

# **FCAHS PTO Meeting Minutes**

**November 8, 2023 @ 9:30am**

## **High School Project Center**

Present: Kate Vavpetic, Tony Cardinali, JoEllen Thomas, Gina Boleng, Erin Butkovic, Jen Senn, Windy Neff, Dr. Hower

Absent: Susie Littwin

### **President's Welcome, Kate Vavpetic**

Welcome to JoEllen Thomas. She is interested in becoming Secretary for the PTO.

### **Treasurer Report, Susie Littwin**

See the report—we did get a donut discount!

### **Principal's Report, Mike Hower**

Dr. Lentz has officially retired as of 10/27/23 and Dr. Young is now our program principal—she did come to the last PTO meeting for us to meet her.

The year started out well. We have 4 new teachers this year. We will have 6 retired teachers at the end of the year. Our school nurse recently took another nursing job. We have recommended a candidate for a new school nurse to start soon.

Huge thanks to the 2027 breakfast. It was a great idea and it was a lovely new tradition.

On Monday we had our evacuation drill to the stadium and it went really well. We are now debriefing about the procedures.

Graduation requirements are being discussed at the school board level. Dr. Hower was at the meeting this past Monday—it is on You Tube (link on district website under school board) to share the current requirements. The conversation will be continuing and we will wait to see if the board is going to make changes to the current requirements. The local requirement for proficiency was added when act 158. That is not true. We have had the local requirement since 2008-2009 when PSSAs were required. We just stayed the course with our local requirement when the keystones came to be. FC just hasn't changed over the years. The only thing that was added was all students in junior year taking Career and College Essentials. Any changes are ultimately a school board decision—it is not a building one. We just give recommendations. Another possible change in the PA state house introduced person finance for all students to have exposure in. We do have a personal finance course but it is more than what the state is considering. So we are monitoring this if the state requires it is 2025.

Keystone/Final exam schedule will be published very soon.

### **Activities Report, Erin Butkovic**

Powderpuff is coming up next week. It's a flag football game with the juniors vs the seniors. The class of 2026 will use this as their major class fundraiser.

Telethon is a district-wide charity event for all of December. We are supporting Backpack for Hunger this year (and next). At the HS, we have a student-led committee that is planning all kinds of fun. A meeting will be held with all club leaders about the telethon on 11/16. Any student is encouraged to have a fundraiser and participate in the telethon experience. On 12/22, we will have a day-long celebration with lots of fun activities for all throughout the day—like a dodgeball tournament!

Wellness Day will happen on Jan 4th before finals/keystone exams begin. Our Wellness council will be planning lots of events.

### **Other Business, Kate Vavpetic**

Gratitude Breads—11/20 and 11/21. A signup genius will go out to ask parents for donations and help setting up the breads. New idea—we are going to add in a wrapping paper station! We will ask parents to donate wrapping paper for those staff to take if wanted. We will send out the sign up.

Question from group: Why do kids at FC have to take PE if they are in varsity sports? PA law states that we do need a PE program. Some districts interpret it differently. Here we feel that taking PE is about healthy living and not all are varsity athletes. We look at lifelong fitness and health. It is a requirement at the 9/10 grades but 11/12 it is an elective to take a half credit. One PE class is required at 11/12 grades. We also have a variety of PE electives that help cover all students' interests, like lifeguarding, adventure sports, personal fitness, etc.

Next meeting will be in January, on Wednesday, January 10 at 1:00pm. Happy holidays!