

PTSO MINUTES

Ardrey Kell High School

November 10, 2020

Due to the ongoing pandemic restrictions regarding in-person gatherings in NC, this meeting was conducted virtually via Zoom.

Laura Bowden, PTSO Assistant Treasurer facilitated the meeting with PTSO President Angel Canafax present throughout. 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.

Other attendees included but may not be limited to (due to generic screen names and some partial attendance): Ms. Ritch, S. Dorsey, L. Richards, K. Stovall, R. Brand, S. Dumas, J. Kaplan, L. Fletcher, S. Bereis, A. Archdeacon, J. Gyoerkoe, S. Hepworth, J. Ramirez, J. Murphy, T. Edmunds

Treasurer's Report

Report provided in advance by Tori C. (PTSO Treasurer) and presented by Laura B.

- Continued to receive Capital Campaign contributions via Pay4Schools and Corporate Matching
- Minimal expenses this month – just expenses to support school operations
- Student Council used funds for Freshman Welcome bags
- Submitted 990EZ for last fiscal year on 11/1
- Submitted Sales Tax refund request to NCDOR for period 1/1/20-6/30/20.

Principal's Report

Ms. Ritch reported:

- Recent ConnectEd outreach related to exam schedule- also available via the AKHS website
- Requests for parking spots (second semester) due soon after this meeting- also check website
- The AKHS counselors/faculty and the AK Student Council are partnering with Ballantyne Families Helping Neighbors in Need to provide for AK students and staff in need this holiday season. Look for drive-by drop off opportunities and details of items/support needed. The Student Council assisting with the effort; discussion about possible grade level incentives for participation.
- The Student Council has also been working with faculty to film videos to prep students for what to expect when the buildings are open again.

Committee Reports

Fundraising: Jackie G (invited to present at this time due to time constraints)

- After the ConnectEd for fundraising, we saw a small increase in donations come in (\$700)
- Chris B. has been sending out the thank you receipt letters to donors. Letters have been sent to all those making a donation of \$100 or more. ~About 25 more letters to do for donors at \$50 and \$75 level. Targeting completion by the end of November.
- Currently collected on Pay4SchoolStuff \$12K – last year at this time \$20K
- Jackie continues to work on maximizing corporate matching gifts

President's Report

- Future Meetings – Next month to be conducted by email updates following discussion/Gov. Cooper's new restriction to 10 people in an inside venue
- AK Masks – Partnership with AK Athletic Booster Club – received a check for \$85

Committee Reports (continued)

Harris Teeter/Publix Committee: Rachel B, Julia M and Laura R.

- Recent ConnectEd/text messaging have been successful
- Currently have 532 accounts linked to support AKPTSO
- Working on other initiatives; Laura R. welcomed to the group as she volunteered to support the committee after an unexpected vacancy

Monthly PTSO Teacher Recognition: Angel C.

- Angel will see that all teacher names are placed in a raffle for a gift card prize this month

School Picture Day: Karla S.

- Karla reports that her committee is ready to proceed with school pictures once students are back in the building and it can be coordinated with staff
- Ms. Ritch announced a change in yearbook staff- Ms. Kelly Schueneman will now be the contact person and Ms. Ritch will ensure that she and Karla are in contact

SLT: Laura B.

- 3-4 meetings so far this school year
- Report that the SLT is involved in the SEL (social emotional learning) lessons related to the topic of diversity; the lessons may take different forms and encourage participation
- Ms. Brooks continues to address concerns at the administrative level.
- Discussion by SLT members about "Roses and Thorns" – examples of what is positive and working for the students and what remains a challenge, for example, the desire of kids to be engaged online but the persistent problem of technical hackers disrupting lessons

Website: Jen K.

- Ongoing updates
- Virtual practice information for college entrance exams forwarded by Ms. Sartwell this week- will be posted to PTSO website as well
- Discussed thermometer widget (tracking donations to PTSO)- should the goal be \$35,000 or \$50,000- can be set to either but the \$35k goal is through direct donations via the Capital Campaign, the total of \$50k includes other revenue streams such as Harris Teeter T.I.E., etc.

Student Council: Alden and Savannah

- Student reps report that the Senior Class is working on a hot chocolate drive-by activity
- The Junior Class had success with their candy/music drive-by event
- The Student Council is working on videos for the return to school (as previously mentioned) as well as relaxation videos
- The Student Council will be participating in the Salvation Army Coat drive- stay tuned for details
- Also working on Homeroom Spirit Week initiatives and facilitating the Freshman Class election

Miscellaneous /Open discussion

-Karla S. (also volunteers with Ballantyne Families Helping Neighbors in Need) –reports that there are still needs to be filled for the upcoming holiday months. For more information email: bfhelpingbf@gmail.com

-Several thank-you messages to Laura for facilitating this meeting

Next Meeting

The December PTSO meeting will be conducted via email updates and will be sent to all current members of the PTSO.