



# Claremont Middle School PTA

Oakland Unified School District

## Claremont PTA General Meeting Minutes

Thursday, May 6, 2021 (ZOOM)

### ***Meeting Begins 5:00 pm***

Present:

#### PTA Board

Dan Clifford, President

Danny Kramer, EVP

Shreyas Cholia, Co-Treasurer

Elizabeth Davies, Co-Treasurer

Chris Lu, Secretary

Tessa Gragg, Co-VP Fundraising

Joel Adachi, Co-VP Fundraising

Elaina Garvin Briant, VP Communications

Teresa Mulder, VP Events

Miho Kubota, Parliamentarian

Shona Armstrong, Historian

#### Other

Jonathan Mayer, Principal

Lacy Lefkowitz, 6th Grade Dean

Eric Galvan, 8th Grade Dean

#### See Attachment for Other Attendees

1. Meeting Kick-Off - Dan Clifford
2. Treasurer's Report - Shreyas Cholia/Elizabeth Davies
  - Account status:
    - CMS checking \$155k
    - CMS savings \$52k
    - R4R \$119k
  - YTD Budget Status
    - Spent \$115k so far this year



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- Check approvals CMS 4954-4966 and R4R 1065-1067

***APPROVED - Shreyas Cholia moves to approve Claremont MS check numbers 4954-4966 & R4R 1065-1067, Chris Lu seconds, unanimously approved***

### 3. Principal's Report - Jonathan Mayer

- 8th Grade Promotion - Eric Galvan
  - CMS will be 1 of 5 schools in OUSD that will have an in-person promotion ceremony
  - 3 promotion events:
    - 1 distance via zoom - Wed 5/26, time tbd
    - 2 in person - Thu 5/27, 2 ceremonies
      - 11:30a & 3p in order to accommodate the district's safety guidelines
      - split by advisories
      - ~ 1.5 hours
      - all families enter thru Miles Gate, only 2 people per student
      - tbd whether family members need to fill out health screener
      - blacktop will have clusters of 3 seats 6 feet apart, students sit with families & go up to cross stage when name is called
      - will live stream on youtube
  - Plan B: if for some reason we have another surge, in-person will change to a "walk-up" ceremony alphabetically
  - there will be an info night scheduled to share info with 8th grade families, targeting next Thursday 5/13, waiting on final confirmation from district
  - still working out what the school needs from a volunteer perspective, once Mr. Galvan figured out, let Teresa know & she can set up a sign-up genius
  - current OUSD rules are to stay 6 feet apart so can't plan for close up pics, Mr. Mayer hears that 5/11 will be date that will go to 3 ft
  - will let 8th graders know tomorrow, Friday 5/7, about promotion ceremonies
- 2021-2022 Master Schedule
  - Trying to figure out how to do a smaller advisory
  - Looking to do block schedule with shorter advisories M/T/Th/F & a longer advisory on Wednesdays
  - Edna Brewer currently does a "block" schedule



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- Put \$ toward extra elective, band will be back & spanish will continue
- Block schedule would look like:
  - 3 “big” classes (95 mins), a short advisory (30 mins), & a “skinny” one which would be the old usual 50 mins
  - advantage to have more “middle” time vs. transition time in class
  - Q: (Wendy Taubler) Would the block schedule have the same # of students per class as pre-pandemic schedule?  
A: Yes
  - same # of instructional minutes
  - Q: (Elaina) What does it mean to be “at grade level”?  
A: Will be either English or Math
  - Q: (Elaina) With more electives, will it be easier to get the elective that they want if they have 2?  
A: (Lacy) Will likely but at least if a student doesn’t get their first choice will likely get their second.
  - Q: (Carol Behr) Have we thought about having some classes extended & some not?  
A: (Lacy) Teachers are generally on board with idea, math is hardest. Teachers were grassroots requesting a block schedule when the district thought we were going to go with mini-mesters next year.
  - Q: (Micki) Is there worry that teachers don’t cover all of the material in the year with a block schedule? Just use time for more group work or homework?  
A: (Mr. Mayer) Teachers will need to follow the lesson plan to get everything in. Also, will need to focus on training to take advantage & fully utilize extended time in a class
  - Q: (Karie Dewan) If we go block, will you focus on professional development PRIOR to school start?  
A: (Mr. Mayer) Will see if can extend PD training week prior to full 5 days instead of the usual 3 days
  - Q: (Carol Behr) What is the impetus for moving to the block schedule?  
A: (Mr. Mayer) Many reasons - less transition time, ability to go deep on a lesson. Have been anecdotal high satisfaction scores from students & teachers. Can’t quote any studies.
  - Q: When will the decision be made?  
A: (Mr. Mayer) Will need to know probably by 5/21 so master schedule can be locked in for teacher prep.
  - Comment: (Shona) Zeke has in CDA & likes
  - Comment: (Lina) Ayaan in 6th really liked double periods when core teachers took advantage of back to back English/History



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- Comment: (Mr. Galvan) As past math teacher, the usual 50 minute schedule is not enough time to dive as deep as they need to go so longer class time would be good.
  - Comment: (Laura Mytels) Thinks son will love the block schedule but would prefer to mix up cohort vs. keeping same cohort for core classes.
  - A: (Lacy) Hearing that same feedback but covid regulation may require it
- Electives
    - Will be survey next week on electives, targeting to announce to 6th & 7th graders at assembly next Thursday 5/13
    - Will be band, 0 period jazz band, spanish, art, yearbook, computer coding, computer art, chorus
    - Q: (Tessa) If CMS offers spanish elective would Viva En Espanol go away?
    - A: (Mr. Mayer) Good question, need to figure out.
    - Comment: (Shona) Recommends to keep it going in case people still want. At least for first year
  - Targeting having a Garden-Side Chat next Wednesday 5/12
4. 2021-2022 Budget Review & Approval - Elizabeth Davies/Shreyas Cholia
- We hit it out of the park with fundraising this year, our income ended up much higher than budgeted
  - We are planning a deficit next year so we can spend some of our reserve
  - Budgeted income ~\$163k
  - Budget expense ~\$196
  - Budgeting to spend ~\$33k of \$178k reserve
  - Biggest item in expense is "teacher salary supplement" where the PTA writes a big check to the district & balance is Principal discretionary fund for teacher retention, stip subs, etc.
  - See separate file for 2021-2022 proposed budget

***APPROVED - Elizabeth Davies moves to approve Claremont MS 2021-2022 Budget, Dan Clifford seconds, unanimously approved***



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4. Fundraising Wrap-Up - Tessa Gragg/Joel Adachi
  - Was a tricky year for fundraising
  - Really appreciate that our community showed up for the Claremont Fund and the auction
  - Partnered with more small businesses and restaurants to try to support the surrounding community this year
  - Welcome Sharon & Ryann!
  
5. 2021-2022 PTA Board Slate - Miho Kubota
  - Slate - all running unopposed
    - President - Penny Huang
    - EVP - Denise Dekker
    - Treasurer - Danny Kramer (previous EVP)
    - Secretary - Julie Liu & Grace Kim
    - VP Fundraising - Sharon Flor & Ryann Cheung
    - VP Events - Elaina Garvin Briant (previous VP Comm)
    - VP Communication - Wendy Taubler
    - Financial Secretary - Laura Mytels
    - Historian - Amy Golden
    - Parliamentarian (unelected position) - Jennifer Daskal
  - Thanks to the nominating committee - Laura Mytels & Leslie Ayers! Much appreciated!

***APPROVED - Miho Kubota moves to affirm next year's PTA Board, Teresa Mulder seconds, unanimously approved***

6. Bylaws Changes - Miho Kubota
  - Supposed to read out the actual bylaws to the meeting attendees prior to vote but Miho will just recap
  - Proposed changes:
    - Move general PTA meeting months to begin in September vs. August (and will hold last meeting in May even though we can't change this from April in the actual bylaws)
    - Adopt California PTA changes to bylaws template, including permission for holding meetings via teleconference, details on audit requirements, and extending the period of time between bylaws updates to every 5 years vs.



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- Hopefully, with these changes, the Parliamentarians for the next 4 years will not need to touch the bylaws.

***APPROVED - Miho Kubota moves to approved changes to the CMS PTA Bylaws, Joel Adachi seconds, unanimously approved***

## 7. Communication/Events

- Taste of Temescal - Teresa Mulder
  - Will be happening on 5/18
  - thanks to all volunteers, volunteers are all filled
  - less schools partic
- R4R Recap - Teresa Mulder
  - raised over \$120k
  - still accepting donation thru the end of this month
- Teacher Appreciation - Teresa Mulder
  - will coordinate & send out communication
- CMS Multi-Purpose Room Build - Elaina Garvin Briant
  - have filled committee
  - currently in planning stages, there are some designs completed
  - will tbd on when they will begin construction, hoping for this summer but may be later than that

## 8. Close - Dan Clifford

***6:35p Meeting Adjourns***



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## Meeting Attendees

<u>Name</u>	<u>Email</u>	<u>PTA?</u>
Carol Behr	<a href="mailto:carol@urbehr.com">carol@urbehr.com</a>	N
Chris Lu, Secretary	<a href="mailto:chris.lu.66@gmail.com">chris.lu.66@gmail.com</a>	Y
Chris Schreiber	<a href="mailto:schreibc@comcast.net">schreibc@comcast.net</a>	Y
Dan Clifford, President	<a href="mailto:dan.clifford@gmail.com">dan.clifford@gmail.com</a>	Y
Dane Fredericksen	<a href="mailto:dane@digitalaccomplice.com">dane@digitalaccomplice.com</a>	Y
Denise Dekker, incoming EVP	<a href="mailto:mccallandekker@gmail.com">mccallandekker@gmail.com</a>	N
Danny Kramer, EVP	<a href="mailto:danny.kramer@gmail.com">danny.kramer@gmail.com</a>	Y
Elaina Briant, VP Communication	<a href="mailto:elainagarvin@gmail.com">elainagarvin@gmail.com</a>	Y
Elizabeth Davies, co-Treasurer	<a href="mailto:e.b.davies@gmail.com">e.b.davies@gmail.com</a>	Y
Eric Galvan, 8th Grade Dean	<a href="mailto:eric.galvan@ousd.org">eric.galvan@ousd.org</a>	N
Jennifer Daskal, incoming Parliamentarian	<a href="mailto:jenniferdaskal@gmail.com">jenniferdaskal@gmail.com</a>	N
Joel Adachi, co-VP Fundraising	<a href="mailto:joel.adachi@gmail.com">joel.adachi@gmail.com</a>	Y
Jonathan Mayer, Principal	<a href="mailto:jonathan.mayer@ousd.org">jonathan.mayer@ousd.org</a>	N
Julie Liu, incoming co-Secretary	<a href="mailto:julie.y.liu@gmail.com">julie.y.liu@gmail.com</a>	N
Karie Dewan	<a href="mailto:karieldewan@gmail.com">karieldewan@gmail.com</a>	Y
Lacy Lefkowitz, 6th Grade Dean	<a href="mailto:lacy.lefkowitz@ousd.org">lacy.lefkowitz@ousd.org</a>	N
Laura Mytels	<a href="mailto:laura@lauramytels.com">laura@lauramytels.com</a>	Y
Leslie Ayers	<a href="mailto:ayersleslie72@gmail.com">ayersleslie72@gmail.com</a>	Y
Lina Sheth	<a href="mailto:ayaansmom@gmail.com">ayaansmom@gmail.com</a>	Y
Micki Mika	<a href="mailto:mickilmika@gmail.com">mickilmika@gmail.com</a>	Y
Miho Kubota, Parliamentarian	<a href="mailto:miho.kubota@gmail.com">miho.kubota@gmail.com</a>	Y
Patsy Smith	<a href="mailto:carmengetit@gmail.com">carmengetit@gmail.com</a>	Y
Penny Huang, incoming President	<a href="mailto:penstarr@gmail.com">penstarr@gmail.com</a>	N
Shanon Flor, incoming co-Fundraising	<a href="mailto:florfamily@sbcglobal.net">florfamily@sbcglobal.net</a>	N
Shona Armstrong, Historian	<a href="mailto:shona_armstrong@hotmail.com">shona_armstrong@hotmail.com</a>	Y
Shreyas Cholia, co-Treasurer	<a href="mailto:shreyas@gmail.com">shreyas@gmail.com</a>	Y
Teresa Mulder, VP Events	<a href="mailto:tamulder@yahoo.com">tamulder@yahoo.com</a>	Y
Tessa Gragg, co-VP Fundraising	<a href="mailto:threedollarshoes@yahoo.com">threedollarshoes@yahoo.com</a>	Y
Wendy Taubler, incoming VP Comm	<a href="mailto:wtaubler@gmail.com">wtaubler@gmail.com</a>	N