

## The Clifton School PTA Meeting NOTES

### Meeting summary

- Wednesday, August 5, 2015 4:35 - 5:10 pm
- ~17 parents attended meeting at Clairmont Campus conference room
- ~7 parents teleconferenced in from Clifton Campus conference room
- ~13 parents used teleconference number to attend meeting remotely

### Introduce 2015-2016 Board in person and via teleconference at Clifton

- Board members in attendance at Clairmont: Alexandra Mercante (Clifton co-President), Amanda Cook (Clairmont co-President), Jesse Bowen (Clairmont co-President), Justin Burns (Marketing), Christina Mehta (Secretary)
- Board members in attendance at Clifton: Kristen Herzegh (Treasurer)
- Board members are parent volunteers and not staff at The Clifton School
- Goal of the PTA to support teachers and children at TCS and encourage parent involvement in TCS community
- Many opportunities for parents to get involved with PTA! Be a room rep, coordinate the Harvest Festival, lead the TAC, and more! Email the PTA ([thecliftonschoolpta@gmail.com](mailto:thecliftonschoolpta@gmail.com)) if you are interested!

### Success of Meet and Greet and Pool Party

- Meet and Greet
  - Lots of positive feedback from parents and TCS administration
  - PTA Board excited to meet parents
  - Will have another in the Spring (website will be updated with this information)
- Pool party
  - Huge success! Weather was great, big turn out
  - Very positive feedback from people who were there and TCS administration
  - Marketing campaign was successful- many people at the Meet and Greet were aware of the Pool Party

### Thank you for participating in our PTA Survey

- Survey was sent to parents in the Spring
- PTA Board uses results to inform activities and guide actions in the current year
- See notes below about how results were incorporated

### Give overview of PTA and upcoming events

1. Room Representatives and orientation meetings
  - a. Some rooms still need room reps
    - i. Encourage signups on Sign-Up  
Genius: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080448adac29a20-2015>
    - ii. Will send out reminder email to TCS parents about signing up
  - b. Dates Clairmont: Aug. 13<sup>th</sup> 4:30-5:30pm Clifton: Aug. 20<sup>th</sup> 4:30-5:30pm
  - c. Presentation by Alexandra Mercante (Clifton co-President)
  - d. Slides will be available on the PTA website by August 13<sup>th</sup> for parents to review before the meeting
2. Spirit night at Slice and Pint!
  - a. **Sunday, September 13 from 5:30pm-8:30pm is TCS Spirit Night at Slice and Pint in Emory Village**
  - b. Mention to your server that you are with The Clifton School and 15% of what's made comes back to TCS.

- c. TCS can have their own special beer that night! Submit a creative, TCS-inspired name for the beer and win a gift card to Slice and Pint! Email entries to the [thecliftonschoolpta@gmail.com](mailto:thecliftonschoolpta@gmail.com)
- 3. Harvest Festival
  - a. Saturday Oct. 31<sup>st</sup> 9am-12noon- Date picked based on survey results!
  - b. Brief description for new parents- Fall fundraising event for TCS. Each class pairs with the class across the bathroom to create an activity booth appropriate for your village. Kids (and adults) can dress in costume. Based on survey input, booths from the same village will be grouped together.
  - c. Start thinking about booth ideas for your classes-email the PTA with your booth choice. The PTA Board will compile a spreadsheet with claimed booth ideas.
  - d. Volunteers are needed to help the PTA Board plan and execute the event-be on the lookout for a signup email from the PTA
  - e. Food trucks and blue grass band scheduled
- 4. TAC (Teacher Appreciation Campaign)
  - a. Brief description for new parents-Fundraising event to benefit the teachers and non-administration staff at TCS. Families donate and then funds are equitably distributed based on full-time vs part-time status.
  - b. We need a parent volunteer to act as the chair of the event
    - i. Megan Lineberry-last year's coordinator did a great job! She put together some information for the new coordinator and also offered to help train them.
    - ii. Last year 85% of families donated and we raised \$38,853. Nine classes achieved 100% participation. We would love every class to have 100% participation!
    - iii. Gift breakdown: Full-time teacher and kitchen staff \$315, part-time teachers \$230, and \$100 for the guards at Clifton campus.
  - c. Runs from Early November-early December
  - d. Considering a meet and greet event where parents can donate on their way in/out of school
- 5. Mom's Night Out/Dad's Night Out
  - a. Traditionally Moms Night Out but will now have Dads Night Out too!
  - b. Babysitting not provided for this event
  - c. Dates for Mom Night Out and Dads Night Out TBA
  - d. NOT the same thing as Parents Night Out which is sponsored by TCS teachers (and includes babysitting!)

#### Finance Committee Update

- Committees were formed at Clifton and Clairmont for how to spend the money raised by the Auction.
- Both sites have \$5,500
- Committees have approved the following:
  - Clairmont: steamer basket for kitchen, build amphitheater on very sloped preschool front playground, upgrade the outdoor classroom
  - Clifton: steamer basket for kitchen, water table, turn the rotunda into a library area

#### Admin updates

- In the summer, music class is replaced with in-house experiences. Thus far the kids have had Georgia Power, yoga, Kinderdance. Bubbleman is scheduled. Music will resume in the fall and winter.
- Email Natalie with suggestions for in-house experiences for the kids.

#### Address questions from parents sent prior to meeting through email or in PTA Suggestion Box

- Question about lack of AEDs at both sites
  - TCS Admin and parents with contacts in pediatrics or security agreed to look into low-cost or free options to get an AED. If those don't work, AED can come out of the TCS budget for next year.

- Question about security guard at Clifton also directing traffic
  - Guard did direct traffic until a parent complained about them not actively patrolling the school. TCS Administration working with CDC to update guard responsibilities.
- Question about two weeks for move-up week instead of one
  - TCS Administration does not feel this is appropriate for the school's mission to support families at the CDC and Emory University
  - A parent commented that when their child took two weeks off at move-up it made the transition to the new classroom very difficult
- Question about sick teacher policy
  - Teachers receive paid sick leave. Some teachers work while sick because of strong work ethic.
  - If Administration finds a teacher too sick to work, they are sent home. Admin also goes over healthy habits so teachers don't get sick as often.
  - If parents think a teacher is too sick to work, let Administration know. Administration also monitors this.

Address questions from parents in attendance

- No questions

Stay in touch with the Clifton School PTA! Visit [www.thecliftonschool.org/pta](http://www.thecliftonschool.org/pta) you'll find PTA with updated information about who we are, what we do, and upcoming events and how you can volunteer! Email us anytime at [cliftonschoolpta@gmail.com](mailto:cliftonschoolpta@gmail.com) .