

FCAHS PTO Meeting Minutes

September 6, 2023 @ 7:00pm

High School Project Center

Present: Kate Vavpetic, Tony Cardinali, Susie Littwin, Erin Butkovic, Dr. McGee, and parents (Jennifer, Ashe, Kristin, Wendy, Geena, Chris)

President's Welcome, Kate Vavpetic

Introduction of Officers, Kate Vavpetic

Vice President, Tony Cardinali

Treasurer, Susie Littwin

Secretary, OPEN

Review of 2023-24 Event Calendar, Kate Vavpetic

Two corrections: the bread donations will come in on Monday 11/20 and distributed on Tuesday 11/21. The Project Center has been booked for this event. We will be doing a bus driver appreciation day as well in the spring. Date is TBD.

Treasurer Report, Susie Littwin

Susie presented the July treasurer's report and the budget for the upcoming year. A motion was made by Tony and seconded by John McGee to approve the budget. Majority of expenses are on appreciation and hospitality for faculty, admin and student body, however, the PTO has done teacher grants and help with student needs and building enhancement in the past. Everyone is reminded that many companies do matching gifts (Benevity was mentioned). The PTO has a paypal account for donations and that will be displayed at Open House. Budget was approved.

Principal's Report, Dr. John McGee

Dr. McGee shared information about the change in student government to the Fox Leadership Council. Erin shared more about that new organization. Students were given information in May about this change-including our 9th grades as info was shared at DMS.

Dr. Lentz will be retiring at the end of October. A new program principal joined the team—Dr. Michelle Young.

We have four new faculty members this year: Matt Sasson (English), Rachael Meder (social studies), Alexander Poellnitz (biology), and Abigail Wentling Educational Support/Life Skills)

Our class of 2027 orientation program, RING, was a huge success! Nearly 90% of all students participated. Following the annual new parent night that evening, a copy of that presentation was emailed to all Class of 2027 parents and is on our website.

We are excited about the new collaboration with Seton Hill in our College in HS program, in addition to existing courses with Pitt. Conversations are happening with other colleges in the area to continue to expand the program. More details are forthcoming when we have them.

Fall Open House is next Thursday. Emails have been sent with details as well as a letter home. We do have pre-sessions parents can attend as well beginning at 6pm. The open house program is 7pm.

In an attempt to minimize conflicts, especially with sports, the National Honor Society induction will happen from 5-6pm on Thursday 9/14, prior to the pre-sessions for Open house. We are piloting this prior to open house to see if it helps with allowing students and parents to attend.

Over the summer, we have updated our safety procedures and started to color code our hallways. New room number signs are provided about each door. Each hallway has a color—some upper/lower. You will see this more at Open House!

We continue to have evacuation drills monthly and this year we will be doing a full school on site evaluation to our stadium. Safety continues to be a high priority for all of us.

Activities Report, Erin Butkovic

Homecoming is the biggest September event. It will be similar to last year.

Upcoming events: Club Fair next week, a school-wide health and wellness assembly on Sept. 19, and Lifetouch School photos on Sept. 20.

Erin will ensure the PTO information is updated on the district website, including documents from 22-23 school year. Communication from the school is regular and thorough, via eblasts and Schoology posts. Questions, always email ask@fcahs.org rather than wonder or ask the rumor mill. Suggestion to sign up via parent account in Schoology to receive a daily digest from Schoology of all things about your student to help communication. There will be a pre-session prior to Open House about technology.

Erin and Kate will get a sign up genius together for our new 9th grade welcome breakfast event on Friday 10/6 during a super QRT. It will be similar to our senior breakfast but maybe not as elaborate. We will ask the freshmen parents for donations and help setting up /serving. More details to come on this new event!

Other Business, Kate Vavpetic

Meeting adjourned at 8:15pm

FCAHS PTO Officers

President-Kate Vavpetic

Vice President-Tony Cardinali

Treasurer- Susie Littwin

Secretary- OPEN POSITION

2023-24 FCAHS PTO Meetings

Th. Oct. 12, 1:00pm

Wed. Nov. 8, 9:30am

Wed. Jan 10, 1:00pm

Tu. Feb. 6, 9:30am

Th. Mar. 7, 1:00pm

Tu. Apr. 9, 9:30am

Wed. May 15, 7:00pm, Election of New Officers