

SCMS PTSO General Membership Meeting

October 22, 2025 @ 7pm

SCMS PTSO General Membership Meeting

Presenters

- Justin Simmons | Principal | South County Middle School
- Samantha Roberts – President
- Shannon Slayer – 7th Grade VP
- Ramya Burgess – 8th Grade VP
- Louisa Wahala – Secretary
- Felicia West – Treasurer (not present)

Welcome and Introductions

Meeting called to order by Samantha Roberts (President). Principal Justin Simmons opened with a welcome and school update. Meeting attendance included in-person and online participants.

Principal's Report – Justin Simmons

- **Staffing:** The school is fully staffed, unlike others schools in the division.
- **Bell Schedule Changes:** The 2025-2026 school year schedule includes daily third-period learning seminar and daily fourth-period content class, which are both 45 minute blocks (vs.90 minutes). Teachers and students are adjusting to shorter learning seminar times and shorter content blocks. Benefits include more flexibility for testing. The administration will evaluate feedback on the schedule to determine if it will remain the same for next year.
- **Attendance, Behavior, Coursework (ABCs):** Chronic absenteeism is down to ~6.5%. Behavior issues are minimal.
- **Weapons Detection System:** The implementation deadline for FCPS middle schools is December. The go-live date for SCMS is November 5. The detectors will be placed at Door 1. The school will start allowing early entry at 7:00 AM (vs. 7:10 AM). Buses that arrive early will let students out instead of holding them on buses. Tardies may be excused during the first days.

Board Member Reports

President's Report - Samantha Roberts

- **Completed Events:** Back-to-School Night, Mustang Roundup, Bingo Night, and community festival tables.
- **Upcoming Events:** Mustang Mixer (Dec 12th), Teacher Cookie Bar (Dec 19th), Spirit Wear Sale.

SCMS PTSO General Membership Meeting

October 22, 2025 @ 7pm

- **Fundraising Update:** No fuss fundraiser is ongoing. Multiple \$300 level Sponsor's secured; more being sought.
- **Dine Out:** PTSO is looking for parent support to lead this. Next scheduled Dine Out; Ledo's Pizza November 21st.

7th Grade VP's Report - Shannon Slayer

- Student vs. Staff Basketball Game - February 27th
 - Tryouts will be held after school.
 - Tickets will be sold in advance.
 - Discussion about adding a Parent vs student mini-game to this event.

8th Grade VP's Report - Ramya Burgess

- Student vs. Staff Volleyball Game - April 17, 2026
- 8th Grade Dance – June 5, 2026,
 - Dance planning committee being formed, parent volunteers needed.
 - Committee will work with the SCMS Student Government Association (SGA) on theme starting in 2026.
 - Tickets sold week before/week of dance at lunch.

Secretary's Report – Louisa Wahala

- **Meeting Minutes:** Quarterly general membership meeting minutes to be posted on PTSO website; <https://www.mustangptso.org/>
- **Next meetings:** February 25, 2026 and May 20, 2026
- **Volunteer sign-ups:** Available on the the FCPS portal; https://fcps.samaritan.com/custom/501/organization_details/710

Treasurer's Report – Samantha Roberts (on behalf of Felicia West)

The treasurer's report for the period of July 1, 2025 to September 30, 2025 was distributed to the PTSO members in-person. Highlights of the report including the following;

- 2025-2026 Beginning Balance: \$15,636.62
- Current Balance as of September 30, 2025: \$17,504.75
- For the period of July 1, 2025 - Sept 30, 2025
 - Income: \$6,599.39
 - Expended: \$4,731.36
- The PTSO is exploring interest-earning accounts for PTSO fund.
- The PTSO is in the process of transitioning banks from Truist to Capital One.

SCMS PTSO General Membership Meeting

October 22, 2025 @ 7pm

Funding Requests

The PTSO provides grants to teachers and staff to cover student activities and program needs. There is a budget of \$2,000 allocated for grants for the 2025-2026 school year. The PTSO discussed and voted on the following requests;

Request	Description	Amount Requested	Amount Approved	Notes
Military Program	Breakfast for Veterans Day & Month of the Military Child	\$900	\$450	Impacts ~200 military families. PTSO to cover half of the costs and school to cover the remainder.
Yearbook Workshops at Word Museum	Transportation & workshop costs	\$1,755	\$400	Impacts 50 students. PTSO to fund a portion of the field trip expenses.
Blankets for Veterans	Supplies for student blanket project	\$500	\$500	Full approval
Adaptive Theater Program	Curriculum books for inclusion theater	\$232	\$150	Benefits 9 students currently and any future adaptive students. PTSO proposed partial funding. School to cover the remaining cost through instructional material fund and/or parent donation.
TOTAL		\$3,387	\$1,500	

Open Discussion & Meeting Chat Comments

PTSO Membership Update: 107 staff and parent memberships have been purchased, up from 70 last year.

Reminder to follow the PTSO on Facebook and Instagram.

Meeting Adjourned

Next Meeting: February 25, 2026, 7:00 PM (In-person & Zoom)