Attendees: Mary Gerkin, Beth Treichler, Katie Robak, Michelle Wilcox, Mr. Charlie Kyle, Kim Parrine, Susan Masulis, Amy Dillenburg, Leigh Orchard, Dawn Senger, JoAnn Cassell, Tom Straiker, Tracy Stewart

Meeting Called to Order at: 6:03PM

August 2015 Minutes were approved with addition of correction to letterhead adding current officers’ names.

School Reports

Student Council Representative, Caela Obrecht: Student Council presented a $500 check to the PTO as a “thank you” for all the PTO does for the school.

Teacher Liaisons, Tom Straiker & Tracy Stewart: A detailed report was presented regarding various happenings in each department at East. See attached report.

Principal, Mr. Kyle: Discussion was held regarding the early Homecoming date. North HS had first pick of the date this year; East will have first pick for the date of Homecoming next year. A big “thank you” to all of the parents who helped with the Homecoming dance. The PSAT test is coming up and registration has been extended. Anyone in Algebra II or higher should take the test. There will be free ACT prep for the Math and Reading sections during the lunch periods.

Treasurer Report, Katie Robak: PTO membership is up. We currently have 726 paid members. The amended budget for Post-Prom was approved. The PTO will give a $500 donation for Young Hearts for Life. The September PTO budget and Post Prom budgets were presented and approved. The PTO checkbook balance is $1,128.12 and Post Prom balance is $8,443.15.

Committee Reports

Grounds Beautification, Leigh Orchard: The front pots have been updated. The committee is looking into donations for future projects including greenery for the holidays. The Kirk Road entrance has been cleaned up and replanted. The committee has received quotes for updating the brick area at door 40.

STCE Directory/Registration/Membership, JoAnn Cassell: 395 people have registered on the membership toolkit. We still need many of the individuals with paid dues to register on the toolkit. An announcement will be added to the Orange & Black.

Post Prom, Amy Dillenburg & Carie Sanders: The contact with the games company has been signed. Prom is April 30th and the theme for Post Prom will be games. The tag line for Post Prom is “Game On, Saints.”

Student Activities, Val Grohe & Dawn Senger:
Thank you to all the parents who helped make STCE Homecoming 2015 a success. 1540 students attended the dance. It was wonderful to see the number of parents who took the time to make something special for the students of St. Charles East High School. These parents helped with homecoming t-shirt sales, homecoming dance ticket sales, and also helped the night of the homecoming dance.


Greater Education Foundation, Julie Strahl: Julie is looking into new ideas for our basket donation for the Jazz event.

District PTO Representative, Mary Gerkin: A presentation was given on the 4 options for potential school closings. All D303 parents should review the video on the district web page and provide feedback.

Senior Awards, Kathleen Dytrych: No report
St. Charles East PTO Meeting Minutes
President, Michelle Wilcox - Vice President, Beth Treichler
Treasurer, Katie Robak - Secretary, Mary Gerkin

9/22/2015
APPROVED

Staff Appreciation, Jane Keene, Kim Parrine, Carla DiGiulio: A staff dinner was catered on August 27th. The cost for the catered dinner was $750. Positive feedback was received from the teachers/staff.

Senior Signs, Laura Kennedy: The committee continues work on finding a sponsor for the senior signs. Laura will put a poster at the Chamber of Commerce office asking for a sponsor.

Senior Hand Print Wall, Sid & Mona Hasan: None

President's Report, Michelle Wilcox: The By-laws have been updates. The PTO membership motioned and approved the updates. Grant proposals and information has been sent out to the teachers. The VEI group is the only group to respond to date with a request for a $500 grant. Michelle also would like to replace the school flag and order a new, shorter American flag.

The meeting was adjourned at: 6:59 PM

Respectfully submitted by
Mary Gerkin, STCE PTO Secretary
2015-2016
Teacher Liaison Report

From Diann Saylors and Key Club
Walk to End Alzheimer's: This is a big event for Brighton Gardens and the first one they have held in St. Charles. It will start at 10:00 am - registration begins at 8:30 at Pottawatomie Park. They want to see big STCE support if possible. This is in the hands of the Key Club to get the message out. Lisa sent an email to us earlier in the week about it too. Here is a link - [http://act.alz.org/site/TR/Walk2015/IL-GreaterIllinois?fr_id=7476&pg=entry](http://act.alz.org/site/TR/Walk2015/IL-GreaterIllinois?fr_id=7476&pg=entry)

From: Jake Stewart and Operation Snowball Club
Operation Snowball is, at its core, a alcohol, tobacco, and drug prevention group. We focus on teen leadership and providing true perspective to teens in regards to positive decisions choices (for example many teens believe drug usage and alcohol consumption to be higher than they actually are, and thus put undue pressure on themselves to "fit in"). In Operation Snowball all teens are welcome and we form a close community of teens and adults working together to build a community of caring. One of the biggest events that brings Snowball together from 12 local high school is our weekend event. This year, on November 6, 7, and 8th, teens from the 12 locals schools will all go to Larado Taft Campus for a three-day, two-night outing. During this outing they will be in small groups sessions and whole group sessions working with professional speakers and educators to help discuss problems facing teens and how to cope or find solutions to those problems through a community. This event is often described as "life-changing" for teens. For more information you can contact the STCE advisor Mr. Jacob Stewart through email at Jacob.Stewart@d303.org or visit the Greater Fox River Valley Operations Snowball website at [www.gfrvos.org](http://www.gfrvos.org).

From: Kari Batka and HOPE club
H.O.P.E. stands for “helping others protect each other”. We have an open club that meets on early release days and a leadership team that together helps organize and promote prevention events for the St. Charles East community. Hope is starting to sell HOPE> gear next week for Early Release Wednesday-Hope Days!

From: Nicole Johnson and German Language
The German departments at East and North established a German-American Partnership Program in 2011 with Sankt Ansgar School in Hamburg, Germany. This program is governmentally-recognized with over 200 exchanges taking place in the nation. Nicole Johnson, a German teacher at East, took students to Germany in June for three weeks as the first part of the exchange, and the German counterparts are coming to visit St. Charles for three weeks from Oct. 4-24. They will shadow their host students during the school day and experience everyday life as a young American person. East host students are: Jeremy Mann (10) and Justin Mann (graduated), Emma Rooney, (11), Jack Williams (12), Matt Jacquot (12), Kaitlyn Fifield (12), Kate Knight (11), Crista Krueger (10), Madison Weick (10) and 5 students will be staying with host students at North also. They will visit with Mayor DeWitte, do a scavenger hunt in STC, Feed My Starving Children charity event, travel to Chicago, Naper Settlement, and Starved Rock, among many other exciting events with their host families. This is the third exchange that the German departments have coordinated and these trips take place every other year.
From: Rebecca Gibbons and Spanish NHS
Spanish NHS is planning to partner with an orphanage in Mexico for children with special needs. The name of the orphanage is Eternal Anchor and was actually founded by our very own Asst Principal Kelly Brittan. Last year, we collected toys, hygiene products, and school supplies to send abroad. This year we are thinking of going a different route since the cost of these items are significantly less if purchased in Mexico. Also, this year the FL department launched its first club for Latino students called "Comunidad Conexino." Over 30 students are in the club already, and they were excited to decorate a golf club for their club, made shirts, and walked in the parade. The advisor of Spanish NHS, Rebecca Gibbons, and the advisor of Comunidad Conexión, Monica Reyes, are hoping to combine forces to help support the Eternal Anchor orphanage.

From: Keith Glavan and Business Ed.
Virtual Enterprises (VEI)
VEI is our capstone business course open to Juniors and Seniors. Students start and run an online virtual business within a network of over 500 other student-run businesses throughout the country. Last week, VEI students interviewed for their positions in the firms. Congratulations to all VEI students and thanks to all school, district, and community members who came in to act as interviewers. Paul Hardy is the new CEO for Clever Contraptions and Makenzie Kos is the new CEO for Xtreme Comfort. Next, students will begin writing the business plan and preparing for the Tennessee Trade Show in Pigeon Forge TN November 19-21. Students are looking forward to attending PTO meetings this year and thank the PTO for your ongoing support.

National Business Honor Society
On Monday, we held our first National Business Honor Society meeting. It was a packed house as many business ed students attended to learn about this great opportunity. The NBHS is open to all Juniors and Seniors who maintain a 4.0 GPA overall and a 4.5 GPA in Business classes, attend all meetings, and complete 8 hours of service learning. The next meeting will be on October 26 where we will discuss chapter leadership and plan service projects. Please see an business ed teacher for more information.

SkillsUSA
SkillsUSA is a partnership of students, teachers, and industry working together to ensure America continues to have a skilled and motivated workforce. SkillsUSA held its first meeting last Friday. Our first event will be the fall leadership conference in Tinley Park November 6-7. Among other leadership activities, all students attending will participate in a mock interview and coaching session provided by professionals from State Farm Insurance and Insurance Auto Auctions. Please contact advisors Keith Glavan and Heather Carlson for information about SkillsUSA.

ECC Articulation
Several Career and Tech Courses are articulated with ECC. This means that ECC has deemed them equivalent to an ECC course and students who earn a B or better in these courses will receive college credit if they attend ECC. This credit will carry forward with them on their ECC transcript. (see attached handout and decide if you’d like to share it...or we can revisit it at the next meeting closer to registration.)

Thanks for representing! Reword and condense as you see fit.

From: Michael DeWees and PLTW
Thom and I will be taking the EDD and CIM classes on a manufacturing day field trip October 1st. We will be visiting Bison, PPG Industries in Batavia, and Smith and Richardson in Geneva.

There is a Women in Engineering night at Siemens in Elgin, I have attached the flyer.

We are also working on a shadow an Engineer day with Siemens in West Chicago on October 12th.

We are sending a strong group to the state Project Lead the Way meeting in November. This meeting is a chance to learn about new teaching techniques, new curriculum in existing courses, and ways to enrich the courses for those students needing more. One of East alumni, Angela Wiscons, is being interviewed for the Administrator / Counselors meeting on day 2 and will participate during a Q & A round table session.

From: John Connell
FRVI (Fox River Valley Initiative) is holding an open meeting regarding housing and mental health in the Fox River communities of Kane County. This link is for a poster about the October 20 event. http://us6.campaign-archive2.com/?u=941a5f180e3488a4789e33dcd&id=f8a2ed809f&e=564daa72be

From: Sandy Ledvora and Math Dept.
If you want, you could let the parents know about all the ways students can get math help. The Math Resource Room (B205) is open periods 4 - 7 with a teacher in the room to give help on any math questions. Students just need to get a pass from their Math Teacher. The Math Honor Society students offer math tutoring in the LRC during periods 4 - 7 and after school on Wednesdays, early release or not. The Math Teachers are always available for help before, after and during school. Students should just make an appointment with their teacher.
Thank you!
Sandy

From: Jean Cabel and College and Career Readiness
The College and Career Readiness Department will be hosting College Application Month during October in an effort to encourage all seniors to complete an application to a college or university. The Counselors are working in conjunction with a representative from the Illinois Student Assistance Commission to help students complete the application and pursue financial aid and scholarships. Look for announcements and special events such as Alma Mater Monday, Trivia Tuesdays on Twitter, and College Gear Wednesdays. Elgin Community College hosts a large college fair on October 6 and the St. Charles East Scholarship Fair will take place on Thursday, October 22 from 2:30 - 4:00 in the LRC for Juniors, Seniors, and their parents. Look for additional announcements through Naviance and the Orange and Black Bulletin.

From: Lisa Cole and Counselors:
Counselors are going to all the freshman English classes this week and introducing Freshman to Career Cruising. Career Cruising is going to replace Naviance starting next year. Freshman completed and interest inventory and researched a career from their matching list. We encouraged students to log onto the system at home and share the results with their parents.