

PTSO Meeting Notes

9/11/23

Call meeting to order 6:00 by Jessica

Attendees:

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This information can be found on the 23/24 Roster google file, tab dated 9.11.23, available to the PTSO Board.

Approval of minutes from May 2023 - pushing this to October because we didn't have them printed for people to review

President's Report

- Introduction of board
- Ice breaker
- Changes to Harris Teeter VIC program
 - we are concerned about how this will impact us after 12/31. Only Plus Members will be able to get the funding (\$3.5 to make up)
- Changes to CMS policy
 - We can not sell anything until 30 minutes after dismissal, so the pretzel fundraising is not going to be a thing this year (\$2k to make up)
- Push for membership (100% Board compliance by next meeting)
 - If half of the parents at AK paid the \$25 membership, we would exceed our goal. Asking for everyone in the room to help push this for us. Not making our original budget puts our scholarships at risk, need to socialize this out.
- Corporate matching push
 - There will be a social media post coming soon about matching. Any questions regarding this should be directed to Maryeli.

Treasurer's Report

- Membership Update - as of 8/31, we are 261% ahead of where we were last year.
- Sales Tax Refund - file 2x a year to get all taxes back since we are a 501C3.
- HT Includes a check from last year that came after 6.30
- Did we land on a date for the audit committee? (Shailish & Tori were not able to attend, Kristen to connect with them on this)

Fundraising Updates

- MOD Pizza Update - they are matching for us, date tbd

Social Media Update

- Reminder of do & don'ts for our pages

- entry requires proper answers to 2 simple questions
- We would like to applaud the parents who have been supportive of new and existing members to navigate through the new school year. We want to keep the positive outlook going throughout the year.
- High 5 Friday post - aiming for 2x a month where we ask people to highlight the things that they are happy with. Shout out our teachers, keep the page very positive and encouraging.
- We have instagram now

SGA Updates

Can they do an IG post for PTSO membership?

3 reps - Allison spoke

Seniors paint your spot this saturday, 10-12, 2-4

they need 2 ptso people for this saturday per shift to collect money

Jess suggested they pay ahead of time, Jess will review and get back to them

Mason - Homecoming, changing to A Night At Sea vs. Titanic, as there was some type of controversy

Picture day is during spirit week this year - on country day vs. country day, so we may have lots of cowboy hats. SGA will consider changing their themes, they have not yet gotten the days improved - Jamie says she will talk with some people to find a solution

Any other committee updates

Sterling Elementary request

We had an ex AK teacher reach out on behalf of his current school Sterling. The school does not have a PTA, he's asking local schools for support. He's reached out to CHMS, they suggested he look for a sister elementary school. Based on our current budget constraints, we also feel that this is a better option for him. We hate to say no, but we are already potentially needing to cut scholarships, we don't have the extra. Kristen to respond.

Principal's Report

3,627 students as of today. 100 more than projected.

We won't know for sure if we get staffed. There are not teachers available even if we do get the staffing.

Spanish is filled, there is still a vacancy. One math class had to be dissolved because after 3 months of a job posting there was 0 applications.

Senate Bill 49, the new bill is a state law, this has been taxing on the teachers to get it straightened out with parents. Please fill out the form if you have not. The section of the information session is not for general school questions, this is specific to the bill only.

Parent Square has gone out to all but 160 parents, but only a few hundred have registered. Let's push this on social media hard.

A good parent resource is Elizabeth Smith for Parent Square.

Tardy Plan - we have to enforce procedures and hold children accountable. We need to provide them the expectations so they can be successful. We now have 4 campus security personnel. They check bathrooms to check for kids vaping and skipping class. So with this process, when the door shut, there is an adult on every hallway that is giving out tardy passes, and that gets marked into powerschool. Teacher gets one and campus security gets the second one, they give it to the ISS person who records and reviews/enforces. This process makes sure we are equitable.

First day - 119 late first block. LY it was over 300.

Second block - 44

third block - 31

4th block - 20

Mr. Adair starting at 7:10 every day in the bus lot stamps all agendas with late bus so the child is not marked tardy.

The parent request was to make sure subs know about the late bus tardy process.

Ardrey Kell US News & World Report ranked us #10 in the state. If you combined the students in the schools 1-9, their enrollment doesn't even come close to this.

State Report Cards - 7 schools in CMS that were an A school, exceeded growth, and made 100% of their growth for all demographics - AK, Providence, Rae Farms, JMR, PSE, the rest are outside our area. 2,600 schools in NC that get a growth score.

We love our A ranking, but we love our growth more. It takes a kid where they come in at the start of the year and where they leave. This is the best indicator of a successful child.

a 0.0 is a "met growth", meaning all kids hit their expected state scores.

We had the 2nd highest in CMS, 14.65%.

Upcoming Events/Volunteer Needs

- Sept. 20: Early Release Day
- Sept. 25: No School - teacher workday
- Oct. 10: Picture Day - Grades 9 - 11
- Oct. 12: Knights Night Out - MOD Pizza
- Oct. 14: Homecoming Dance

Next Meeting date:

- Oct. 9: Breaking It Down w/Brooks with special guest Mike Miliote

General PTSO Membership Questions:

Q: Can we create a Teachers Favorites list to share out to the community

A: PTSO owes a response to this yet.

Q: Does the school still recognize Junior Marshals and Top Knights with the accompanying ceremonies? Last year, the AK website didn't mention the awards in the Student Recognition section, and the ceremonies weren't listed under Announcements. In previous years, these things were regularly posted on the site. Let me ask Jamie who runs and if we can get some more details on this. There is a request to be much more transparent on this.

A: Junior Marshalls are valid, based on GPA and class ranking Junior year. No more than 40 typically. This past year there were 25, because at spot 26 there were 40 kids tied for those spots.

If it's always been done, it's still being done.

One question came in regarding the new school and communication, I asked them to hold that question until October when we have Mr. Milioti plus Mrs. Brooks.

A thought: do a raffle/carowinds tickets, etc to encourage people to pay for the ptso membership

Q: clubs where info is being provided right after school that competes with time, how do they get the info?

A:P The student needs to find the info and then reach out to the teacher sponsoring the club

Q: How did we get chosen for the Patriotism bowl?

A: It's all about Coach Sprenger, he asked for it and kept on it. The organization has told us that we did it the best, attendance, organization, the excitement, etc. They were very complimentary of us.

Meeting adjourned 7:37pm