

Ardrey Kell PTSO Executive Board and Committee Chairpersons

Meeting Minutes

September 15, 2020 at 6pm

Present: A.Canafax, S. Bereis, T. Collins, T. Edmunds, L. Bowden, J. Lang, J. Collazo, C. Bucher, J. Kaplan, K. Stoval, K. Meekins, G. Greene, Aldan A. (student rep) J. Gyoerkoe, Mrs. J. Brooks (AK principal) *this meeting held outside to comply with NC gathering restrictions and to promote social distancing*

Next meeting: TBD (may require virtual format due to ongoing COVID-19 pandemic)

President's Announcements (A. Canafax)

- Introductions; PTSO Board and Chairs named last Spring
- AK mask sale; PTSO was a beneficiary of the AK Sports Booster fundraiser.
- Full PTSO meetings for '20-21: plan to host an open meeting when allowed to meet with large group size. Currently restricted gatherings and no CMS building option. Meetings may be virtual in format. All active PTSO members will receive email notification using the email address they provided with membership payment.
- In this current school year, all requests for financial or promotional support will need to be approved by school administration. For example, teachers may make support requests through administration first. Charitable organizations may request possible posting via website/social media but the email distribution list should be reserved for PTSO business/events.

School Announcements (Mrs. J. Brooks)

- PTSO funds: Capital Campaign donations used this month to facilitate purchase of webcam for each teacher at AK
- PTSO facilitated a specific fundraiser (outside of Capital Campaign) to assist the students of Starmount Elementary and Quail Hollow MS with hotspot support
- Current AK enrollment- 3,462 students. No staffing reductions.
- "Zoom bombing" issue: less frequent but remain a problem. IT specialists consulted and its prevention remains a priority for AK staff.
- "Tea Pages": Tik Tok videos and Instagram pages promoting the "tea" or gossip at AK. Mrs. Brooks actively engaged in identifying these pages; many AK students posting
- Students have been forwarding potentially offensive messages to Mrs. Brooks/AK staff. Mrs. Brooks has engaged in many conversations with students and families on both sides of an exchange. Coaching regarding civil discourse ongoing.

- Parents encouraged to remain vigilant re: student online activities. Recent experience at Community House Middle School included a pedophile engaging with CH students.
- CMS Board to meet 9/16/2020; re-opening of schools to be addressed
- The regular bell schedule will resume when high schoolers are back in mainstream classrooms
- Homeroom w/ SEL (social-emotional learning) remains an expectation. Group activities on Mondays, Diversity/Inclusion focus on Fridays. Mid-week homerooms available for students to take a break from screens and support emotional well-being in other ways, such as through physical activity.
- AK Curriculum Night will be a virtual event this year. Parents may watch teacher videos at their convenience. PTSO welcome to submit content for the bank of videos.
- Will attempt to record and live virtual events
- Student and Parent Task Forces have organized to combat racism/promote inclusion in our community. Both have conducted initial meetings. Mrs. Brooks reports that some diversity remains a need for the adult group; contact her for more information. Mrs. Brooks reports that District-wide initiatives are also ongoing.
- Plan for special focus on the current AK seniors. Mailing to all students upcoming. Freshman engagement is a priority as well. Money may be requested of the PTSO due to decreased revenue streams (no parking fees, etc.) Class T-shirts will be ordered this year; Student Council to facilitate a design contest.
- Parent/Staff/Students all welcome to suggest ideas for school bonding/memory making. Ideas include a virtual trivia night, a cell phone scavenger hunt, raffles for admission to a limited live event, a student led initiative that could also count toward volunteer hours.
- High school sports teams returning to campus for workouts in a staged fashion. AK has been designated a BOE early voting site. Alternate gym venues may be necessary.
- AK Theater will be producing Friday Knights- see the school website for links

Student Council Announcements (Aldan A.)

- The Student Council has carryover funds available in the PTSO account
- Junior class spirit request that involves some candy/juice purchases
- Student rep to speak with Mrs. Mercado about purchasing items and then requesting reimbursement. J. Gyorkoe and K. Meekins also volunteered to be liaisons.

Communications Update (J. Collazo)

- All Board/Chairs should submit requests for communication AT LEAST 24 hours in advance to Jessica.
- Communication will then proceed to Jen and/or Geneva for website/Facebook posting

Facebook Update (G. Greene)

- Increased traffic-almost 500 more members this year over last
- Encourage others to join, but there are new questions to be answered regarding AK affiliation (such as student class year)

Fundraising Update (C. Bucher)

- Capital Campaign has raised approximately \$12,000 so far and is ongoing
- Chris will be writing thank you emails/tax receipts
- Jackie pursuing corporate donations; following up w/ donors who may have available

Harris Teeter/Publix Update (A. Canafax)

- Angel notes a recent \$2,000 check from HT
- Families should not expect to see Ardrey Kell listed at the bottom of every receipt

Hospitality Update (A. Canafax)

- Back to school lunch provided by PTSO: Angel handled arrangements; Publix catered and per Mrs. Brooks, well received by staff
- No upcoming events to prep for due to pandemic conditions

Picture Day Updates (K. Stoval)

- Committee ready to have Picture Day when the students are back
- There are plans for a yearbook this year

SLT Update (L. Bowden, PTSO rep)

- First meeting complete, focus on year-long goals and positive character traits

Teacher Appreciation Activity (J. Gyoerkoe)

- Mrs. Federico is the recipient of a teacher appreciation gift card
- To work with Mrs. Brooks regarding AK stationery options for the future

Meeting Adjourned by A. Canafax at 7:43pm