



**City High-Middle PTSA (PTCC)
ZOOM Meeting ID# 687-900-9733
Membership Meeting • 7 p.m., September 16, 2020**

Prior to Meeting

Please enable audio (members must be able to hear and respond to each other).
Please enable video (if you are comfortable using that feature).
Identify yourself by name each time you speak (especially if video is not enabled).
Meeting presider may utilize the “mute participants” tool so a presenter can be heard.

Minutes

- 1. Call to Order, Welcome, Establish a Quorum** - number of attendees 22+; time start 7:00 pm. FYI this meeting is recorded with Zoom - thanks Mindscape. Find lots of info on the improved website, www.cityptsa.com - thanks Lori Box.
- 2. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes** - May 2020 was our last “official” meeting - *minutes approved by 10+ (kinda hard to tell precisely via Zoom in the moment)*. We did handle some further business in June having to do with “Covid Scholarships” in place of the Senior Party for last year’s seniors.
- 3. Approval of Current Agenda** (*additions, changes*) - *approved with no changes*.
- 4. Executive Board updates**
 - a. Intros - read our bios on cityptsa.com :)
 - b. Membership Drive - Will be combined with fundraising this year! Here’s the plan:
 - i. No traditional City Fall Fundraisers - normally we would be knee-deep in pie sale prep, volunteers, etc. for City and 3 other 6th grade schools. It’s our largest fundraiser, \$10K profit in 2019. Also can’t do RAM this year, another biggie. Vendors have been made aware. They and Teri O’Driscoll (event co-organizer) are open to doing RAM in the spring, maybe outside? Leaves \$18K loss with these 2 fundraisers gone.
 - ii. New! NPR-style drive with different levels, rolling out next week. First time for a “direct ask”, ambitious goal to raise \$10K this way in Fall. Great way to support the PTSA and join!
 - c. 2020-2021 Budget - Carol Carr, treasurer, presents.
 - i. \$40K is a typical rollover each year, following MI PTA recommendations. Rolled over \$42K from last year.
 - ii. New look - more usable, readable. Thanks, Carol!
 - iii. This budget document shows the PTSA General fund - you can see City Grade-level and class support, teacher support (stipends), student opportunities, principal’s fund, Hovenkamp

- scholarship \$1000, projected expenses for fundraisers, etc.
- iv. Band, each 6th grade, and others have their own funds that we also manage, but they don't appear in this general fund display. Each of these types of groups have their own starting budgets from last year.
- v. Proposed increase of teacher stipend to \$150 (from \$100) to support the increased potential needs of teaching remotely.
- vi. We'll vote on the budget in October. You can vote if you become a member by then. Please join up next week and help us decide how \$ is spent. Budget is available on the city PTSA website for reference.
- vii. Email Carol treasurer@cityptsa.com with questions.

5. CHMS Administrator - Mr. Huppert, Principal

a. Updates

- i. Listening Session was smallish turnout - hope that means they are doing a good job communicating. Got other helpful responses via google form.
- ii. Supply pickup went well today. More tomorrow. Yearbooks, instruments, art supplies, etc. Great to see everyone.
- iii. Halfway thru 1st marking period. Oct. 16 end.
- iv. Still on track for possibility of hybrid start Oct. 19. Watching Rockford and others who have already started some in-person. Hope is to allow for exclusive virtual to continue for those who want it. Looks like? If 50% decide on hybrid, that allows one schedule to work, or if higher percentage opts in, a different schedule will be worked out. Will be based on what city families want. Tomorrow there is a listening session to get feedback for GRPS (check their website) if we want to participate. GRPS listening session is 9/17 at 5:30PM.

b. Q&A

- i. Why are assignments due on weekends, at midnight, etc.? Tried to get rid of that last year, but 70% of kids seem to turn it in within the final possible hour. At next staff meeting they'll try to get teachers back on track to make the assignment due time during the school day or another adjustment. Teachers were trying to allow more time, but results are not great. There will be more discussion on this.
- ii. Can we have deadlines all in one place? Seems the problems are mostly in Math because they're using the learn.grps.org setup. Let City admin know if there are problems in other classes.
- iii. Workload differences? A parent says Juniors seem light but theirs is starting to ramp up with project season, etc. Freshman seems heavier now, but it will even out. Also student time taken on homework varies for same assignment. He's seeking student feedback. Self management with virtual learning means you're working with your current skill set, and that varies. They're trying to help students with those skills.
- iv. Excusing an absence? Call the office and say which hour the student is missing, 819-2381.

- v. Observation from Stephan H.: a bit tough on students to keep track of all the different modes of communication with teachers. Consistency would be nice. Mr. Huppert says it's a work in progress. He'll share with teachers.
- vi. Sharing of info is tough on staff, too. The more they share the less it seems to get looked at by students. So they're trying to be balanced in the approach and not put too much out.
- vii. Staff appreciates everyone's patience.
- viii. Ruth W. asks: wow, observed her student getting 50 emails all at once. A lot to handle, can overload. Mr. Huppert will remind teachers to streamline so kids are more likely to see what's most important.
- ix. Attendance? Some students and parents have noticed that taking attendance takes a big chunk of the synchronous time. Different ideas shared. Mr. Huppert will share at staff meeting. Kids sometimes change their screen name - hope to do less of that for keeping track.
- x. Parent comment for Franklin Campus: The GRPS letter concerning depression was well-received. Liked that it was addressed to the student, not the parents.
- xi. New parent offers gratitude and compliments to City admin on responsiveness and communication.

6. Questions -

- a. No questions asked about PTSA-specific matters.
- b. Reminders - Angela Schmidt, President, offered some reminders:
 - i. PTSA meetings will continue to be monthly on the 3rd Wednesdays at 7pm, via Zoom (same Zoom ID each time).
 - ii. Next month Dr. Gorman, GRPS Asst. Superintendent will join us to answer your questions. Please submit questions via the link below.

7. Adjournment - meeting ended at 7:54 pm.

Next Meeting is October 21, 2020 at 7pm

<https://zoom.us/j/6879009733>

Dr. Ron Gorman, Assistant Superintendent, will be present at the October meeting. Please use this [link](#) to submit questions in advance.