



Copley-Fairlawn PTA Council
November 6, 2024

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Attendees

20 people attended in person

7 people attended online

Call to Order - 9:31am

President - Bethany Saris

- Pass around founder - New Items
 - Information on the Ohio PTA Nominating Committee for 2025-2027 Board of Directors
 - [Ohio PTA Board of Directors Interest Form](#)
 - [Ohio PTA Board of Directors Committee Descriptions](#)
- National PTA Launches [Family Engagement Solutions](#)
 - Family Engagement Solutions is a free hub for educators, district and school leaders and families to find evidence-based family engagement programs.
- REMINDER: IRS Tax filing & charitable trust must be submitted by 11/15
- REMINDER: All units need standards of affiliation and all other items by 11/30
- REMINDER: T in PTA & Helping Hands awards nominations should be submitted

Guest Speaker - Mr. Capper, APS Principal

1. 10th year at Arrowhead
2. Thank you to Arrowhead PTA, Staff, and Students
3. Spoke to the commitment and dedication to students of Mrs. Merkle through a difficult time in her life.
 - a. Been working to plan to memorial plans within the building
 - b. Dedicating a reading nook in the library - working on this now

Secretary – Michelle Knoblock

1. October 2024 Council meeting minutes approved as written
2. Volunteer Hours Log Shared



Treasurer - Shelley Melchior

- [Statement of Revenue & Expenses](#) shared
- The beginning cash balance for October was \$12,124.03 (line 3).
- Our revenue for October, lines 6 and 12 are from donut sales at 2 home football games and from PTA unit dues. Thank you to those units that have already paid.
- Our expenses in October, lines 18 and 44, are from purchasing donuts for the 2 games and from renewing our bonding insurance.
- The ending cash balance for October was \$14,571.63 (line 61)
- November is included in this report simply to wrap up the donut sales effort. Lines 6 and 18 report the revenue and expense for the playoff game that CHS was fortunate enough to play.
- Donuts summary: total raised is \$2,738.92 which will cover ~5.5 scholarships to date.

1st VP – Leah Kenna

- Thank you to all the volunteers
- Last Year vs. This Year
 - Note: Last year, price per box was lower (by 25%) and number of games was higher
 - Last year = Funded 5.03 scholarships
 - This year = Funded 5.48 scholarships
- Allowing credit cards and apple pay made a huge difference
- Krispy Kreme sells donuts at \$15/dozen (though sizing is different from fundraiser donuts), compared to what we charge (\$10 - \$11.25)

2nd VP – Candice Komlanc

- Nothing to add at this time

Regional Ohio PTA – Susan Strandberg

1. [Ohio PTA Diversity and Inclusion Survey](#)
Ohio PTA is gathering information about what units are doing to be Diverse and Inclusive. Please share with us! It's OK if you have not planned anything yet! If you want help with ideas we want to share that too!
2. Ohio PTA 2nd Sunday Office Hours on Sunday November 10th at 7PM.
 - a. Sign up [HERE](#)



3. The Region 5 fall conference on October 5th was attended by about 20 officers and the training was very productive and well received. Every PTA should have funds in their budget for officer training. We are finding that with officer turnover in PTAs, there is a lot of training that gets lost each year. Please consider attending future training sessions.
4. REMINDER: The deadlines for the IRS 990 filing and the Ohio Attorney General Charitable Trust Filing are due November 15th, and the first membership dues payment is due November 30th.
 - a. Be sure to get these completed to prevent receiving any fines, to keep your 501c3 status and to keep your PTA in good standing.
5. Givebacks moved to a territory style customer service coverage back in January, and our Ohio Customer Success Manager is Noah Griffin. His number is below. With a few new Givebacks updates, he designed a 30 minute webinar that equips units with a thorough understanding of the features of Givebacks. Noah is the "boots on the ground" guy and would be happy to come to a meeting or training to offer this webinar and answer any questions. He wants to also build a relationship with our PTAs, so they know that if there are any Givebacks questions or you need help setting up a fundraiser, then he is the one to call. He is your direct link to Givebacks support. Presidents, please contact him if you want to set up this training session. Noah J. Griffin, 803.322.4804

Reflections:

To be eligible to participate in the Reflections Program, your PTA must have sent in and paid at least one installment of dues to Ohio PTA by NOVEMBER 30, 2024.

DEADLINE FOR ALL ENTRIES TO OHIO PTA is WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15, 2025 BY 4:30 P.M. The office is closed over the winter break. It is best to call ahead to schedule a time if you are planning to drop off your entries.

November is National PTA Healthy Lifestyles Month! Check out our resources to help promote [Healthy Minds, Healthy Bodies and Healthy Earth](#). Throughout November, National PTA and our Proud National Sponsors will be sharing info and activities to support healthy lifestyles! To help curb the spread of illness-causing germs in school, the Lysol Here for Healthy Schools program provides free lesson plans and resources to help teach students healthy habits. Visit <https://bit.ly/3wixzTI> to learn more.

November is National PTA Family Engagement Month! Check out our transformative [National Standards for Family-School Partnerships](#).

November is Native American Heritage Month: [A Proclamation on National Native American Heritage Month, 2024](#)



Superintendent - Aimee Kirsch

Not present

Assistant Superintendent - Brian Williams

1. Across the district we are working with a few behavioral situations
 - a. We are intimately involved with these situations along with all appropriate staff
2. Health and medical questions are deferred to health and medical professionals, though we remain very involved
3. Superintendent meetings with students started last month
 - a. Gathered a list of items they wanted to talk about
 - b. Next meeting they will be discussing the cell phone policy
 - c. Students were very engaged
4. Kirsch and Williams visited all buildings to be available for staff
 - a. These were very informative and productive discussions
 - b. Plan to do it again in the Spring
5. We also plan is to eventually schedule community meetings at public locations to be available to community members
 - a. Likely to begin next calendar year
6. CONSTRUCTION UPDATE
 - a. Elementaries are close to where they need to be
 - b. MS is getting closer
 - c. HS has been a challenge
 - i. All performances that would use the auditorium between now and the new year: we are looking for alternative locations
 1. We hope that the winter break will provide the time needed to wrap up this project
 - ii. Currently schedule to turn over cafeteria in a few weeks
 - iii. Do not have timing on front entrance, but the impacted rooms for guidance or front office staff are close to completed
 - d. We are grateful for the opportunity to fund these projects and we appreciate your patience
 - e. Next summer - Parking lot project
 - i. Will be a nice addition to our buildings
7. QUESTION: Threats against the school (recently). Will the school communicate to parents about how to talk to their students about the consequences of threats like what has occurred?
 - a. We've had many discussions about this topic
 - b. Communication has gone out about appropriate behavior
8. QUESTION: Superintendent advisory committee - when will they be rolled out into the other schools?



- a. In the new year
- 9. QUESTION: What topics did the students bring up in the superintendent meetings?
 - a. Topics like cell phone usage and the environment in the building.
- 10. QUESTION: Parking lot project this summer...when will that work start?
 - a. The day the students are done with school, it will be done
 - b. If there are preparation activities that can be completed in advance, that will happen

Business Manager - Steven Robinson

Not present

Committee Reports

Cavaliers Game Night - Pam Gierke

- Everything is set
- Links are being shared via social media
 - If you have not shared on behalf of your school, please do
 - [Flyer](#)
 - [Link to Purchase Tickets](#)
 - [Link to Sign Up for Pregame Activities](#)
- Two links
 - Purchase tickets that benefit PTSA
 - Sign up if you'd like your student involved in the activities on the court

Reflections - Shelley Melchior

- Each unit's Reflections chairs should be wrapping up their art collections from students either this week or next week, based on the amount of participation and the need for judging. All finalists from each unit need to be provided to me by the week of Thanksgiving (the week of Nov 25th. District judging will occur in December, date still TBD.
- Contact Shelley directly to coordinate art drop off.



Advocacy - Michelle Knoblock

- Ohio & National PTAs provide the tools for parents to engage in conversations with lawmakers on important issues impacting children. Two items were discussed. Detailed information was provided in a handout that can be found [HERE](#).
 - [Online Safety](#)
 - [Children and Teen's Online Privacy Protection Act](#)
 - [Kids Online Safety Act](#)
 - [Gun Violence Prevention](#)
 - [GOSAFE Act \(House\), GOSAFE Act \(Senate\)](#)
 - [National PTA BluePrint for Parent Leaders to Take Action on Gun Violence Prevention](#)

Unit Reports:

Copley High School – Poppy D'Amico

Our membership is 133 members.

We supplied desserts for the teachers during parent/teacher conferences on October 24th. Thank you to all who donated and to Andrea Maxwell for organizing. The last parent/teacher conferences this fall will be on Thursday, November 14th which we will again be providing desserts for the staff.

The AP Social Studies students will be traveling to Washington DC from November 6th - 8th.

CHS Veteran's Day breakfast and assembly is November 11th at 7:00 & 8:00am.

The National Honor Society Induction ceremony will be held on Monday, November 11th at 7:00pm.

Good luck to the HS Speech and Debate team at their tournament on Saturday, November 16th.

The Fall Play will be on November 22nd and 23rd at 7:30pm, as well as November 23rd at 2pm.

The final date for nominations for Helping Hands and "T" in PTA awards is Saturday, November 30th. Our committee will be meeting to review the nominations.

The next After Prom meeting is tentatively set for December 2nd @ 6pm in the HS commons. Beginning stages of planning have started with ideas for fundraising, and decorations.



Our next PTSA meeting will be on Wednesday, November 13th at 6:30pm at Tres Portillos in Montrose.

Copley Middle School – Stephanie Kist

CFMS PTSA recently launched our large annual Opt Out Fundraiser, with a goal to raise \$9,000 to support our events, programming, and grants throughout the entire year. The donation drive is a perfect opportunity for families who don't have the time or desire to participate in a more formal fundraiser. It will run through Thanksgiving.

We provided a Taco/Nacho Bar for the October 17 Conference Dinner, and the Staff Appreciation Committee brought smiles to many, many staff members' faces by bringing around the popular Caffeine Cart on October 22. There were sodas and waters and sweet, salty, and healthy snacks brought right to every classroom and office.

We also launched the Reflections contest, which historically produces upwards of 100 entries at the Middle School. We look forward to showcasing all the artistic, literary, and musical talent evident across our student body. Deadline for entries is November 8, and a plan is already in place for the volunteer judging process.

Last week was the wonderful Scholastic Book Fair, a huge joint effort of the Middle School Librarians and PTSA. The week went very smoothly, thanks to advance planning on the part of our librarians, attention to financial detail by treasurer Rebecca Williams, and a large, reliable, and enthusiastic group of volunteers. Final numbers are still being hashed out, but gross sales were over \$10,000.

We currently have 202 members as we move into one of the busiest months of the year for CFMS PTSA.

The Veteran's Day Brunch will follow the Veteran's Day assembly on November 8. We're compiling donated breakfast items and volunteers to set up, serve, and clean up the meal. We always look forward to honoring our veterans with this event.

The 7th/8th grade dance also will take place November 8 (bumped back a week due to the football playoff game). This is a Student Council event, and PTSA will provide support by sponsoring concessions and volunteers to sell them. The dance will have a Wild West theme this year.

The deadline to submit nominations for the Helping Hands and "T" in PTA awards is November 11.

The Staff Appreciation Committee is planning a soup and salad luncheon on November 14.



The Canned Food Drive will take place the week of November 18, and Turkey Trot is coming up on November 22.

Our next meeting will be November 12 at 10 am with a Google Meet link provided for those unable to attend in person.

Arrowhead – Ashley Fittante

The current membership is 171.

Last week the staff enjoyed a BBQ lunch, thanks to the Staff Appreciation Committee and generous donations from families.

Fall About Pumpkins was very well attended earlier this month, and we earned funds through the Nothing Bundt Cake sales. Special thanks to new committee chairs Bridget Gamble and Jamie Griffiths for organizing the event this year, and to Mrs. Mary Miller for coordinating high school student helpers. Bridget and Jamie are considering another winter event in our outdoor space.

The Fourth Grade Legacy Committee has been working hard fundraising for their project. Recently students schoolwide had the opportunity to pay \$1 each to wear a hat and/or bring a stuffed animal to school. The committee collected over \$300 from the fundraiser. They will present project ideas to fourth grade students for a vote very soon.

Students continue learning in both the Greenhouse and Nature Zone, with all grade levels growing various plants. There are a variety of herbs, lettuces, tomatoes, and succulents. Bird feeders around the school allow for bird watching from the classrooms.

Walker's Club has ended for the season. Students have enjoyed walking and earning charms. Walker's Club will resume in the spring. Our winter plant sale is underway. Students are selling a variety of poinsettias, wreaths, and other gift items. Sales are already near \$3000, with over \$600 in profit. The sale ends on November 13th and items will be available for pick up on December 4th.

Upcoming events include:

1. Parent-Teacher Conferences on Thursday November 7. PTA is providing dinner for staff that evening and a light breakfast the following morning.
2. Our Veterans Day program and reception will be held on Monday November 11 at 10:30.



3. Donuts with Dudes will be held before school on November 13, 14, and 15. The next Arrowhead PTA meeting will be this evening, Wednesday November 5, at 4:15 in the library. We will have CHS Key Club and National Honor Society students present to provide childcare.

Fort Island – Rachael Weigand

- Our membership is at 171
- We are helping support the Veterans Day assembly to provide coffee and snacks to the attending veterans after the program. Our 4th grade cub scouts and Girl Scouts will have the special honor of holding flags to line the walkway for the assembly.
- Fundraising night at City BBQ on Friday, Nov 15 from 11-8pm. If you'd like to order please reference Fort Island so we receive credit. We also have a family mini session photos this Sunday, Nov 10 with local photographer Willow May. Families receive a 10 min photo session and digital photos to download. A portion of the sales are donated back to the PTA and all spots sold out in a few days.
- Our Dudes with Donuts reception is coming up on Nov 21 and Nov 22 from 8-8:45 each morning for students and 1 special male figure in their life
- We are providing dinner for the staff on conference night Thursday, Nov 7 - the theme is soup and salad
- Our recess walking club on Wednesday and Fridays will continue while the weather is nice
- After school programs: We invited the Akron Mobile Zoo for an afterschool program on Tuesday, Nov 5. This 30 spot program sold out in record time!
- Our PTA sponsored holiday shop will be setup and available for students Dec 3-6
- Our next meeting is Monday, Nov 18 at 10am in the fort island library.

Herberich – Rachel Toussant

Our membership is currently 110.

Our Trunk or Treat Event on October 25 was well attended with 125 families participating. Twenty Herberich families and staff members hosted trunks for the event and showed off their creativity.

The Fundraising Committee hosted a Drive-In to Donate event at the Montrose Swenson's on Monday, October 28 for Family First Night and brought in \$186 for PTA funds.

The Birthday Book Club program celebrated August through October birthdays last Friday morning with donuts in the library. Our next celebration will be held in January.

We have finished collecting submissions for the Reflections Art Program and PTA award nominations. Submissions are being reviewed by their respective committees or chairs.



We are kicking off our cookie dough and pastry fundraiser through Stoller Fundraising this week through November 19. The PTA will be offering spirit days to the entire school as we reach fundraising milestones.

Our Gingerbread Shop will be held the week of December 9-13. We are working on décor and gathering volunteers to staff the shop.

Our next PTA meeting will be Thursday, November 15 at 5:30 pm in the Herberich Library. We will offer a virtual option via Google Meet.

Old Business

New Business

Announcements and Important Dates:

- Evening Conferences K-8 - Thurs. November 7 from 4:30 pm - 8:05 pm
- CHS Marching Band Banquet - Thurs. November 7 at 6:30 pm
- Ohio PTA Region 5 Meeting - Thurs. November 7 at 7 pm
- Veteran's Day - Mon. November 11
- Copley Sports Booster Meeting - Mon. November 11 at 6:30 pm
- CHS National Honor Society Induction - Mon. November 11 at 7 pm
- CHS Tri-M Music Honor Society Induction - Tues. November 12 at 7 pm
- FIPS 2nd and 3rd Grade Fall Concert - Wed. November 13 at 7 pm
- Evening Conferences 9-12 - Thurs. November 14 from 3:30 pm - 7:05 pm
- CHS Speech & Debate Home Tournament - Sat. November 16
- Copley-Fairlawn Board of Education Meeting – Tues. November 19 at 5:30 p.m.
- CFMS 5th Grade Band Informance - Thurs. November 21
- CFMS Turkey Trot - Fri. November 22
- CHS Fall Play: Miss Holmes - Fri. November 22 and Sat. November 23
- Fall Break - No School - November 28 - December 2
- PTA Council Meeting – Weds. December 4 at 9:30 a.m.
- CFMS Choir Concert - Thurs. December 5 at 7 pm
- Ohio PTA Region 5 Meeting - Thurs. December 5 at 7 pm
- Copley Sports Booster Meeting - Mon. December 9 at 6:30 pm



- Copley Music Booster Meeting - Mon. December 9 at 6:30 pm
- HPS Winter Performance - Tue. December 10 at 7 pm
- CFMS 6th and 7th Grade Band Concert - Wed. December 11 at 7 pm
- CHS Winter Choir Concert - Thur. December 12 at 7 pm
- CHS Quiz Bowl Home Invitational - Sat. December 14
- CFMS 8th Grade Band & CHS Wind Ensemble Concert - Mon. December 16 at 6:30 pm
- CHS Freshman Band & Symphonic Band Concert - Mon. December 16 at 8 pm
- Copley-Fairlawn Board of Education Meeting – Tues. December 17 at 5:30 p.m.
- Winter Break - No School - December 23, 2024 - January 6, 2025
- PTA Council Meeting – Weds. January 8 at 9:30 a.m.
- CHS Man of the Year - Sat. January 18 at 7 pm
- Martin Luther King Jr. Day - No School - Mon. January 20
- APS Winter Performance - Thurs. January 23 at 7 pm
- Copley CAVS Game - Sun. February 2 at 3:30 pm
- PTA Council Meeting – Weds. February 5 at 9:30 a.m.
- President's Day - No School - Mon. February 17
- PTA Founders Day Brunch - Wed. February 19 at 9:30 am
- Copley District Family First Night - Mon. February 24
- FIPS 1st and 4th Grade Winter Concert - Wed. February 26 at 7 pm
- CHS Band Concert - Tues. March 4 at 7:30 pm
- PTA Council Meeting - Weds. March 5 at 9:30 am
- CFMS 5th and 7th Grade Band Concert - Wed. March 5 at 6:30 pm
- CFMS 6th and 8th Grade Band Concert - Wed. March 5 at 7:30 pm
- Professional Development Day - No School - Mon. March 10
- CFMS Choir Concert - Thurs. March 13 at 7 pm
- HPS Spring Performance - Tue. March 25 at 7 pm
- Spring Break - No School - March 31 - April 4
- PTA Council Meeting - Wed. April 9 at 9:30 am
- APS Spring Performance - Thurs. April 10 at 7 pm
- Copley Sports Booster Reverse Raffle Event - Sat. April 11 at 6 pm
- Copley District Art Show - Wed. April 16 at 6 pm and Thurs. April 17 at 9 am
- Conference Compensation Day - No School - Fri. April 18
- CHS Spring Musical - Fri. April 25 at 7:30 pm and Sat. April 26 at 2 pm and 7:30 pm
- CHS Academic Awards - Thurs. May 1



- APS Family Fun Night & FIPS Family Fun Night - Fri. May 2
- CHS Spring Band Concert - Tue. May 6 at 7:30 pm
- PTA Council Meeting - Wed. May 7 at 9:30 am
- CFMS 5th and 7th Grade Band Concert - Wed. May 7 at 6:30 pm
- CFMS 6th and 8th Grade Band Concert - Wed. May 7 at 7:30 pm
- CHS Spring Choir Concert - Thur. May 8 at 7:30 pm
- CHS Prom and After- Prom - Sat. May 10
- CFMS Choir Concert - Thurs. May 15 at 7 pm
- CHPS End of Year Picnic - Fri. May 16 at 5:30 pm
- CHS Commencement Ceremony - Sun. May 18 at 2 pm
- PTA Installation Brunch - Wed. May 21 at 9:30 am
- CFMS 8th Grade Trip to Washington, DC - Wed. May 21 - Fri. May 23
- Memorial Day - No School - Mon. May 26
- CFMS 8th Grade Graduation - Thurs. May 29 at 8:30 am
- Last Day of School - Thurs. May 29

Adjourned at 10:27 am