

York High School PTSA Meeting
October 12, 2021
7:00 p.m.
Minutes

1. Call to Order & Welcome

Meeting called to order at 7:01 p.m. Beth welcomed everyone. In attendance: Beth Concannon, Dr. Shahe Bagdasarian, Katerina Hickey, Lara Stavridis, Hilary Simonds, Kristin Whitehurst, Mimi Black, Christine Simonis, Tracey Bianchi, Wendy Reedy, and Jen Baxa.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Introductions

4. Principal's Report – Dr. Shahe Bagdasarian

- a. Parent Teacher conferences went well. More people chose in person but felt it was good to have a choice. He thanked PTSA for the meals provided.
- b. Homecoming was a big success with about 2,300 kids participating including 100-150 guests.
- c. A newsletter is forthcoming regarding working with a not for profit to help identify underrepresented students getting into AP classes to ensure equal opportunities for all.
- d. 8th grade family night will be held on November 2.

5. Approval of Minutes

Lara Stavridis made a motion to approve the September minutes; seconded; approved

6. Treasurer's Report – Lara Stavridis

- We have received about \$23,500 in membership, fair share and donations. We are about \$11,000 under budget and will continue to monitor.
- Back to school bash donations were higher than what we needed and there was \$3,360 donated for PT conferences.
- Expenses included back to school bash, annual donations to various groups, and directory spot subscription.
- We have just under \$28,000 in the bank.

7. President's Report – Beth Concannon

- A. PTA Council Meeting included a presentation by Dr. Campbell on the chain of command for communications to help explain where to go for help on various topics. It will be on the website. The district is looking into questions on translations of communications. If anyone has questions for the Superintendent or Board member, please email Beth prior to the next meeting which is on November 2nd.

B. Winter Dance is currently on the calendar for now, but it has not been well attended in the past. They are looking to the students to share ideas about what they'd like. NHS induction will be moving to the auditorium. As such, a hospitality person is not needed since the space doesn't work well for refreshments. This led to a discussion around possibly revamping several committee positions by creating one position (or two co-chairs) that oversees all Hospitality events; that leader would then recruit people to help with the various events.

C. Vacant Chair Positions –

- a. National Tech Honor Society: Spring- order/organize food/drinks for event
- b. EL Celebration: Spring- order/organize food/drinks for event
- c. Post Prom Volunteer Coordinator: April 2022 - fill the 10-to-12-person volunteer spots for the post prom event
- d. Academic Awards: End of April/Beginning of May - order/organize food/drinks for event
- e. Athletic Awards Night: End of April/Beginning of May - order/organize food/drinks for event
- f. Senior Picnic: May 20, 2022 - order/organize food and seek donations and prizes for raffle, fill volunteer needs for event
- g. End of Year Teacher Breakfast: May 27, 2022 - Order organize pancake mix/bacon/sausage for Admin to cook at event. Order/organize remaining food and drinks for breakfast
- h. Audit Committee 21/22 - Summer 2022

Positions will continue to be posted and Wendee will review to see if any can be combined.

8. Vice Presidents of Membership Report – Wendee Reedy, Julie Vacko, Tracy Bianchi; Tracy reported that there are 644 members with almost \$24,000 in to date. There are 2,000 families at York. Committee will continue to work on recruiting members.

9. Chair Reports

- A. Newsletter – Amanda Tolman was unable to attend so Beth reported that we are trying to be succinct and not send too many emails so please plan ahead and get information into Amanda. Deadline for next newsletter is Noon on 11/1/21.
- B. Co-Website Chairs – Casey Braun and Kate Faulk – no report
- C. Connections – Mimi Black reported that they were unable to record the last meeting, but the next meeting will be held on 10/15/21 and the speaker will be Dr. Adam Roubitchek.
- D. Debrief for Young Hearts for Life – Courtnae Trautman – Beth read the following report from Courtnae. Thank you to the 139 parent volunteers who participated in the Young Hearts for Life screening at York on Thursday, September 30th. We are grateful for the screening of 1,181 students, which represents 43% of the York student body. Among those 1,181 were 201 walk-ins day of and want to thank the

York Athletic team, led by Mary Wagner, who facilitated obtaining consent day of for those 201 students. Once again, this incredibly important event held every other year at York, offered our students the opportunity of an insight into a potential cardiac situation that may go undiagnosed until it is too late. At York on Thursday, there were five...think about that number please...five students that were identified with abnormal ECGs and were referred for cardiac follow ups. Once again, we are so grateful for all the volunteers that made this day happen, grateful for the York administration and faculty that were instrumental day of and we look forward to bringing this incredibly important program back to York in 2 years.

- E. Debrief for Parent/Teacher Conferences Teacher Dinner/Breakfast – Christine Simonis reported that we received \$3,360 in donations. So, we served donuts for breakfast and had them in each department room rather than just one central location. Jimmy Johns was served for lunch and grilled chicken and hot dogs were served for dinner. Volunteer positions were filled within 45 minutes! All went well.
- F. Bylaws – Hilary Simonds reported that the bylaws should be updated every two years. It is an opportunity for change. There was a discussion around what possible changes could be made including having a VP of Events with committee heads and committees supporting the VP. Recommended changes would go first to the IL PTA then be presented to the general membership with a vote then coming in January or February. Please share any thoughts on this topic with Hilary.
- G. 8th Grade Academic Night – Kristen Whitehurst reported the event will be held on November 2. This will be a new format focused only on the academic piece since students will start picking schedules earlier than in the past and staffing will be built from there. All families will be split into two groups (two timeframes) and there will be a focus on presenting information on electives. There will also be a virtual option for those who can't attend. Kristen is facilitating a resource room with seasoned parents on hand to answer questions. She is looking for volunteers. The more student-centered Activity Night event that focuses on extracurriculars will be held on April 11, 2022. We'll need to move our April meeting to 4/12. Lastly, there will be no more shadowing of York students for parochial students.
- H. December Connections meeting will be cancelled. 8th grade coffee used to be held at this meeting, but it was moved up to 11/12. April PTSA moved to 4/12. There is scholarship fundraiser on 10/21 from 4-8 at McDonalds.

10. Adjournment

Mimi motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 and Katarina seconded.

Next PTSA meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 8, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.