

# PTSO MINUTES

Ardrey Kell High School

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*November 18, 2019* / Meeting called to order by Chris Bucher at 6:05PM

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## In Attendance

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T. Edmunds, L. Bowden, J. Kaplan, C. Bucher, Q (S). Shen, M. Caplice, H. McAfee, S. Hepworth, S. Bereis, P. Price, J. Gyorkoe, Ms. Ritch, L. Hunt

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## Minutes

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The minutes from the last meeting, October 21, 2019. They had been previously posted in draft form via link on the PTSO website. Hard copies available to attendees. A motion to approve the minutes as written raised by Suzanne B.; second motion made by Jen K.

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## President's Report

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Chris B had the following to report:

- The PTSO had been asked by Mr. Switzer to create a recognition outlet for the teacher/coaches who regularly staff the parking lot/driveway areas for safety, particularly during the morning drop-off. This group includes 10 teachers and a quarterly gift card will be provided to each in appreciation of their efforts. The first distribution complete.
  - Fundraising is still in need of a Committee Chair. Please see Chris B. if interested. In the meantime, Jackie G. volunteered to monitor the corporate matching gifts and ensure that the AKPTSO does not lose out on those funds. She will begin this responsibility fully at the start of 2020 and a communication channel will be posted via the website indicating her as the contact. Suzanne H. and others willing to assist with the completion of acknowledgement letters to '19-'20 donors.
  - Discussion regarding the slowing of donations to the Capital Campaign/ideas for a final push and raising awareness. Ms. Ritch to look into repeating the cash campaign that occurred last year at the student level. Support for a ConnectEd announcement especially as families may wish to contribute prior to the tax year closing. Senior families may wish to donate so that students are eligible to apply for the annual PTSO scholarship funds. The scholarship detailed for those new to the PTSO.
  - The procedure for depositing checks reviewed. All checks to the PTSO **must** go through Laura Bowden to ensure proper accounting of those deposits.
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## Treasurer's Report

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Suzanne B. provided copies of the monthly income statement to attendees and had the following to report:

- Confirmed some slowing with the capital campaign as previously noted.
- The 2018 PTSO tax return has been filed; mailed on 11/9/19. Many thanks to volunteer Tori Collins who prepared the document. Attendees in agreement that a gift of gratitude is in order. Chris B. to follow up.

- The IRS has responded to the letter written regarding the 2017 penalties incurred due to late filing. 60 days is needed to determine future action.
- The three outstanding checks to CPCC have not yet been cashed. Chris B. to follow up with the college as per last report the funds had been credited to the accounts of the AK graduates.

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## Principal's Report

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Assistant Principal Bridget Ritch presented:

- AK Graduation will be held June 10, 2020 at 7pm. Bojangles Coliseum.
- Financial requests from AK Administration to the PTSO: Funding for the Coupon Savings books awarded to the Teachers of the Month; Paper products reimbursement for the upcoming Staff Thanksgiving lunch; a \$1,000 check to be deposited to the PTSO fund to be awarded later as a trade school scholarship. Also, gas card requests for 33 teachers that serve as mentors; Suzanne B to purchase and deliver to Ms. Ritch. Requests approved.
- The Security check conducted by the CMPD last week went smoothly. The process elaborated. Students passed through metal detectors and dogs used to check the belongings students brought to school. No weapons found but vapes found and consequences levied to students responsible. The communication from Mr. Switzer on that date was scripted by the CMPD.

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## Committee Reports

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### Communications (Megan C.)

- Still formulating plans for communicating positive news from the AK community
- Will work on the communication for the previously mentioned Capital Campaign push

### Website (Jen K.)

- Will circulate a list of previously identified wish list items for the website; to be placed on the agenda for next meeting with goal of continuing to improve the website content.

Hospitality-(no report this month but positive feedback shared re: the most recent event that supported the November staff meeting)

Harris Teeter/Publix- (no update this month. \*Those reading minutes encouraged to support the AKPTSO by ensuring their store accounts are up to date\*)

### Student Leadership Team (SLT)

- Heather M. spoke regarding the student survey that will be distributed to AK students during homeroom, early December. She reports that the SLT had reviewed the survey and specifically had taken suggestions from student members regarding the language of the survey.
- Health and Wellness Committees formed. "The First Day" film trailer viewed; discussions continue regarding the feasibility of offering at AK.

### Monthly Cakes (Sophia C.)

- Next to be delivered 11/20.

Winterfest/Springfest (no report this month but these community events explained to attendees by Ms. Ritch)

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## Other/Open Forum

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- Heather M. shared that the organized Olde Providence Group is in search of an AK representative to assist with advocacy. Group discussion regarding the 2017 Bond approval for the construction of a new HS in South Charlotte and the challenges in identifying the best parcel of land for the site. This new HS will serve to relieve the overcrowding at AK and other area high schools. Interested parties encouraged to contact Heather for more details.
- Heather M. also conveyed her gratitude for the support of the Thanksgiving Drive currently taking place at AK (as well as other area Ballantyne schools.) This giving project is to assist families in need of assistance with holiday meals. Deliveries of donations will continue this week. There was group discussion regarding how to help most effectively in the future and the possibility of a committee/parent representatives to assist in the coordination.

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## Monthly PTSO Teacher Recognition

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- Individual thank you cards to teachers collected from meeting attendees, previously distributed by Committee Chair Jackie G. They will be distributed to staff by Ms. Ritch in the morning.
- A card written to Mrs. Esser was chosen by lottery and she will receive an additional gift from the PTSO. Congratulations!

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## Next Meeting

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December 9, 2019- 6pm in the AK Media Center

Meeting adjourned at 7:01PM by Chris B.