

PTSO MINUTES

Ardrey Kell High School

May 19, 2021

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 restrictions and lack of access to CMS building space, this meeting was conducted virtually via Zoom.

Tori Collins, PTSO Treasurer facilitated the meeting.

Attendees had the option to join with or without video. All attendees were muted upon joining but had the individual option to unmute and participate in any discussion.

Access to meeting sent automatically to PTSO email distribution list as well as attachments that included the latest financial statement and draft meeting minutes.

Other attendees included but may not be limited to (due to generic screen names and some partial attendance): Mrs. Jaime Brooks (Principal), T. Edmunds, K. Meekins, K. Stovall, Ms. R. Brand, J. Murphy, L. Bowden, M. Rachal, H. McAfee, L. Felty, S. Bereis, Dr. A Etumadu, C. Stoer, J. Lang, C. Lasater, Carolyn

Meeting Called to order at 1802.

March 2021 Meeting Minutes

Provided in Draft form via email to PTSO membership prior to meeting.

Presented by Tracy Edmunds, AK PTSO Secretary.

- Motion to approve raised by Karla Stovall.
 - Motion to second approval raised by Tori Collins.
 - None opposed.
 - All in favor via voice vote and Motion carried to Approve the minutes as written. They will be archived and posted via the AK PTSO website.
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Treasurer's Report

- Tori reports some continued Capital Campaign activity and an excellent donation via Harris Teeter program.
- Expenses this month included teacher and educational support-Teacher Appreciation Week activities were successful.
- Capital Campaign goal not met but expenses also less due to pandemic conditions. Tori expects both to offset and still allow a carryover of ~\$15,000 for use next year.
- Current year scholarships yet to be distributed directly to schools but have been considered in the estimate for surplus/carryover.
- Per Mrs. Brooks, her school budget will allow the funding of the faculty end-of-year luncheon so this will not be an expense incurred by PTSO this year.

- Presentation of the AKPTSO Budget for 2021-2022 by Tori Collins, AK PTSO Treasurer.

Screen shared for all meeting participants to view proposed budget. The document was also provided via email prior to meeting.

Discussion questions/clarifications:

Line item for shredding/ this is a service for the main office & school funded by the PTSO. Backpack expenses/food support going home with students as needed.

--Motion to Approve raised by Suzanne Bereis.

--Motion to second Approval made by Karla Stovall.

--All in favor via voice vote to approve Budget 2021-2022 as presented. None opposed when given the floor.

-- Motion to Approve the 2021-2022 AKPTSO Budget carried.

Principal's Report

- Mrs. Brooks shared her thanks to the PTSO membership for the Teacher Appreciation Week events. A special thank-you to Angel Canafax for her coordination on short notice!
- Three staff retirements this year. Historically, rocking chairs used as a gift to the honorees. Thank you to the PTSO for helping to fund Adirondack Chairs for this year's retirees, something Mrs. Brooks hopes to make an AK tradition. Three ready for pick up as of this meeting.
- Addressed the concerns raised by parents about limited celebratory events for Seniors this year. Mrs. Brooks reminds us that her own son went without the fanfare last year and that she understands the frustrations and loss. CMS did not permit proms of any kind; any proms that occurred were parent driven and caused many ugly comments from families as well as some hurt feelings as invitees were often limited. Events that required a lot of work to gain approval include the Senior movie night and the Dodgeball tournament (including the faculty team that will face the winners) but the AK administration has continued to fight for recognition events for the class.
- Final item from Mrs. Brooks was her request for funding for a theme related event for the back-to-school faculty luncheon. More details to follow as it will be a surprise for staff.
- *Open Discussion with Mrs. Brooks:*

*-Mrs. Brooks received feedback from a meeting attendee that some other parents have expressed concern about a lack of communication from Mrs. Brooks to parents and a lack of opportunities to engage in discussion with her.

-Follow up discussion included the request giving grace/recognize the difficulties of the year; also noted Mrs. Brooks' first year as the new AK Principal.

-Many actual opportunities such as the Principal's Zoom chat, PTSO meetings, The Equity Task Force remain sparsely attended this year. Most had 25 parents or less. PTSO membership encouraged to "ripple out" and try to reach as many parents as possible/encourage participation next year

*-Question regarding the losses in the Fine Arts Dept.:

- Mrs. Brooks confirms the unfortunate losses of excellent teachers specializing in Theater and Band, but expressed confidence that very strong and talented replacements have been identified.

Executive Board

President Angel Canafax provided details of 2021-2022 Executive Board roles and the names were presented for a vote by meeting facilitator, Tori Collins.

- Suzanne Bereis- President
- Jessica Collazo- President-Elect
- Tori Collins –Treasurer
- Laura Bowden- Assistant Treasurer
- Secretary - _____ (open)

--Heather McAfee raised motion to approve the installation of the 2021-2022 Board.

--Karla Stovall made second motion to approve.

--Voice vote resulted in all in favor, none were opposed when given the floor.

--The motion carried and the new Executive Board welcomed.

Tori expressed her gratitude to Angel Canafax for her service as President and for many other roles she has filled. The Secretary role discussed; term limited to two consecutive years so PTSO members potentially interested in the position encouraged to inquire.

Open positions discussed. Potential volunteers encouraged to express interest, inquire about details. Ms. Rachel Brand volunteered to serve as PTSO/Student Council Liaison

Committee Reports

SLT – (Laura B):

- In-person graduation ceremonies will take place, two separate times to allow for social distancing. Senior week activities discussed earlier.
- This committee has been diving in to the concerns regarding restrictions (COVID related) for fine arts extracurricular compared to athletics
- The English curriculum is changing; will begin with incoming 9th graders- Pre-AP program called SpringBoard
- This year's AK Seniors earned 3.4 million dollars in college scholarships
- Goal for in-person instruction this fall; and AK student will go before the CMS School Board re: the mask mandate

Student Council – (Ms. Brand)

- Student Council Commitment Day a success- all things future for our Seniors-Colleges and Universities but also Trade Schools/Career tracks; Military service plans
- 2021-2022 Executive Board for Student Council has been installed via Zoom. High number of applicants for a variety of positions

Miscellaneous /Open discussion

- Heather M. spoke and thanked the PTSO for supporting *Ballantyne Families Helping Neighbors in Need* organization. She recognized Karla Stovall as a parent champion for AK and Michelle Hu as a student champion; the Student Council has also been of great help. Over \$200,000 of grocery gift cards distributed to date.
- Suzanne B. proposed an increase in PTSO family membership dues from \$12 to \$15. The increase to attempt to offset recent losses in membership. Donations above \$75 to the Capital Campaign will automatically include an annual membership; this will be communicated clearly on Pay4School Stuff site to inform donors.

--Karla S. raised motion to approve the increase of PTSO Membership Dues for 2021-22 to \$15.

--Tracy E. made second motion to approve.

--Voice vote resulted in all in favor, none were opposed when given the floor.

--Motion carried.

Next Meeting- (See PTSO Website for upcoming school year dates)

Meeting adjourned at 1856.