

During the Open House, a General PTSO Meeting was held in Room 401 (The Fishbowl) at CATA.

At 6:31pm, Megan Huffman called the meeting to order.

She welcomed all participants to the meeting and gave a brief introduction of current leadership on the board. She explained that there is a General Meeting in the Fall and Spring. Board Meetings are open to the public and occur the first Monday of the month at 430pm, except for the months of September and January. Due to school holidays, these meetings occur on the second Monday. The board meetings will be held at the school, but a virtual option is available upon request.

Currently, the Invest in Excellence (IIE) fund is over \$7500.

Principal Merritt presented her speech beginning at 6:34pm.

She thanked the parents and students for attending Open House and the General PTSO meeting.

She stated that despite uncertainties for this year, the school year will be a great one. She opened her office door and stated, "if there is anything you need, she is a phone call away, and please let her know". She made participants aware the Dr. Josh Wall is the principal for the Junior and Senior Classes and assists with student activities. Dr. Thomas Stewart is the principal for the Freshman and Sophomore classes. She encouraged all to read the Cougar Chronicle for weekly updates when it arrives on Thursday evenings.

Megan explained the purpose of the IIE fund. It provides for projects for the greater good of all students including photo wraps at the fishbowl, new banners outside of the school. Megan reminded all to link their Harris Teeter, Publix and Amazon Smile accounts as an easy way to bring funds to the PTSO. At the grocery stores, money is provided with a customer buying store brand products.

Prior to the meeting starting, participants received a printed version of the current budget. Jennifer presented it for approval. Antoinette motioned for approval; Kayley seconded this motion. At 6:40pm, all 15 participants were in favor of the budget passing.

Megan educated the participants that Teacher/ Staff Appreciation is a top priority of the PTSO. Happy staff leads to happy students. However, the Hospitality Committee plans to continue with individualized wrapped treats to maintain COVID safety.

The plan is to provide treats to staff every third Thursday.

Megan encouraged all participants to become more involved in PTSO, reminding them the next General Board Meeting will be Monday, September 13, and 4:30pm. In addition, you can view the <http://www.cataptso.org> or view the social media sites on Facebook and Instagram. You may also contact the PTSO at [catacougarcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:catacougarcouncil@gmail.com)

Megan thanked all for participating, including Principal Merritt.

Megan asked if there were any questions, and one came from the floor of how the Student Representative was selected. Megan said it was a junior or a senior. There was a nomination of a student, Jade Robinson. A Second student, Jade Kempf, requested her name be presented as well. Both of their email addresses were emailed following the meeting last week and are available upon request.

Megan thanked participants for filling out the parent membership and interest forms. She encouraged parents to be patient as their forms were processed by committee members.

Megan adjourned the meeting at 6:49pm.