



**COUNCIL OF DARIEN SCHOOL PARENTS  
MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 2, 2017 GENERAL MEETING**

Beth Lane opened the meeting at 9:35 am.

Voting on the October meeting minutes was postponed, as the number of members present at the beginning of the meeting was insufficient to meet quorum requirements.

**CO-CHAIR UPDATE**

Beth and Wendy asked CDSP members to review the updated CDSP Rep job description; comments/feedback are welcome.

CDSP's "Did You Know?" school blasts will include brief, interesting information regarding CDSP, budget initiatives, and district-level information, as well as links to other sources when appropriate.

The next Department Chair Meet and Greet will be held on November 15 from 9:00-10:30; parents are encouraged to come.

Wendy and Beth reminded PTO Co-Chairs to return the Financial Guidelines signature pages.

The privacy issue regarding emails from Lifetouch has been resolved; however, Lifetouch may have forwarded email distribution lists previously.

Copy center issues should be resolved with the recent changes. Please let Wendy and Beth know if problems still exist.

**COMMUNITY OUTREACH UPDATE**

Julie Best (CDSP Community Outreach Chair) provided Thriving Youth (TY) and Human Services Planning Council (HSPC) updates, including:

- An epidemiological profiler from AmeriCorps joined TY and will work with police and prescribers to create a database of resources for prevention and treatment of opioid use.
- The next Thriving Youth Task Force survey of developmental assets is scheduled for January.
- The social hosting law and effects of alcohol on the adolescent brain are points of focus in this year's 06820 campaign.
- The significant negative effects of state budget cuts on mental health programs were discussed at the November HSPC meeting.

### **BUDGET UPDATE**

Shelly Skoglund (CDSP Budget Chair) initiated a discussion regarding possible training options for the budget process. CDSP members expressed a preference for a brief, online tutorial.

Shelly also encouraged CDSP members to approach the upcoming budget season with positivity, leading by example with open-mindedness, respectful conduct and civility, as we work with new members and new leaders of town boards and committees.

CDSP hopes to promote communication of important budget information to engage more parents in budget-related discourse and discussion.

### **SPECIAL EDUCATION UPDATE**

Catherine Piorkowski (CDSP Special Education Chair) explained that the 2017-18 Special Education Subcommittee meetings have been scheduled, and the calendar has been sent to all SE Reps.

Catherine encouraged PTO Co-Chairs to use SE Reps as a resource when SE issues arise, as global SE problems are addressed during monthly meetings with the SE administration.

Catherine also asked PTO Co-Chairs to forward new SE Reps' contact information to her.

### **VOTING: APPROVAL OF MINUTES, CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY**

With enough members present to attain quorum, two votes were taken midway through the meeting.

Julie Best made a motion to approve the October 5, 2017 CDSP Meeting Minutes. Sarah Neumann seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved unanimously with no abstentions.

Julie Best made a motion to amend CDSP's Records Retention Policy (Financial and Legal Guidelines, page 8) to include the required three-year retention of Conflict of Interest Policy statements. Sarah Neumann seconded the motion, and the motion was approved unanimously with no abstentions.

#### **DHS BUILDING COMMITTEE UPDATE**

KG&D Architects have been selected for the DHS cafeteria expansion project; the next step is contractor selection.

DHS students and staff are involved in the design process.

#### **LIBRARY MAKER SPACE PROJECT**

Volunteer submissions are needed asap; CDSP will forward volunteer submission request information for school wires.

#### **WORKING PARENTS TASK FORCE**

Travis Azous (Royle School PTO Co-Chair) described the newly-created Working Parents Task Force of Royle School, which is intended to bridge communication gaps between the PTO and working parents. More information can be found on Royle School's PTO website.

#### **GOOGLE TUTORIAL - DECEMBER CDSP MEETING**

Marc Marin, Director of Instructional Technology, will provide a Google Docs and Google Classroom tutorial during the December 7th CDSP meeting. Darien school parents are welcome to attend.

Julie Best made a motion to adjourn the CDSP meeting. Theresa Vogt seconded the motion, and the meeting was adjourned at 10:17.

Respectfully submitted by Tiffany O'Connor, CDSP Secretary.



