Committees: Julie Rozum introduced herself to everyone and acknowledged those individuals who are in charge of the different committees this year. She discussed that all volunteer opportunities will be available through Sign Up Genius. When there is a need for volunteers, a link will be sent out to everyone so they can sign up for a spot. The spots are first-come-first-serve, so please do not wait to sign up. The directions for sign up will be different for each event, so please make sure you read them thoroughly before volunteering.

- **Box Tops/LFE/Tyson – Victoria Schwetje/Maria Penta** -This is FREE money for our school. The more we get turned in, the more money we get. The points from LFE are distributed to P.E. department for new equipment and needed supplies for the Art Department. The next collection will be October 19th. Approximately, fifteen volunteers will be needed. A link for signing up will be going out soon. Please sign up for e-mail from Box Tops for Education and the school will receive 5 bonus box tops for each registration. Please go to BTFE.com/signup to get started. The school ID number is 961884.
- **Fall Festival – Jen-Hope Belis** - Saturday, November 7th from 4 – 8 pm. This is a family fun event and is open to all three schools on the Oasis Campus. It gives everyone an opportunity to raise money for their grade level, clubs and organizations. The fall festival committee is in need of two rolls to be filled: Donation Coordinator and Stage Coordinator. Please contact the committee at OasisFallFestival@yahoo.com for more information.
- **Kindergarten Welcome Committee – Christine & Todd Koralik** – Incoming new Kindergarten families were welcomed. Parents had an opportunity to meet each other and share their experiences at the Boo Hoo Breakfast.
- **PTO Membership Drive** - This will take place the entire month of September. It is \$5 per family for the year. Flyers have gone home. We are hoping for 100% participation.
- **New to Oasis Resource – Tracy Scott** – This is an e-mail based resource available for new Oasis families from 1st – 5th grades. Tracy will be happy to answer any questions you may have.
- **Parent/Teacher Conferences & Teacher Appreciation Committees – Jodi Walls and Jennifer Hoagland** – This is a great opportunity for us to honor our teachers!

Parent/Teacher Conference Meals – 10/28 and 10/29. Volunteers are needed to make and bring in food, set up and tear down. Please use Sign Up Genius to volunteer. This committee will also be hosting the Staff Holiday Luncheon, Student-Led Conference meals and Activities during Staff Appreciation Week. More to come on that.

- **PTO Volunteer Coordinator – Heather Dinkle** – Thank you, Heather for setting us up on Sign Up Genius!
- **Water Drive – Jennifer & Todd Hoagland** – Every Friday in September in the front of the school from 8 – 8:30. NO OFFICE DROP OFFS!
- **Yankee Candle Fundraiser – Christine Vezzola** – This is PTO’s only fundraiser. It kicks off September 11th and ends October 2nd. Families can order on line and through the new app. We will have only **ONE** distribution day – more information to follow. The funds raised all go toward enhancing technology for our school.

K-Kids – Mr. Zedd (Teacher coordinator) advised that this organization works through Harney Point Kiwanis and is open to all students in 4th and 5th grades. They are all about service to the community. They meet the 1st Thursday of each month. The whole month of September they are working on “Souper September” and are collecting soup cans. Collection boxes are outside of each classroom. The class getting the most donations will win a pizza party. The donations that are received during the months of October and November will be utilized to help our own Oasis families in need. Now through October 5th, they are working on a shoe drive in cooperation with Trafalgar Middle School. Please bring in any new or gently used shoes to make this event a success.

PB & J 5K – Saturday, October 27th 8 am – This event helps our own Oasis families during the Thanksgiving break. Suggested donation of \$5 per person or \$10 per family and a jar of Peanut Butter or Jelly.

Dissertation Assistance – Jeffrey Ziomek spoke about needing parents and staff to participate in a survey and study group about the Health of Oasis to help him complete his dissertation for his doctorate degree. More information will be forthcoming.

OCES Technology – Steve Beuerle introduced himself and announced that the funds raised from the Yankee Candle fundraiser have purchased 4 laptop carts, 20 smart boards and 20 projectors for our school. Way to go!

Charter Authority Governing Board OCES Parent Representative - Jennifer Lucas-Keesler – Jennifer is a non-voting member and a voice for Oasis. Jennifer shared that she just attended a meeting and the letter-writing campaign requesting \$100,000 from the City of Cape Coral was not initially approved or added to the agenda to discuss. By the end of the meeting, the City of Cape Coral added that \$100,000 to the proposed city budget and was approved! Great News!! All are invited to attend the meetings. They are usually held the second Tuesday of each month at 9 am. The next meeting will be 9/21 at 4:30 pm. Future board meetings will be: 10/13 at 9am, 11/2 at 6pm, and 12/8 at 9am.

SAC Committee – (Student Advisory Committee) – Ann Kukurugya advised that they are in need of teachers, staff, parents and community members for this committee. Discussions range from uniforms to curriculum. Please help get the word out.

Next PTO Meeting – Tuesday, November 17th at 6:30 pm

If you need to contact PTO, e-mail us at: OasisE.PTO@capecharterschools.org

Find out what is happening! Visit the PTO section on the Oasis Website and you can also find us on Face book! PTO will post events and other communications.

Please Note – In lieu of approval, minutes are posted 1 week after meeting for review on PTO website. All questions or comments are welcome.

Adjournment – A motion was made by Principal Hook and it was seconded by Ann Kukurugya. The motion was approved by the majority.

Submitted by Michelle Sargis