

**PCCS Parent Council Meeting Minutes
Plymouth-Canton Community Schools
Minutes of Regular Meeting
January 31, 2020**

2019-2020 Parent Council Board Officers

President: Judy Hart

Vice President: Pam Cornell-Allen

Membership Coordinator: Andrea Schultz

Recording Secretary: Betsy Burger

Corresponding Secretary: Sofia Saleem

School Representatives

Bentley: present

Bird: present

Dodson: present

Eriksson:

Farrand: present

Field:

Gallimore: present

Hoben:

Hulsing: present

Isbister: present

Miller: present

Smith: present

Tonda: present

Workman: present

Discovery: present

East: present

Liberty:

Pioneer: present

West: present

Canton HS: present

Plymouth HS: present

Salem HS:

Starkweather:

EEF: (Educational Excellence Foundation): Gretchen Ward, Executive Director

Board of Education: Kate Borninski, PCCS School Board Member

School Administration: Nick Brandon, Executive Director of Comm. & Marketing

Monica Merritt, PCCS Superintendent of Schools

Guest Speakers: Tayleon Puryear, Parent and Community Leader, Miller Elementary School, Reading Wish List Fundraiser

Montyne Barbee, Assistant Principal, Canton High School, New Business Academy, Career and Tech Ed

The meeting was called to order by President, Judy Hart at 9:35am.

- Attendance was taken by Recording Secretary, Betsy Burger
- Andrea Schultz made a motion to approve the minutes from November 22, 2019; Melissa Burnham seconded the motion. Minutes approved.

Judy Hart shared an email from Frank Ruggirello, the Director of Partnerships and External Affairs regarding their effort to comply with the USDA Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act. The P-CCS Board of Education established a Wellness Committee to help our schools better educate children about developing healthy lifestyles. This effort is

designed to help students develop healthy behaviors and habits specifically with regard to eating and exercise. It is important to recognize that schools cannot accomplish this goal alone. It is necessary for not only staff, but also parents and the public at large to be involved in a community-wide effort to promote, support and model such behaviors and habits. The Committee will discuss these important issues and pass along recommendations to all schools in the district.

The committee will consist of students, parents, teachers, administrators, a school nurse, food and nutrition services staff and members of the community. The committee will likely meet quarterly and the first meeting will be sometime in February. **Interested parents are asked to contact Frank at Frank.Ruggirello@pccsk12.com**

Speakers:

Tayleon Puryear - Parent and Community Leader, Miller Elementary School, Reading Wish List Fundraiser

- Mrs. Puryear is a parent and a member of the AAFC (African American Family Council) at Miller Elementary. She noticed that of 19 percent of the African American students at Miller, 36 percent of those students need help with Reading and Math. She began to look at ways to close the achievement gap. When the monthly Scholastic Book order forms went home, she thought it would be great for every student to also make a list for a book or two that they 'wished for ' also . She noticed that some students would purchase books each month and some didn't, so through fundraising and donations, teachers and parent volunteers are able to use those donations to purchase a book for students that didn't make a book order purchase, so that each child would go home with a new book each month. With Mrs McGuire, Miller's Media Specialist, they were able to test this out with their Book Fair in November. Sales were \$11,000, which brought back \$5000 in new books and materials for the Miller Library. They also received \$679 in donations from families that enabled 79 students that did not purchase a book, to go home with a new book. Mrs. Puryear would like to partner with community businesses and others to offer all students rewards for reading. She would also like to share the Book Wish List Fundraiser program with other schools throughout our district. For more information on this, please email Tayleonpuryear@gmail.com
- For information on starting an African American Family Council (AAFC) at your school or for any questions, please email Mr Torian Billings, Student Support Coordinator at Miller Elementary Torian.Billings@pccsk12.com
 - It was also mentioned that district-wide work has been done to make sure that diversity is within the books at each Media Center. We want students to see themselves represented in the books they read.

Montyne Barbee - Assistant Principal, Canton High School, New Business Academy, Career and Tech Ed

- High School Academies are designed for students who are focused on core and academic desires they are interested in.

Business Academy

- New to Canton HS for 20/21
- Partnerships with Wayne State University and Schoolcraft
- College credits offered - 12 articulated college credits that are accepted at Wayne State and Schoolcraft from P-CEP students in the Business Academy at P-CEP
- Internships - hoping these will offer future job opportunities

IB-International Baccalaureate Program

- At Plymouth HS
- Endorsed diploma

STEM Academy

- At Canton HS
- 4 elective courses
- Choice of path: Biomedical, Engineering or Computer Science

Arts Academy

- At Salem HS
- Passion in fine arts, music, art

Career Technical Education

- Covers a wide range of fields and works in partnership with a variety of other district programs
- A number of career pathways are currently offered and new ones are being developed

Students and families can find more information on the district website under the "P-CEP Academies" page tab or by contacting your child's assigned High School Assistant Principal or their Middle School Counselor.

The annual P-CEP Community Open House (typically held in the fall) is a great event to learn about the wonderful programs and opportunities that are offered at the high schools. It's open to families with students of all ages. You can tour all 3 high schools, check out the Showcase of Grants from the EEF, and so much more!

District Update:

Ms. Monica Merritt, P-CCS Superintendent of Schools

2020 Bond "A Change You Can See"

- On March 10, voters in the PCCS communities will be asked to consider a bond proposal for facility and site improvements, enhancing learning spaces through both remodeling and building, and upgrading technology throughout the district.

- An estimated ZERO INCREASE to the current annual debt millage rate. If the bond proposal is approved by the voters it is estimated that the annual debt millage required to repay the District's outstanding and the proposed bonds will remain at or below the current debt millage rate of 4.02 mills.
- For more information or to see the list of 'Frequently Asked Questions', see the district website main page and click on "2020 Bond Proposal"

Nick Brandon, Executive Director of Communications and Marketing

- Community forums for the 2020 Bond will be Wednesday, February 19th at 6:30pm and 7:45pm at the Canton High School Little Theater
- Annual Realtors Breakfast turns 5! This is a free event for Realtors in our community and will be held this year on February 13th from 8-10am at Busch's "Celebrating 190 years of P-CCS" The district newsletter is posted on the website and facebook page. Check out the Podcasts!

EEF Update: Gretchen Ward, Executive Director, Educational Excellence Foundation

- EEF's biggest fundraiser is "Uncorked" - a Wine Tasting and Strolling Dinner. This year will be the 10th Anniversary. It will be held on Friday, April 24th from 7-9:30pm. Tickets will be available soon.
- They are currently looking for donations, baskets and sponsorships for the Silent Auction and overall support for this amazing event. Please contact Gretchen at EEF if you are interested in helping!
- This is "Scholarship Season" and EEF has money to offer HS seniors for college. Check out the EEF website to learn more about all of the scholarships offered.

Important dates for K-12: February 27 - Late Start & March 10 & 11 - Half Days

With no further business, Andrea Schultz made a motion to adjourn and Betsy Burger seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 11:38am.

Our next meeting is scheduled for Friday, February 28th at 9:30am.

Respectfully submitted,

Betsy Burger
Recording Secretary
P-CCS Parent Council

P-CCS Parent Council comes together once a month to engage parents within the district to discuss important topics, advocate for parents, students and schools, and provide a forum for open communication with P-CCS administration and fellow parents of the district.