

Peirce Service Organization Meeting Minutes

Friday March 18, 2016

8:15 am

Attendees

Nora Hughes, President

M. Cecilia Bocanegra, Secretary

Members of Peirce Service Organization (PSO)

Location

Fieldhouse - Helen C. Peirce School of International Studies

1423 W. Bryn Mawr Ave. Chicago, IL 60660

Agenda

- **New Business**
 - Introductions
 - Spring Open House
 - LSC Candidate Forum
 - Teacher Appreciation Week
 - April 1st Day of Action
 - LSC Update
 - Treasurer Update
 - Parent-Teacher Conferences Luncheon
 - Middle School Career Day
 - Day of Service
 - Fiesta Del Arte
- **Old Business**
 - Walk-a-thon
 - Spanish classes update

New Business

- **Introductions** Each member of the group introduced themselves and answered the question of what they last read.
- **Spring Open House** Spring Open House will take place on Thursday April 7th at 8:15 a.m. Cecilia Bocanegra will be heading the committee and will need parent volunteers for the day of. We will dial back on the flyer posting but will still need help with the breakfast table and greeters and registration table. A sheet was passed around for volunteer sign-up.
- **LSC Candidate Forum** Applications for the LSC are due today. The forum will take place on April 7th at 6 pm in the Gymnasium. We are still short community member reps so the group was asked to recruit/spread the word among neighbors.
- **Teacher Appreciation Week** Teacher Appreciation Week will take place this year from May 2nd through May 6th with the Teacher Appreciation Day being on May 3rd. Rebecca Hendrickson will be handling activities the week of but ideas for other ways to express our gratitude for our teachers were also invited.
- **April 1st Day of Action** April 1st is likely to be a walk-out day for CPS teachers. The group was asked for ideas on how we can rally around our teachers to help show them that we support them.
- **LSC Update** LSC member John Azpeitia was present to inform us about the next LSC meeting where State Senator Heather Steans will be speaking to the LSC and present parties about her support for charter school funding and how that plays out with her stance on Peirce and public education. Uniforms will be on the agenda as well. A discussion arose around childcare for this and other important, hot topic meetings. Tabitha Romero offered to research options for providing childcare for such meetings to help increase parent participation.
- **Treasurer Update** PSO Treasurer Molly Roudebush reminded members to give her copies of their receipts and/or totals for money spent on items for PSO activities and events. The tax reimbursement will now require her sign-off so members were encouraged to please work with Molly to get expenses covered and keep our budget on target.
- **Parent-Teacher Conferences Luncheon** Andrea Korte will once again be organizing the luncheon for parent-teacher conferences day on April 13th. A sign-up sheet was sent around for interested parties to volunteer.
- **Middle School Career Day** Jillian Estanich, our Middle Years IB Coordinator, is still seeking about 30 more volunteers to speak about their career or college experience to our middle schoolers on April 15th. Members were referred to the link to the website to sign up.
- **Day of Service** A day of service is in the works to get some touchup work done around the school. Ideas for projects were planting, cleanup, painting hallways and family-related artwork. The projects would likely take place on a Saturday. As this is firmed up, notices will be sent to families who'd like to help.
- **Fiesta del Arte** Member Manini Rao is heading up the efforts to bring back a

re-vamped version of Fiesta del Arte. The event is likely going to take place on June 4th, a Saturday, from about noon to 2 pm, or noon to 3 pm. The Fiesta will be a community event with a live auction and fashion show. There will be no auction for student artwork this time though it will be displayed along with local artist items. Many ideas are in place for fundraising and family activities for that day. Volunteers will be needed and more information on that will be sent around closer to the event.

Old Business

- **Walk-a-thon** The Walk-a-thon committee passed around a sample packet that will be sent home including information about all the activities and updates to this year's event. There will be bigger incentives and a whole-school pep rally organized by grade bands. We will utilize our new cheerleading squad to help as well. We will continue the t-shirt contest and walking buddies.
- **Spanish classes update** Member Maria Carrera passed around a sheet asking for feedback on times for spanish classes from Centro Romero. They are interested in helping us with this project but we need to know when to run it to garner most participation.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Friday, April 15th at 8:15 am. The location will be the fieldhouse at the school.