

York High School PTSA

Meeting Minutes for February 7, 2022

1. Call to Order and Welcome

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 by Beth Concannon. In attendance: Lara Stavridis, Casey Braun, Michelle Stubblefield, Mimi Black, Shahe Bagdasarian, Katerina Hickey, Wendee Reedy, Patti Berner, Renee Pas, Beth Concannon and Jen Baxa.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Principal's Report - Dr. Shahe Bagdasarian

- New mask guidelines enacted as of today's school day. Students are encouraged to wear masks but not required. There appeared to be about a 50/50 split between those who wore masks and those who didn't. Everything went smoothly at York. Faculty and administration are making a big push to show respect for each other. Some teachers wore masks, and some didn't. The new guidelines did not affect the attendance rate of the teachers. Some parents reported that their kids felt tension between the masked and unmasked.
- There has been some restructuring of the administration. There are fewer layers and the staff that oversee the departments are now full-time administrators with no teaching responsibilities. Some outside hires were made, and some internal people took on new roles.
- Prom and post prom is a "go". Prom will be held at the Museum of Science and Industry and after prom will be on the boat. As of now, the City has given an exemption for vaccination requirement. At this point, everyone will need to wear masks. And the volunteers will need to be vaccinated.
- Shahe discussed the student passing rates that were highlighted in the recent Principal's report. We celebrate these things because they affect overall school rankings in the state and raise our status as a school. York is taking a progressive approach. He explained the rationale of removing some final exams and allowing students to retake tests. A teacher's job is to help students succeed and prepare them for future learning: more supportive less punitive. If the students haven't mastered a topic they need to go back and spend time relearning it and then will get assessed again. Ideally, there are formative assessments that gauge the level of kids learning (homework and quizzes) along the way. All formatives should be aligned to the summative. Administration is working with teachers to define expectations and train them. Some of the positives are that students have to be mature about advocating for themselves, coordinating the retake, the studying etc. It was suggested that this topic be covered at a future Connections meeting with Shahe presenting as it seems to be a hot topic among parents.

4. Approval of January 13, 2022, Minutes

Lara made a motion to approve the minutes and Wendee offered the second.

5. Treasurer's Report - Lara Stavridis

- Lara has been in contact with a potential new treasurer.
- Income in from 3 additional memberships this month
- There was a discussion around eliminating expenses. Hospitality line items will be removed since food is not allowed at this time. The Winter Dance was cancelled that will save \$2000. We will move \$300 from Connections to Life After York event.
- Member Hub fees will be a discussion for next year. We pay about 4.5% fees for each new member. For Member Hub you either charge the member the fee or you don't. Giving the member a choice is not an option. This year PTSA paid about \$1,500 to date in fees.
- Senior Yard signs discussion - Drew is looking for our assistance to pay for the signs this year. So, PTSA plans to keep the \$3,885 in the budget and research options to get the price down: either negotiate with current vendor or look at another vendor. Depending on budget in future years, PTSA will decide what amount to contribute.
- We will be receiving money towards post prom from PTA Council so that can be added to the budget.
- Our Registered Agent is usually the principal and ours has not been updated since Dr. Bagdasarian started. There is a \$5 fee to do so. Wendee made a motion to change the registered agent to Shahe Bagdasarian and Patti Bernev offered second. All in favor.
- Jen Baxa made a motion to adjust the budget to remove \$3,590 as noted above, add in \$3,885 for yards signs and move \$300 from Connections to Life after York event. Katerina Hickey offered second.

6. President's Report - Beth Concannon

- a. Post Prom Volunteers – Only a few volunteers are needed, and they must be vaccinated.

7. Vice Presidents of Membership Report - Wendee Reedy, Julie Vacko, Tracey Bianchi

- a. We currently have 725 members; Will be sending an email to senior parent to push for membership and monetary donations for signs.
- b. In the proposed budget, there was \$21,000 for Membership and \$15,000 in Fair Share. We currently have \$14,625 in Membership and \$13,390 in Fair Share. For reference, pre-Covid there was \$38,000 (\$26K in Membership and \$12K in Fair Share) for 2018/19 school year.
- c. Four \$15,000 parking spots were sold at the D205 Foundation Gala. Wendee will look into some possibilities for raffling/auctioning the parking spot we were given for the 2022/23 school year.

8. Chair Reports

a. Co-Website Chairs - Casey Braun and Kate Faulk

- Garden Club is looking for more publicity for their scholarship. Wendee will send to Casey and Amanda to include on the website and in the newsletter.

b. Connections - Mimi Black

- Kevin Paduska was January presenter and during Q&A he answered people's questions very well. It was a great opportunity to see the value of Connections.
- Based on the discussion at this meeting, Shahe Bagdasarian will present in March about formative and summative assessments.
- Drew Maguire will present in April.
- Amy Thompson will present in May.
- Our next PTSA Connections meeting is Friday, February 11, 2022, on Zoom at 8:30 a.m.

12. Adjourn – meeting adjourned at 8:28 p.m.