

AGENDA
March 12, 2019
York High School PTSA General Membership Meeting
York High School – Yorker Room

1. Called to Order at 7:00
Pledge of Allegiance

2. Approval of Minutes – February

3. Presentation by Drew McGuire
BOOK RELATED DISCUSSION:

- Drew manages the bookstore here at York, Beck's Bookstore (3rd party company that operates in the building). Contract is up in September, School is looking to a bid process to select the next book vendor. York sends out specs that they are looking for, and then vendors seek us out. York does not seek out the vendors, and last time it was between Becks and one other vendor. When considering a new vendor, York is looking for someone easy to work with, possibly an online store where books are shipped to the parent directly (though then we need to figure out the buy back situation). The bookstore also provides many other items for the students, like locks, goggles, prom tickets, gym uniforms, heart rate monitors, collecting field trip money, etc. Parents would like a better online store experience. This all needs to be considered when selecting new vendor.
- Currently 37 ebook only courses and 120 courses with no book. There are 13 books that are not coming back next year. It was asked what do we do with books that are no longer being used in future years at York...The short answer is Drew isn't sure at this point depending on the contract situation. In the past Becks has bought some, and of course parents can look in the secondary market. Department chair meetings regarding curriculum and classes are in march or April, and faculty should have decisions made after those meetings as to whether or not they are using a book, and ebook, or no book. If York is adding new books in the curriculum, there is a date with the board of education for approval, which is likely in April. Parents brought up the issue that there is a frenzy on Facebook in May to buy/sell books, but a lot of time the bookstore will say that book selection has not been made. Drew said if the spreadsheet is blank, that there is no book. It was suggested that every class without a book clearly states "no book" on the spreadsheet to cut down confusion.
- Drew said the school is trying to bring the cost of books down for families. Ebooks was a way to do that, but now ebooks are coming up in price. Many parents don't like that they can't be shared or resold. Drew explained that when you buy an ebook, the student gets an ecode which is good for one student. The reason they can't be sold back is because the code is only issued for 1 year. Parents indicated that some teachers don't then even use the ebook (or even book sometimes), which is frustrating and a waste of money. The question was raised inquiring if anyone is speaking with the parents of mainstream special ed students to see if they are okay with using ebooks? There is no parent group providing insight on this at the time, and it was suggested that there should be.
- Any student who gets reduced lunch gets financial assistance for books.
- The school is constantly evaluating curriculum to see if a textbook is necessary for the classes. Students are not required to buy books from the bookstore, they can buy them from other resources. If you purchase a book through Becks, you should be able to sell it back to them The deal for a minimum of 50% of the original purchase price (as long as the book is going to be used the following year). If a parent came to Drew with information showing less than this, Drew will help to have the situation rectified.
- Process for picking up books: they've tried a bunch of different models to lessen the congestion.
- Question: is there any way to include books in the registration fee, as some other schools have? York uses a college style book store, middle schools use a closet type bookstore. The district office isn't really in favor of doing a closet type bookstore – one reason is because there are 120 classes

with no books. How do you determine appropriate fee when some classes don't have books, when AP books are more expensive, do you add a fee for AP classes?, etc. Changing style of bookstore would have a lot of challenges to overcome. There are pros and cons and this option has been discussed.

PROM DISCUSSION:

- Prom info comes out tomorrow, Graduation info is coming out the week after break.
- Looking for prom chaperons. It has been suggested that underclass parents chaperone.
- Question presented: Prom day – there are sports events going on. Anyone who has a conflict should see Drew. Drew said this does happen every single year. Buses don't leave until 6:15. 20 buses last year. 4 for prom only, 16 for post prom. You must go to prom to be able to go to post prom. Prom is at Navy Pier. Next year is at MSI. Post Prom is on the Odyessy this year and next. There is always a waitlist for post prom – last year everyone on the list got to go.

MISCELLANEOUS DISCUSSION

- Last day of school hasn't been determined yet, this is determined by Board in April.
- AP testing is during graduation practice, etc. but everyone will get everything that they need.
- Thanks for all helping with Senior BBQ. \$1200-1400 goes to inflatables (Q asked by Natalie).
- Not doing Challenge Day
- Thank you for handing out pencils for testing day
- Winter Dance Update: Led by student council. 1st Dance in about 5 years. Needed 200 tickets to be sold to hold the dance, and the Friday before they only sold 50. Total sold were 140 tickets, then sold 50 tickets at the door. \$1698 in ticket sales and \$1700 in expense for \$2 loss. All the kids had a great time! Student band opened up the dance for 30 minutes. Looking to continue a winter dance in the future, format/theme not decided.

4. Treasurer's Report-

5. Principal's Report-

6. President's Report –

a. Approval of Bylaws

7. Committee Reports Committees

a. Membership –

b. ~~Teacher Conference -~~

c. Academic Boosters –

i. Life After York 2/28

ii. Selling back books

d. Newsletter –

e. Recording Secretary –

f. Post Prom – April 27

g. Teacher Appreciation – Proposed last day Friday 5/24 (before snow days)

i. (four snow days used)

~~h. Freshman Picnic-~~

i. Scholarship-

j. Testing Day- Challenge Day -

k. Senior Picnic – graduation - 5/19/19

8. Unfinished Business
9. New Business
10. Adjourn Meeting at 8:01.