



PSO AGENDA

PEIRCE SERVICE ORGANIZATION

Thursday September 8, 2022

MEETING SUMMARY

I. Welcome introductions - Michelle Platts

Welcome to everyone, congratulations to Michelle at her first meeting as President of PSO. Folks introduced themselves around the room. We had a great turnout for our first meeting. Next meeting and going forward, we will ensure Spanish translation is available for anyone wanting or needing it.

II. New Business

• Back to School Picnic! - Michelle

The Back to School Picnic was held on August 18th and was a great success. Thank you to all involved. Suggestions for next year include:

- Better bathroom accessibility and signage
- Drinking water available
- Access to a door in the back of the building for parents to enter with supplies, to save them from having to walk all the way around the school with heavy bags.
- Clearer communication around which supplies are needed for classrooms to prevent waste, save families money, and to ensure teachers are prepared to receive them.
- Donation table for supplies, similar to the Peirce swag swap, where families can drop off old unused supplies they don't need, and / or take what they need. Helena Swyter volunteered to help with this.

• Committee based roles for PSO - Michelle

As we plan for the year ahead, we are seeking to create Committees for each of the events and sub-teams within PSO, where none exist today (for example, Yearbook Committee, Valentine's Dance Committee, Communications Committee, etc.) Each committee will be led by a dedicated Committee head, who will help recruit and lead their members. Michelle will send out a document in the coming week with more information and to give folks the chance to sign up for the committees of their choice.

• Calendar of Events - Michelle (see attached)

We introduced a calendar of all of the PSO events we will execute this year. Some events are still TBD and things may shift, but this calendar will serve as our working plan for the year and will be shared soon. Upcoming activities in the month ahead:

Open House - Wednesday Sept 14th, 5:00 - 6:30pm

Parents, Caregivers, and their children are invited to their kids' classrooms to learn more about what their kids are doing this year. PSO and other Peirce Parent Groups will have tables set up with a variety of information including signing up for Peirce After School Programs. Lee Ann Searight offered to head up the After-school program table. T

Fall Parent Mixer - Friday Sept 30th, 7:00 - 10:00pm

All Peirce parents and caregivers are invited for a night out to mingle, get to know each other, and have fun together. This event is for adults only. In the past, PSO was able to provide childcare in

the school gym for a fee; Ms. Zaimi is looking into making this happen but cannot guarantee at this time. Details will be confirmed and communicated soon.

Fall Fest - Saturday Oct 15th

This free event is open to all Peirce families and will be held on the turf of the school. Games, activities and fun. More details will be communicated soon.

Halloween Party - Friday Oct 28th

Open to all Peirce families and will combine a Halloween Dance and Movie Night with other spooky and fun activities. This event will be free, there will be no purchasing of tickets or standing in line. Kirby Kaiser and Ann Reagan offered to head up this event and more information will be coming soon.

We're also adding our Book Fairs back in this year! More to come.

III. Committee Updates

Peirce Grounds Clean up Committee - Tracy Didriksen

Our Playground Clean-up Crew is back in action this year and we welcome anyone to join us. We meet every Monday morning right after drop-off to pick up trash on the playground, field and surrounding areas. We bring the garbage bags and gloves, you don't need to bring anything, just yourself and your willingness to help. You don't have to commit to coming every Monday to be part of our team, just come on out anytime you can. We typically work for about 20 - 30 minutes but if you stay for only 5 minutes, we welcome that too.

Ms. Zaimi announced CPS has recently approved funds for the school to make improvements to the muddy areas by Doors 8 and 9. This project will be bid out to contractors this winter. Ms. Zaimi sought the feedback from students across the school and she will be communicating more about these plans with the wider community as more is available.

PSO will be supplying Coach Mike with spray chalk to temporarily paint the 4-square lines. Ms. Zaimi confirmed that new basketball and 4-square courts will be part of the grounds improvement project, above.

Level 1 and 2 Volunteer Committee - Erin Snow

There are many opportunities for parents and caregivers to volunteer at school, at upcoming events, in the classroom and on field trips. All volunteers must have Level 1 or 2 status. For info on what these levels are and how to become one, go to our Peirce website: <http://peirce.cps.edu/volunteer-opportunities.html>.

Fingerprints are required to become a Level 1 volunteer. Erin has organized several Fingerprinting Days at Peirce (all slots full). Parents can also go directly to any Accurate Biometrics location at their convenience to schedule fingerprinting.

Room Rep Committee - April Browning

Room Reps are parent volunteers who work as the connector between the teachers and the families of that classroom. They are responsible for ongoing communications, teacher gifting and appreciation, and more. Room Reps will start using a new tool this year, WhatsApp, to communicate with all families.

Our goal is that every classroom, including Specials, will have at least 1 Room Rep. Sign up here: <https://bit.ly/RoomReps>

Room Rep Orientation will be held soon to discuss this all in detail. If you're signed up as a Room Rep, look for an invitation from April Browning soon.

April is recruiting a new lead for the Room Rep Program and is looking to identify, train and hand this off to that person within the next 90 days. Erin Snow is supporting this transitional period. Helena Swyter will partner with this new person to continue to lead the Teacher Gifting in the spring.

If classes have more Room Reps than needed, we'll encourage some folks to sign up to support the Specials Teachers; Art, Drama, Sports.

Spirit Squad Committee - Lindsey Moon

We are currently in the process of establishing a co-ed Peirce Spirit Squad, with a goal to make this an official CPS sport at Peirce. This requires the sponsorship of a Peirce teacher, who we are currently working to identify and partner with. The Spirit Squad would cheer at Peirce sporting events, future pep rallies, etc. Lindsey will be working with Ms. Zaimi to create this in the months ahead; more to be communicated soon.

After School Programs Committee

We had a discussion around having more clarity for parents regarding after school programming, the different options available and how to access them. Rene Ryan and Leeann Searight have volunteered to help with this initiative.

Ms. Zaimi is currently seeking LCS approval at the September LCS meeting for after school vendor fee-based programs, and we will work to organize and get the information out to parents.

VI. Upcoming School Events & Parent Group Meetings

Picture Day - Sept. 15 & 16

FOP - Tue. Sept. 13 @ 6:30 pm (in person & virtual)

LSC - Thurs. Sept. 22 @ 6pm (in person & virtual)

BAC - Thurs Sept. 22 @ 3:15pm (Fieldhouse)

VII. Additional Updates

Ms. Zaimi will be hosting quarterly Coffee with the Principal meetings. These are great opportunities to hear more and ask questions about the key activities going on at Peirce. Ms. Zaimi will share dates and more details soon in an upcoming Principal's Newsletter.

Be sure to keep in touch with what's happening at Peirce through Ms. Zaimi's weekly Principal Newsletters. These newsletters contain important information, reminders, upcoming events, links to the school calendar, and more. Newsletters are automatically sent to all parents and caregivers registered in Aspen. You can also request access by clicking [here](#).