

York High School PTSA General Membership Meeting
Minutes
September 14, 2020 7:00
via Zoom

I. Call to Order and Welcome: Meeting called to order at 7:04 PM; In attendance:

Dr. Shahe Bagdasarian, Beth Concannon, Lara Stavridis, Nicole Braun, Betsy Fahey, Diane Rosenthal, Christina Darquea, Kate Foley, Danielle Bauer, Jodi Pinkerton, Kimberlie Daly, Michelle Huber, Teri Ford, Kathy Garlow, Wendee Reedy, Deb O'Connor, Julie &/or Glenn Melvin, Christine Smith, Pansy Papa, Sharan Singh, Meda Bilder, Kristin Wilmot, Jennifer Rosenberg, Mimi Black, Paula Ciccarone, Casey Braun, Robin Sparacino, Christine Simons, Lisa Kloet, Chris Petersen

II. Principal's Report - Dr. Shahe Bagdasarian

- Appreciates opportunity to speak with parents, especially with all of the changed circumstances surrounding COVID, happy to provide updates for parents

- Some fall sports are underway, plus other teams are having non-contact, voluntary workouts; also, some activities and clubs have started up, so if your student is interested, go to York website as there are over 60 clubs, some of which are remote, some in person; this is especially important during COVID so that students can have some kind of contact/interaction with other students outside academics

- Return to School Plan Overview:

We are the largest public school in DuPage County with a plan to go back
Today IEP/EL students were in the building, about 320 students, ran through their schedules and were with teachers for the hybrid teaching model (plan started with these students requiring the most support)

Other students will start on following dates, following Green/White schedule (generally Green M/T and White TH/F)

9/21 – 9th grade

9/28 – 10th grade

10/5 – 11th and 12th grade (because this is a short week, Monday will be Green, Tuesday will be White and Wednesday is support day as usual)

When students are in classroom, teachers are teaching them and the remote students over Zoom simultaneously

- Support Wednesdays on the Remote/Hybrid School Schedule:

Structured by class period, with teachers requiring check-in by certain students, projects for students, etc.; don't want students to fall behind due to the new, unfamiliar learning environment this year

Includes: support for freshmen; individualized support for IEP/EL students, others requiring extra support; labs, hands-on activities; college planning; enrichment; and more

One parent asked whether Wednesday support was for all students or just those needing support, those whose teachers require check-in for some reason; Dr. Bagdasarian said there should be some kind of teacher-directed assignment or enrichment for ALL students that day, it should not just be a day off

Wednesdays are not set in stone; could change as year goes along, depending on feedback and needs, etc.; there should be neither new material introduced nor assessments on Wednesdays

Regarding Wednesday attendance markings:

If a teacher requests a student's attendance in order to provide support and the student does not check in, the student will be marked "U" for unexcused absence;

If a teacher requests a student's attendance for enrichment and the student does not check-in, the student will be marked "B" for blended;

If the student is not requested to check-in and does not check-in, the student will be marked "B" for blended;

If a student checks-in, whether requested or voluntary, the student will be marked "P" for present

- Biggest challenge is classroom staffing: there are very few teachers approved for remote teaching, though it is possible that a teacher who must quarantine due to exposure will teach from home on occasion (can't be in school but is able to teach); still would need a teacher or sub in the classroom with the students who are in attendance that day, but teacher could still teach the in-school students and the at-home students via Zoom; if can't get a sub, they have created some learning areas in the school where students can still do on-line learning if teacher is at home

- Additional comments: Note that we could pivot back to all-remote at any time depending on CDC guidelines, cases at York, etc.; also, curriculum should not change this year; teachers should not be re-teaching old material that has already been learned; not bringing all students back all at one time so it's easier for each group to learn the protocols to be followed at school; freshmen are not walking schedules prior to their first day, but they will be only full grade there their first week and will be walked through their day, will not mark kids tardy

- Dates to Note:

TH 9/17 Virtual Open House

W 10/7 Parent-Teacher Conferences – late afternoon/evening

TH 10/8 Parent-Teacher Conferences - No School

F 10/9 Institute Day – No School

M 10/12 Columbus Day – No School

W 10/14 SAT – No School for freshmen, sophomores or juniors who are not testing

- One parent asked whether the Open House presentations, seeing as they are being done on video to begin with, can be recorded so that parents can see all teacher

presentations for their children, even if they conflict with another child's class. If recorded they could watch later and so not have to choose between two or more kids' classes; Dr. Bagdasarian said he would look into this

III. Pledge of Allegiance

IV. Approval of May 11, 2020 Minutes

Lara Stavridis moved to approve the May 11, 2020 minutes as written; seconded; approved

V. Treasurer's Report - Lara Stavridis

1. Audit Report – audit completed by Mimi Black, Lara Stavridis and Kate Foley; the books were found to be correct; noted that we ended the year with more money than is typical due to no end-of-year events, especially prom

Nicole Braun moved to approve audit report; seconded; approved

2. Budget Presentation – proposed '20-'21 budget

- Other than membership and Fair Share donations, not budgeting for any additional event-specific donations at this time as don't know what events, if any, will occur this year (Michelle Huber, PTA Council President, noted that it's possible York PTSA could receive some post-prom donations, as other PTA's were told only that these donations weren't being requested this year, they were not told that they cannot make a donation (York PTSA still has the \$1400 donated by PTA Council last year because post-prom didn't happen so the money did not get spent))

- Beth Concannon noted that PTA Council Dues have gone up from \$60 to \$80 (Michelle Huber, PTA Council President, noted that the increase was implemented to help Council keep its budget balanced and still cover its operating costs and PTA Council line items such as Reflections, Summer Rec Open House, programming, etc., and so that all donations from the individual PTA's to PTA Council end up where they belong (Reach, SERG, Post-Prom, etc.))

- Open House Teacher Meals – currently \$250 budgeted, but after discussion, was proposed that we raise the budget to \$2000 to help accommodate the additional expense of doing individual meals of some sort (as opposed to typical buffet) and to avoid asking people to donate toward the meal this year

- With the two increases noted above, we will still carry forward approximately \$15,935

- Budget approved with the two increases noted above (PTA Council Dues to \$80 and Open House Teacher Meal to \$2000)

3. Financial Report

A few expenses have been incurred, such as insurance, Directory Spot subscription and Member Hub processing fees

VI. President's Report - Beth Concannon

1. PTA Council Meeting Update

Dr. Moyer discussed the return to school plan, similar to the info that Dr. Bagdasarian shared tonight, and PTA presidents had many questions for Dr. Moyer; he explained that during their PLC time, teachers have been focusing on personalized learning with an emphasis on feedback, rigor and engagement

2. York's School Board Liaison this year is Jim Collins

3. Update on vacant Chair positions – still have some open positions, please reach out if you're interested in helping

VII. Membership – Kate Foley, Diane Rosenthal, Wendee Reedy

Kate reporting: Pretty much all online sign up this year as we are unable to be present at school events such as Open House and Registration/Book Pick Up as in the past [Note: Nicole Braun, who also helps with Membership, has received two mailed hard-copy forms, will get checks to Lara]; about 420 members so far; directory is online ONLY this year, as logistically there is no way to get directories to people as we will not be at events; once we get the info from York administration we will upload it to Directory Spot and it will replace the '19-'20 directory (if you want last year's directory, you can download/print); we will send out an email reminding people to join PTSA or they will lose Directory Spot access

VIII. Chair Reports

1. Newsletter - Danielle Bauer

Has put together a calendar with dates and will send out email asking for newsletter submissions each month

2. Webmaster - Casey Braun

let her know if you need something posted to York PTSA website

3. Academic Committee - Mimi Black

Had a great Q&A with Shahe on 9/4; not sure which AC events will occur this year, but one thing the committee did create is a lone page summary of parent organizations affiliated with York, and includes QR cods that link to each organization's website on the York website

Looking for help with some events, especially Life After York – Jenn Toffler is looking for someone to co-chair as she would like to step back from this role next year

4. Freshmen Picnic/Orientation - Val Curry – not in attendance

Beth Concannon reporting: thank you to Val for stepping up to help with this event, as we weren't even sure what it would look like until the last minute

5. Administrator/Admin Assistants Appreciation Lunch - Beth Concannon

Beth ordered lunch for these folks during what has likely been a very chaotic start to the school year

6. Open House Teacher Dinner - Wendee Reedy/Nicole Braun/Beth Concannon
Will discuss over next day or two and put something together for teachers, likely something on order of individual sandwiches, drinks, chips

8. Other Chair Updates – Beth Concannon
-Jodi Pinkerton chairing Duke Decision Day
-Jen Baxa chairing both NHS and World Language Honor Society hospitality

IX. Unfinished Business – none

X. New Business

a. Face Masks for Student Body Proposal - Beth Concannon

Beth has been approached by people asking whether PTSA might get York masks for the student body; Drew McGuire indicated that they cost \$2.80 each at Angel Fancy on Spring (York bought 600 for faculty/staff); some questioned whether students even would want them or wear them, so should get students involved in any discussion about spending this kind of money (as there are 2850 students, this would not be a cheap undertaking); after discussion, was decided we will do more looking into the issue: Wendee Reedy will ask her son who is on student council to bring it to SC for discussion/feedback; Beth will reach out to Drew to see if there are any other student groups that we could engage in the discussion; and Lisa Kloet is going to check with her guy to see whether it's possible to get a lower price than \$2.80; we will follow up at next meeting

Motion by Kate Foley to adjourn; seconded; meeting adjourned at 8:22.

Next meeting: October 19, 2020