



Orchard Park High School PTO Meeting Minutes  
January 27, 2025 @ 7pm  
OPHS Library Media Center

**Attendance**

Brandon P., Nicole C., Barbra L., Renee W., Michelle F., Maureen B., Pam R., Karen F., Jen D., Jennifer K., Karry K-B.

**Meeting Opened at 7:05pm**

**Meeting Welcome – Jen D.**

- Welcomed attendees
- Moved up Post Prom Report

**Post Prom - Maureen B.**

- Monetary donations and prize donations are being received
- Decorating committee will tackle the decorations

Member question whether we are on track with fundraising. Response: Yes, there is the majority of fundraising yet to go including BBQ and Get Egged in addition to anticipated continued business responses to the fundraising letter.

Mr. Pafk let us know that the Prom times are changed and Prom will now be 6-10pm.

Discussion of how to adjust the Post Prom times, 11pm-1am and 10:30pm-1am were considered. Consensus was in favor of 10:30pm-1am in order to have it start closer to the Prom end time and not have it be as late for students to get home.

Discussion of how to keep students engaged and staying until the end of Post Prom. Mr. Pafk suggested 10 prizes every ½ hour and big prizes at the end. It was mentioned that two years ago the PTO was able to have a prize for every senior (\$50 gift card).

**President's Report – Jen D.**

- Welcomed attendees
- Jen called for a vote on minutes from November meeting
  - o There was a motion to approve and second for the minutes vote
  - o PTO voted to unanimously approve the minutes

**Vice President's Report – Jennifer K.**

- 159 members on Facebook, Jennifer will be posting regularly
- Have submissions in by Feb 1, the Newsletter will be made available Feb 8
  - o Send information to: [ophspto@gmail.com](mailto:ophspto@gmail.com)

Discussion about not kicking out everyone who signed up for Facebook. Mr. Pafk agreed that it should be Ok to allow alumni to be on Facebook and volunteer. We will add a notice of and link to OP District volunteer training video to Sign Up Genius information.

### **Secretary's Report – Karry K-B.**

- Please sign-in at meetings and add emails if not already provided
- Minutes will be sent to attendees to review before the minutes vote at the next meeting

### **Treasurer's Report – Karen F.**

- 144 members
- Reviewed the January Treasurer's Report
- Inputs - membership, general donations, and post-prom donations (checks from businesses), and staff lunch donations (\$380)
- Outputs - post-prom deposit
- Contact Karen with any PTO receipts for reimbursement

### **Principal's Report – Mr. Pafk**

- Thank you for the Staff Lunch. It was appreciated by all.
- Class of 2027 will be the first without class rank focus. A survey went out to students and there were 297 responses. This will be presented to the school board. Still need a plan for choosing graduation speakers and for recognition of achievements. Suggestions of allowing for cap decoration and cords at graduation are being considered.

Member asked for Mr. Pafk to share the student survey results at the next PTO meeting, additional members interested.

- No longer having past stand-alone OP Pride event. There has been less business participation and students not paired with business of interest. This has also been self-nominated which would leave out students not comfortable with this. Change to OP Legacy Award that will occur along with the Senior Banquet. Staff will vote for 10 students to receive awards. Begins this year.
- Senior Banquet will be at OP High School. Hors d'oeuvres will be served before, then the awards in the auditorium, then desserts served after. Begins this year.
- Building updates: there has been prioritization of the 1) roof, 2) elevator, and 3) plumbing at OPHS. These items have been moved to an addendum to Phase 3 (up from later phases). This happened through Facilities Planning. The roof is made of PVC and is 25-30 yrs old, it leaks and a new roof is needed. Recent plumbing repairs included location and repair of open pipes that led to fumes.

Discussion of how to deter students from flushing vapes down toilets causing plumbing problems. Suggestion to provide small waste containers in the stalls. Member mentioned students putting vapes in ceiling tiles. Mr. Pafk - confiscated vapes are being tested at Roswell Park and results will be shared with the students.

Mold testing by an individual led to a positive test, but there is not the presence of toxic mold. Brought in a company to evaluate mold situation. Recommendation is to leave the carpets for now.

- Change in attendance days/hours to make up for snow days. 2 early release days in March and May will be changed to full attendance hour days. Need 180 days and 990 hours. There is consideration of having remote instruction days instead of canceling instruction for future snow days.

Member brought up later start time for the high school. Other districts have made this work. Attendee consensus that they are in favor of this change and ask that Mr. Pafk pursue this further.

### **Teacher's Report – Ms. Guzzino and Ms. Markarian**

- Teachers not present

### **Committee Reports**

Instructional Leaders (ILC) – Mr. Pafk

- Curriculum and proctoring discussed

STAP-COMM – No meeting

Building Effectiveness Team (BET) – No meeting

Member discussion with Mr. Pafk regarding backpack use. Mr. Pafk - There was consideration of no longer allowing backpacks and adding increased passing time at lockers at OPHS. Safety consultant did not recommend this change, it leads to other issues and is not an effective way to increase safety.

Central Council – No meeting

### **Old Business**

- Jen D. There was discussion of the sidewalks at the Board of Ed meeting. Neighborhoods have been surveyed and there should be construction this summer.

- Jen D. The parent information series recently did include a few remote/virtual seminars

- Nicole C. Thanked everyone who donated food and funds as well as volunteered for the Staff Appreciation Lunch. Provided a summary of food left over and suggestions for next year. Will also email a summary to the board.

- Jen D. Thanks to Nicole C. and those who donated and volunteered for the Staff Appreciation Lunch. Heard positive feedback on the event. About 160 staff members attended.

Discussion of changing the event to the March Superintendent's Day. The event has been during mid-term exam week, this has caused issues setting up because the PTO does not have access to parts of the building. Setting up in the 2nd floor library is also problematic.

Mr. Pafk agreed the March Superintendent's Day is a good option

Member consensus to change to this new date for the Staff Appreciation Lunch next year

### **New Business**

Governor Hockul's proposal to ban cell phones from NYS public K-12 schools was discussed briefly including what other school districts have been doing

Spring Fling Dance date is April 5th - PTO will provide refreshments, PTO board has volunteered to coordinate

### **Next PTO Meeting**

**February 24, 2025 at 7pm in the Library Media Center (6pm Post-Prom meeting)**

**8:30 Meeting Adjourned**

PTO BOARD Contact Information

President	Jen Domzalski	jmdomzalski@hotmail.com
Vice President	Jennifer Kellington	jkellington379@gmail.com
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Treasurer	Karen Fuentes	karen.fuentes8888@att.net

Minutes Submitted by Karry Kazial-Backes