

CATA Cougar Council PTSO Board Meeting Minutes

January 10, 2022

Board members in attendance: Principal Merritt, Deb, Megan, Jennifer, Jaden, Natasha, Antoinette, Dee and Karen (via Zoom) Kayleigh attended our General PTSO meeting and expressed interest in participation. Megan thanked her for her interest and attendance.

The committee signed a card in appreciation of a \$1000 gift.

It was noted that Zaxby's Spirit Night fundraiser had an approximate gain of \$450.

At 4:33pm, Megan called the meeting to order.

The December PTSO Board Meeting minutes are available via email and the website. Jennifer motioned for their approval; Dee seconded. All approved.

Looking at the calendar: The Board has the next meeting scheduled for February 7, 2022, with a start time of 5:30pm to increase participation for working parents.

On February 9, 2022, confirmed to be an early release day, the Senior Committee presents a Senior Bowling Event for all seniors @ Fox's. *Senior Pass holders* bowl for FREE. Per Jenn, no additional chaperones needed.

A February hospitality "Share the Love" event is on the calendar to recognize the hard work and dedication for the Front Office Staff.

Megan acknowledged Principal Merritt for the Principal's Report.

Principal Merritt recognized this was the final week of the Fall Semester, moving into Final Exam Week.

Due to increased numbers of COVID positive cases among staff and students, to promote social distancing, and due to limited proctors available, the UCPS High School Principals decided to limit student attendance at schools for Final Exam Week. Only those students with North Carolina State issued exams will attend their home school to complete exams. Students taking Teacher Issued Exams will remain at home.

With great enthusiasm, Principal Merritt announced the new Speaker System purchase.

Principal Merritt announced CATA will be the host school for the UCPS Superintendent's Student Council on January 26, 2022.

Jennifer presented the Treasurer's Report. All of these figures were verbally reported but are available upon request in a written version. Jennifer verbalized that the Kendra Scott fundraiser in November brought \$75.92.

The benches purchased from *Schools In* via using Invest in Excellence funds should arrive shortly. She noted that items should be purchased via the phone rather than remotely due to more positive customer service engagement, and better purchasing power.

“Income is good” per Jennifer. Megan gave a “Whoo” in celebration. There should be a carryover to next year.

Senior Committee presented that there were some additional funds due to low turnout for the Alice Jules event last week. A discussion occurred of the timing of events to increase attendance at events, Jaden presented input for the student population to encourage activities immediately after school due to the distance driven by students from various points throughout the county.

Since Ms. Cole is the team lead of the Counseling department, the PTSO Board plans to question any needs students may need to enhance their Student Life Experience. In years past, the committee buys Prom tickets for students who wish to attend.

Discussion occurred of resuming a Valentine’s Day fundraiser and Muffins with Merritt. No final decisions were made at this time.

Senior Scholarships remain high on the priority list of the Board. In addition, a Staff Appreciation event for February would be a positive gesture from the Board. However, it is highly unlikely it could be a parent provided potluck event due to the recent COVID resurgence.

Dee mentioned possible events including a catered event for February. Depending on COVID numbers, a pizza event for March. April may include cake pops for faculty and staff. In addition, she mentioned using the Italian Ice Truck. Discussion occurred to transfer funding from the General to the Hospitality Committee. Jennifer noted funding could be increased by \$600, Megan motioned for the advance, it was seconded, and all were in favor.

Our new attendee noted that at other UCPS schools utilizing a PTSO Board Treasurer, they utilize a forensic accountant and maintain possession of a personal computer solely for the purpose of finances. Jennifer replied that each year an independent audit occurs to verify all financial activities.

From the Student Committee, Jaden states in her opinion, turnout was low at senior events due to sports participation. The Early Release Day on February 9, 2022, should have high attendance. Let it be known, Principal Merritt sent an email within a few days of the Board Meeting verifying no sporting events are on the calendar for the date of the Senior Bowling Event.

New Business- Discussion occurred on ways to recognize staff by parents including gift cards, a catered breakfast, a Super Bowl event, and Valentine’s Day. No final decisions made at this time.

Megan adjourned the meeting at 5:29pm.