



Sartartia Middle School PTO Minutes

September 10, 2025

Call to Order at 6:11pm

Attendees: Cholly Oglesby, Courtney Border, Melannie Boullion, Ehsan Bayat, Lauren Ayers, Meryl Lobo, Sonia Tummala, Ishika Wijayeyesekar, Gabriela Desai, Suherah (Sumi) Haque, Charles Samuel, Sidrah Hasan

1. Announcements:

- Welcome to our 1st PTO meeting & introduction of new PTO board
 - Returning President – Sonia Tummala
 - VP – Meryl Lobo
 - Secretary – Ehsan Bayat
 - Financial Secretary – Simi Agrawal-Samuel
 - Treasurer – Ishika Wijeyesekara
- **Next Meeting – October 8th at 6pm in the library**
- Reminder to report off campus volunteer hours (google doc link is on our PTO website).
- Reminder to complete background check.

2. Sponsors:

- **Platinum:** Katy STEM Academy, Olympic Dental, The Game Plan Academy, Orthodontique, Bettermind Academy, Viking Chimney Solutions
- **Silver:** Lemke Orthodontics, G.A.P. Learning
- **Bronze:** Su at Apex Realtors

Website link and logo included for Platinum sponsors in the weekly newsletter and mentioned on marquee. Check out SMS PTO website for all sponsors.

If you or anyone you know owns a business, we would love to have them as a business sponsor.

3. Upcoming Events:

- September 15-25 – APEX Fundraiser
 - Instead of Color Games, this year we will do Obstacle Courses on the final day.
 - Pep Rally (Sept. 15): 6th grade at 9 a.m., 7th grade at 10 a.m., 8th grade at 11 a.m.
 - Traditionally, students brought phones to text families to donate, but this year they will bring laptops (temporarily allowed at lunch only during fundraiser weeks).
 - Email with setup instructions to go out Monday; posts will also be on Facebook and Instagram.
- September 26 – No school; Fair Day
- October 13-17 – Fall Break – No School

4. Meeting Minutes Review and Approval (May 2025) – Cholly Oglesby (1st); Gabriela Desai (2nd)

5. Treasure and Financial Reports

- a. Corporate Sponsorships: budgeted at \$10,000, with \$7,250 raised in the first month.



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- b. Last year's surplus (due to three years of COVID-era carryover) funded projects such as the murals, small gym mural, and flexible seating.
- c. This year's major allocations:
 - i. \$10,000 for the Principal's Wishlist
 - ii. \$5,000 for grants
 - iii. Annual budget: ~\$50,000.
 - iv. Apex fundraiser is the largest annual fundraiser; hosting it early gives flexibility for a spring fundraiser if needed. Proposed projects funded by Apex this year: more flexible seating, stairwell upgrade, cafeteria updates (new chairs, colors).

6. Committee Reports:

- a. 6th grade – No update
- b. 7th grade – No update
- c. 8th grade – Career Day planning is in progress.
 - i. Date: Thursday, Dec. 11, 9 a.m.–12 p.m. (8th grade).
 - ii. Format: four 40-minute rotations; some classrooms split speaker time.
 - iii. Target: ~20 speakers across diverse careers.
 - iv. Discussion about allowing shorter, 1-hour commitments to attract more professionals.
 - v. Confirmed: representative from Orthodontique willing to return.
 - vi. Link to speaker signup (created by Ms. Gray) to be distributed.
- d. Hospitality (Gabby) – Aug 8th – Welcome teachers' breakfast; Sept 19th – Salad Bar
- e. Merchandise
 - i. T-shirts, hoodies, lanyards, journals, and water bottles are still available. New and old designs. Everything is on the Square online.
- f. Fundraising
 - i. Cash Drive continues. Donations accepted via Square or QR code handouts.
 - ii. APEX fundraiser is upcoming for 2 weeks. Please help us reach our goal of \$30k
 - iii. Spirit Nights (Lauren) – Parry's was on Sept 9th; October 28th – Lopez Mexican (99/near Gallery Furniture)
- g. Jag Dads
 - i. Encouraging dads to volunteer for morning car-rider duty.
 - ii. School requests help with grounds maintenance:
 - 1. Overgrown rose bushes blocking sightlines (safety concern).
 - 2. Edging around Trees for Houston saplings.
 - 3. Power-washing sidewalks in front of the school (needed for cleanliness and Chalk-the-Walk events).
 - iii. **Action: PTO to create monthly task list. Boy Scouts may assist. School will open gates on weekends if needed.**



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7. Teacher Remarks – Ms. Boullion

- a. Thanked PTO for the new jaguar mural, which has received praise from both students and staff.
- b. Author Visit: April Henry (bestselling middle-grade mystery author) scheduled for Oct. 27.
 - i. Cost: \$3,600 for three hours (covered by library budget).
 - ii. Book sales/signings available.
- c. Laptop Issues:
 - i. Report directly to the library.
 - ii. Loaner devices available while repairs are processed.
 - iii. Tech staff available full-time through September; half-days only starting in October.
 - iv. Families encouraged to reserve insurance claims for major issues; purchase chargers separately and label them to avoid mix-ups.

8. Principal Report – Ms. Oglesby

- a. **Progress Reports & Eligibility**
 - i. Progress Report 2 ends Sept. 19. Students failing will be ineligible for UIL activities until the next 3-week grade check.
- b. **Assessment (MAP Testing)**
 - i. ELA completed; math this week; science next.
 - ii. Growth analysis now possible compared to last year's baseline.
 - iii. Students will goal-set with teachers; results will be mailed home in early October.
- c. **Campus Culture & Spirit Weeks**
 - i. "Start With Hello" Spirit Week: includes Pajama Day, Sunglasses Day, Hawaiian Day, Twin Day, and Wear Green Day. Student-created promo reel in progress.
 - ii. Turn It Gold (Pediatric Cancer Awareness): Sept. 25. (Usually a Friday, but adjusted due to no school Sept. 26.)
- d. **Parent Universities**
 - i. Oct. 1: College & Career Readiness with Kayigh Warren.
 - ii. Oct. 29: Bike Safety with Sugar Land PD. Considering raffling a traditional bike for attendees. Parents expressed concerns about e-bike safety in neighborhoods.
 - iii. PTO asked to boost attendance for important but under-attended events (e.g., social media safety, trafficking prevention).
- e. **PBIS Rewards — Courtney Border**
 - i. App-based point system recognizing Accountability, Integrity, Respect.
 - ii. Teachers award points for preparedness, assignment completion, and school spirit.
 - iii. PBIS Store includes ~60 reward options.
 - iv. Incentives include:
 - 1. No-Tardy Party (open gym).
 - 2. Weekly drawings for perfect attendance (restaurant coupons).
 - 3. Popsicles for Progress for students who meet/exceed MAP growth goals.
 - 4. Wishlist includes gift cards and themed baskets. PTO to explore donations and grants.
 - 5. Teacher PBIS program to launch this year.



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f. **Game Day Fridays**

- i. With phones banned, students requested board games at lunch.
- ii. PTO to organize a Game & Puzzle Drive.

g. **Instructional Focus**

- i. Continue with Accountable Talk; expand Small-Group Instruction.
- ii. Learning Walks with Thornton and Dulles Middle Schools.

h. **Student Leadership**

- i. Launching Principal's Advisory (JagPack), open to applications from all grades.
- ii. Meetings once per 9 weeks (membership cap TBD).

i. **Awards & Recognition**

- i. Campus applying for CREST award (4th consecutive year) and maintaining Jostens Renaissance recognition.
- ii. New application for Schools Transforming Learning via N2 Learning/TASA.
- iii. Three teachers accepted to Holdsworth/HEB Teacher Retreat: Ms. Decker, Ms. Pettitt, Ms. Hitchcock.

j. **Clarifications**

- i. No-Pass List: Not new; used selectively for safety and discipline. Students still permitted restroom access.
- ii. ELA Numeric Grades: Standards-based grading discontinued districtwide; all classes now using numeric grades.

9. New Business: 2025-2026 School Year

- We are allocating PTO Grants to the teachers/staff of SMS up to \$300 for any educational items they want to use for their students/classroom. There's an application, review, and approval process.
 - August – 3 PTO Grants Awarded

Adjourned at 7:13pm