

# STEM School Chattanooga

**PLT Purpose:** To lead the greater parent group (Parent Organization) in support of the STEM School through planning, overseeing, and implementing PLT initiatives

Thursday, October 22

Parent Leadership Team Meeting (6:30pm-7:30pm)

Zoom Link: <https://hcde-org.zoom.us/j/99385717223?pwd=OStDODhsajEwOUVqZEpTaG45UFFkZz09>

- Welcome
  - Cheryl Cambron – PLT Meeting Facilitator
  - Terrie Quering – PLT Meeting Notetaker
  
- Attendance
  - Cheryl Cambron
  - Candace Carter
  - Jim David
  - Tony Donen
  - Becci Furr
  - Julie Gersch
  - Marcia Gloekler
  - Mohamedahmed, Wafaa
  - Terrie Quering
  - Brian Sledge
  
- Decide Upon Committee Goal for 20-21:
  - Silent Auction Committee: Julie Gersch
  - Staff Appreciation Committee: Nicki Murphy
  - STEM Jubilee: Wendy Lohr & Britt Adams co-chairs
  - National Honor Society Committee: Lyn Potter
  - Facebook Internal Page: Cheryl Cambron
  - Parent Representatives for Learning Community Meetings: Julie Gersch, Kim Baucom, Cheryl Cambron
  - Any New Committees?

Silent Auction Committee: Fundraising event connected to our STEM student showcase in December. Due to COVID-19, may consider a different format this year for the silent auction (potentially virtual event).

- Julie asked, what to do for this school year? What was the income from past years? Dr. Donen stated between \$4,000 & \$8,000. Those funds are used at STEM's discretion. Julie asks what the money has been used for in the past. Dr. Donen stated anything from art supplies, STEM projects, machines, everything that is created at STEM School. Parts for machines that need repair, projects for classes that are coming up, etc..
- Julie asked if there are big projects/needs this year that we need to keep in mind as we discuss the Silent Auction. Dr. Donen stated nothing in particular. Dr. Donen stated that this year STEM has received a \$3,000 grant from Thompson Engineering + money from the county. Mr. David stated that especially since we were unable to have the Jubilee last year it is more important to have some money in reserve for unexpected items. Dr. Donen stated the money isn't required, but helpful to have.
- Cheryl Cambron asked about when the event will take place since there will be no showcase in December. Dr. Donen there is no time designated for this event. The auction will probably need to be online only. Timing is depending on when the PLT decides.
- Decided that we are willing to go with a new online silent auction for this school year.
- Mr. David mentioned the showcase is targeted to be online in January (probably late in the month) and we could have the silent auction at the same time. Julie agreed that it's a good idea.
- Julie will have more info on the online auction options and decide at the next meeting.

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**Staff Appreciation Committee:** Organizes faculty and staff luncheons once a month throughout the year and gifts for staff. Due to COVID-19, will need to look at luncheon process that is feasible to implement.

- Dr. Donen stated that nothing has been implemented this year since teacher appreciation days have been a pot-luck style in the past. Since that doesn't work currently, the PLT needs to decide how to proceed this year.
- Any meals for staff must be brought in from traditional restaurants in individual servings (like a boxed lunch). We could collect money to order collectively for the school.
- Julie suggested doing meals around a holiday.
- Becci suggested having a week where restaurants donate meals for each day of the week. This can be done twice a year.
- Cheryl suggested having each grade sponsor a lunch. So each grade sponsors a meal during a particular month. This could work for the future as well. Julie suggested breaking up the sponsorships by houses instead of grades as another option.
- Terrie Quering, Becci Furr, Brian Sledge, Marcia Gloekler, & Cheryl Cambron decided to take on the Teacher Appreciation Team
- Brian stated box lunches for teachers have worked in his experience in the past as well as small gifts during the last week of school before Christmas. We only have 25 teachers to find small gifts for.
- Brian also suggested to ask PLT parents to donate \$5.00/family to become a member of the PLT. Dr. Donen stated the money would go into the same fund as the Silent Auction.

**STEM Jubilee:** The STEM Jubilee is an elementary STEM event hosted by the STEM School in May. The event is the largest elementary STEM event in the state of Tennessee. The parent committee helps develop corporate sponsorship and also manages the hospitality area for workers during the event. Due to COVID-19, STEM Jubilee is currently on hold.

- Wendy wasn't able to attend as she had parent-teacher conference with another child that night.
- Dr. Donen stated there won't be a STEM Jubilee this year. It is postponed until next year.
- Removed committee for this school year.

**National Honor Society Committee:** This committee helps assist with the National Honor Society Induction Ceremony each fall. Due to COVID-19, ceremony is being considered for spring.

- Dr. Donen restated that a spring ceremony is tentatively planned. Plans will begin next semester if possible.

**Facebook Internal Page:** A parent Facebook page for STEM is available for parents. This implementation is not impacted by COVID-19.

- Cheryl stated the link for the facebook page was sent out. Not many responses as we've had in the past. People have tried to join to solicit their businesses and they were denied membership. There are people who Cheryl is waiting on their student's "house" answer. Cheryl will reach out to Amy to confirm their affiliation with STEM.

**Parent Representatives for Learning Community Meetings:** Parents in this committee attend and participate in Hamilton County School community meetings. This committee provides the opportunity to provide feedback to district decisions and direction. Meetings are being held virtually due to COVID-19.

- Cheryl reminded the county at the last meeting that STEM school and Collegiate High were not listed in any learning community. The virtual meeting wasn't well attended. They like to have

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feedback from parents so they can address problems. It's a small group, and you do get called by name for your opinion on topics.

- Julie stated that three parents went to most meetings before Covid-19 last year and that there was good attendance and participation. This year is very different and it's difficult to attend a zoom meeting in the evenings.
- Brian will attend some of the learning committee meetings as well.
  
- Committee Sign Up
  - Dr. Donen will send out email to request PLT members for Silent Auction committee.
  
- Next PLT Meeting
  - 6:30pm in Zoom on November 19, 2020.