

**COUNCIL OF DARIEN SCHOOL PARENTS
MINUTES OF THE APRIL 20, 2017 REGULAR MEETING**

Shelly Skoglund opened the meeting at 9:30 am.

Lori Olson made a motion to approve the March 2, 2017 CDSP Meeting Minutes. Sara Parent seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved.

CO-CHAIR UPDATE

Shelly and Julia thanked everyone for their time and hard work in the budget process, including the recent BoF Public Hearing.

Julia briefly explained the CDSP Executive Board's proposed changes to the CDSP Bylaws, which include:

1. Replacing the Communications Chair position with a Special Projects Chair
2. Updating old, outdated language

These changes will be voted on at the May CDSP meeting, and Shelly reminded CDSP members that a quorum will be required.

Shelly and Julia provided a Reiss Fund update. Over 100 teachers have registered so far, and the Reiss Fund coordinators have requested logistical volunteers for the following areas:

1. Refreshments
2. Registration and materials
3. Liaison to speakers

Please let Shelly or Julia know if you are interested in helping.

CDSP BUDGET UPDATE

Amy Zerbe explained the proposed increase of \$5 per school (from \$530 to \$535) to help cover a general liability insurance policy for CDSP.

This budget increase will be voted on at the May CDSP meeting.

PROPOSED DONATIONS

Heather Drugge and Christine Lajaunie provided the history and an overview of the Darien Environmental Group. DEG programs reach 2300 K-5 students each year through educational presentations.



Council of Darien School Parents P.O. Box 2643, Darien, CT 06820

The DEG is requesting \$50 per elementary school (down from \$250), as transitions to digital functions have decreased costs.

CDSP members will vote on proposed donations to DEG, Parent Awareness and Music for Youth at the May CDSP meeting.

Note: MFY is investigating reasons for checks not cashed in previous years; missing mail appears to be the source of the problem.

NOMINATING UPDATE

Suzanne Domenici provided the updated proposed CDSP Executive Board slate for 2017-18.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY

Amy Zerbe briefly explained the purpose and importance of the proposed Conflict of Interest Policy, which will provide a framework for decisions as well as procedures to follow when issues arise.

BUDGET UPDATE

Millyn thanked everyone for speaking and for recruiting speakers for the BoF Public Hearing. Feedback from the BoF has been very positive, as the brief, genuine, individual concerns expressed by speakers were engaging.

Next steps:

1. Parents are encouraged to reach out to RTM members on the Education Committee, which will vote on May 1st.
2. Parents are encouraged to contact any and all RTM members before the RTM votes as a whole on May 8th.
3. Parents are encouraged to attend the May 1st and May 8th meetings listed above.

If anyone is interested in submitting a letter to the newspaper, please contact Millyn.

Please forward CDSP's budget information to school newsletters or blasts (feel free to amend).

Meeting adjourned at 10:25.

Respectfully submitted by Tiffany O'Connor, CDSP Secretary.