

# PTO Minutes from: October 1, 2019

#### In Attendance:

Laura Thomas, Alan DeFelice, Linda Rutishauser, Audra Christianson, Robin Roberts, Jenny Montgomery, Adriana Petrucci, Michele Guesecke, Jen Watanapongse, Dolores Belzey, Sue Evers, Filseta Sereke-Berhan

Meeting commenced by President at 7 p.m.

# **Student Council Report**

Adrianna Petrucci: Homecoming: They sold 1,600 tickets and made \$40,300. The popcorn was a good idea. The students seemed to stay longer at the dance this year, likely because of the earlier start time. The Student Council is putting out the "The Potty Press" every month which is put on the bathroom doors and provides reminders about upcoming events. The student body president, Natalie, started "Nap chats" which is a video announcement that provides updates and students can also email her questions and concerns.

## **President's Report**

Laura: Welcome remarks. Attendees did introductions.



Provided update on past and future events:

- 1. Homecoming The food went over well. They did run out of water 20 minutes prior to the end of the dance. They may get more water next year. Swim meet had all the coolers, so they had to use the refrigerators for the water. Laura will talk to Melinda about using them next year since it was easier than the ice.
- 2. Next Fundraiser Panera 10/16/19. This is the day of PSAT which usually has a big turnout. Flyer provided.
- 3. Halloween PTO provides treats for the teachers. The sign up will go out in Polaris and the PTO newsletter next week. This is provided by parent donations.
- 4. PTO Presentations John Peters will be presenting information about registration in December. They have not decided on the following topic yet. Vaping was suggested as a possible next topic.

## **Treasurer's Report**

Laura: Copy of financials provided. Expenses for this month were the cookies and water for curriculum night and the water and refreshments for homecoming. PTO dues - \$1,440 came in for August dues, but overall, they are down for the year with only 29% of families paying dues. This will impact next year's budget on what the PTO can do. Audra will be sending out an email



tomorrow reminding parents about paying dues. Dues can be paid on Push Coin or the PTO website. They could also send a check.

# Principal's Report

#### **Audra Christenson:**

AP Classes - College Board has changed the process this year so it is not the school who registers students for the classes, but rather the students will register themselves. It is still a requirement of the district that every student who takes an AP class needs to take AP test. This Friday is the last day to register. Teachers are reminding any students that have not completed registration; parents should also.

Per Robin, if a student wants to take an AP test for a class they are not enrolled in they need to register and pay for it. The form is in CCR.

College & Career Readiness: Beginning Friday there will be ongoing focus group called CCR Focus Group. The task force includes Sophomores, Juniors, and Seniors. They will bring on Freshman in the future. It focuses on the personal learner profile. This is a place where the students can keep all of their information about school and activities so when they apply for college and scholarships, they have all of their information in once



place. All of the grades from HAC and their testing scores will get automatically downloaded. Students can input a personal statement, activities they are part of in and out of school, jobs, aspirations/goals, awards, volunteering. Student will get log in and parents can use that log in. This isn't shared with colleges, but the students can use that data for their college applications.

The benefit for the school district is that they have a new state report card and they can use the information for reporting. For example, what % of student have employment outside of school and what % of students do community service. There is a meeting Friday at SCE to discuss rollout.

It is voluntary now, but since this is how the school is being rated, it will become mandatory.

Blended Learning - It was open for teachers to apply to have courses considered for blending learning. They have 5 current teachers and 9 additional teachers that have completed applications. They are the same courses as non-blended, they are just presented differently. During registration they register for classes like normal, but when they talk to their counselor, they will discuss the blended learning classes with them and the students will be given information to give the parents. Overall, it is going extremely well.



**Homecoming:** Great turnout. There were 1,600 attendees (approximately 100-150 of those being guests).

**Pizza with students:** She has met with 20 students so far this year and over 500 since she started a few years ago.

# Other updates:

- 1. Parent/teacher conferences are November 25<sup>th</sup> from 11a-7p. They will be sending out a mailer. They are later in the semester so they are closer to finals.
- 2. We have 151 teachers and Audra has been in 146 classrooms to date. She will have completed it by the end of this week. All of the administrators have done the same thing. The lead teachers visit classrooms also.
- 3. Oct 11<sup>th</sup> is the next half day of attendance for students. They will probably not have half days next school year.
- 4. Vaping Matt Cermak presents to freshman and sophomore in their Health classes. He also meets with Juniors and Seniors in one of their 4 classroom units. Fewer disciplinary issues this year for vaping.

**Committee Chair Reports** 



Robin Roberts (Teacher/PTO Liaison): They are getting ready for the PSAT. Per Audra - For Freshman and Sophomores, the school uses those scores to determine interventions. The state defines that at Junior level earning a 540 EBRW and 540 on math. If they are below the trajectory that will take them there by typical growth, they will be placed in an intervention during their lunch study hall. They will link their scores to Khan Academy to get specific practice on skills.

German exchange students are visiting North. Students are wearing their ids. Finals are December 18th-20th.

Jenny Montgomery (DPTO): Update from last DPTO meeting - There was a group of speakers talking about the Big Hearts of Fox Valley. They are an organization that identifies all schools in the district that have kids in needs and buys them gifts with a big wrapping party. They are looking for a bigger donor, such a business, who can be a secret Santa shopper and buy for 5 kids. Then in November they will open it to people who want to shop for one child or one small family.

Parent University - They watched the movie "Like". It will be re-showing it and an email went out with the information. They are having a follow up speaker at the next meeting on 10/30/19. All information is on the DPTO



website. Josh Oaks will be at North on 10/31 with a live presentation in the auditorium and they will be live streaming into the classrooms during a class period. Meeting adjourned at 8:13 p.m.

Next PTO Meeting: Tuesday November 5, 2019 7:00 p.m. LRC

# **Executive Board Meetings**

The PTO Executive Board met 10/01/19. Reviewed and approved September financials.