

PRHS PTO Minutes 9/15/25 9:30am

Welcome:

2025-26 Officers: President - Rebecca Hoffman, Vice-President - Julie Wojcik, Treasurer - Louise Cashman, Secretary - Jennifer Beuse, Social Media - Karen Baker,

Attendance: Dr. Hernandez, principal, Dr. Barlak, vice-principal A-F, Officer Brad, Jennifer Beuse, Lorena Lane, Julie Wojcik, Ashley Fortier, Meredith Sweet, Maria Ramirez, Kate Griffin, Leslie Miller, Karen Baker, Louise Cashman, Ms. Kuchnicki, P-Z, Sarah Marr, Mr. Cawley G-O.

Principals' Report

- great start to year, couple minor tech issues
- Back to school assemblies complete

Guest speakers:

Dr. Hernandez, Principal & Officer Brad: Safety & school culture

- 3 things that matter most - Students meeting full potential, College/Career/Community Readiness, Positive Relationships
- Vision Statement speaks to school culture & Safety. Deeply believe in this! We all have different needs to meet potential. Achievement & Growth... important to focus on the growth so they are always improving and work on relationships. Hope they can pursue a path they've explored through HS electives.
- School Counseling Team... Transition Counselor - Mrs. Secen. Mrs. Welshonce highlighted as state President for PASAP and is social worker here (Student Assistance Program) Mrs. Whalen Director of College
- PR CCARES - (Dr. H saying, not school district) - **Culture, Connections** - goal is that all 1500 students are connected outside classroom in some way, **Awareness** - know each kid and what might their needs & look how can support (prevent suicide attempts & completion) , **Relationships, Extra Support** (math help support, intervention programs, Special Ed support lab)
- Proactive & Reactive pieces of school safety & proactive should be primary focus by creating a School Culture where everyone belongs. Read children's book "This is Our School" to entire school.
- Standard Response Protocol (SRP) - medical emergency HOLD to clear halls, SECURE to get inside & lock doors, LOCKDOWN locks, lights, out of sight, EVACUATE with specified location, SHELTER Hazard & Safety situation. *** REPORT, DON'T REPOST!! School will let parents know AS SOON as can accurately report.
- **Educational Excellence** comes when school culture & safety are good - Top State & National Rankings, National Merit & AP Scholars, Scholastic Art & Writing Awards, WPIAL & PIAA Champs, Special Education Growth & Performance
- Safe, Supportive, Respectful Environment
- **Student Code of Conduct** - significant consequences for - Bullying & cyber Bullying, homophobic language or harassment, N-Word & other racial language, Hate racism or intolerance, cheating & plagiarism, sexual harassment, vaping, THC, drugs & alcohol, dishonesty with school staff - BASICALLY KINDNESS IS KEY
- Policy 103 - clear nondiscrimination policy (Racial, gender, sexual)
- Policy Infraction Example Scenario - Vaping - about 10-15 times a year. Officer Brad - THC is not a liquid & has test kits & usually not colorful - Initial Consequence 3 days OOS Suspension, NRPD & family notified, & informal hearing scheduled after incident investigated. SUPPORT: Comprehensive Suite options, family & PRHS collaboration, student engagement, relationship building through conflict, drug & alcohol assessment & resources provided. (LESS REPEAT OFFENDERS WHEN UTILIZE THIS) OUTCOMES - Up to 10-Days of OSS, Possible NRPD charges, Possible loss of privileges, documentation, SAP Referral
- POSITIVE BEHAVIOR SUPPORT - Tier 1 support with The RAMS WAY on Fridays during lunch periods, where see most behavior problems. Most HS don't touch Positive Behavior.
- Support for YOU and your peers - 988 Crisis Hotline - Trusted Adult Reporting Mechanisms, Re:Solve Crisis Center, SAP, PRSD Website resources shown (Staff suicide awareness training annually maybe more, students lessons quarterly) [Additional Resources - Pine-Richland School District](#)

- 3 mobile sets of Open Gate Weapons Detection System - Officer Brad - training now, first use end of September. Looking at how best to utilize proactively... 3 SROs & security officers, admin, morning & afternoon duty staff, are training as well as some staff. look at the devices as well as people to search bags, etc. Communication going out. Some families will be reassured, some might be more anxious. Will not be a daily use. Randomization allows an extra layer of security research suggests.
- SRO's & SSO's - SRO is law enforcement officer placed in school - one at HS(Brad Nowosielski) MS (Kori Phillips), EHUE (Sonney Litwiler). SSO is not a law enforcement officer, but employed by district and armed (Wexford - Jason Zak), Richland (Judy Wolverton), Hance (Dave Jarajda). - huge investment. Lydia Songer joining as SRO for HS/MS campus for evenings - onboarding will include access by event coordinator. Professional responsibility of officer might impact relationships with students. Before last year was Officer Brad only, at HS. They get to know kids and families. Important resources this relationship brings.
- 417 drivers at high school - bringing educational opportunities NJM after Jonathon Tourney's passing. Northern Regional - crashing distraction training, crash simulation trailer can possibly bring to high school.
- Next steps - continuation of workshop series & school-based communications & community memos. - concern of house parties, and how parents can be in the know of what to look for. House parties carry into school with drug/alcohol & sexual assault. What should a parent do? Call 911 and NRPD will come. Parents of home liable for \$1,000 per underage drinker. Be present & Aware. Safe2Say Something - BE SPECIFIC. Reviewing vaping support resources & student agency hope to get in place end of quarter. Intentional focus on driver safety & learning opportunities for students. If you call 911 and stay with person having medical emergency, you are IMMUNE FROM PROSECUTION, if you have been drinking too. Please do the right thing & get help when needed.
- Helpful for school to send community memos to START CONVERSATIONS at home.
- Lockdown - teach to get behind a locked door, out of sight. (Don't teach run, hide, fight at PR) (data-informed).
- Random drug testing as a deterrent? - Seneca Valley, Mars, do this. Consistently hear the juice is not really worth the squeeze. Can end up with long legal battles. Repeats are less than 10% at PR. Possibly look at vape detectors on the bathrooms that don't get much teacher presence.
- Officer Brad's favorite energy drink: **Bucked Up Energy Drink - Rocket Pop and Sour Bucks** favorite flavors.

Treasurer's Report *report attached

Motion to approve 2025/2026 **Budget** — new fund for counselors' discretionary use (funded by/directed community donations) If we spend \$2K, will have \$2K in the fund.. Start with \$16.2K, if on budget, will end with \$12.5. Our fundraisers budget is conservative so possibly will end with more.
Discussion — addition of more fundraisers, like Moe's meal boxes, dine out nights

Motion to approve the budget by Jennifer, second by Julie. All voted in favor.

Last year we had MORE THAN DOUBLE for FUNd the FUN! At this time. GET OUT THERE that Everyone is a member of the PTO

- Looking to do pre-order PJ pants for Friendsgiving (sell for \$30)
- Need to sell 100 hoodies to break even on spirit wear inventory.. We are at 21 now.

Laser products by Meredith Sweet's husband - keychains, dog tags, Could do it on-site. (Work for HOCO booth) or do a pre-order as fundraiser. Commencement - could sell grad year. Caribbeaner - Possibly gift to seniors (345 seniors) - non-personalized. - Decide whether to make as a sale next year at Open House. Dave Sweet could share a video of it being lasered.

Trying to do zoom link for next meeting - test out beforehand.

Upcoming Events:

*Kindergarten photo board install - 9/23

*Rita's at HoCo & Pep Rally 9/19, Halloween Pep Rally

- *Student Directory: Cover art — Cadence Foote and Ariella Ruediger
- *Teacher lounge decorations & treats(Fall, Winter— incl. hot cocoa bar)
- *Open House -Th 9/25 - Spirit Wear, FUNd the FUN, Distribute Directory
- *Teacher luncheon F 9/26 (catered by Chez Ashley et Heather)
- *Lobby decor - coordinate with Student Government (Fall, Winter)
- *Friendsgiving F 11/21 decorations/balloon arch, spirit wear table
- *Fun gift items for Ram's Way rewards, teacher birthday cart
- *Lights & cords for outdoor holiday decor
- *Past Grad & Former Teacher Day — Kat's Coffee, some pastries
- *Bagels/coffee for front office & Principals to welcome back after break

Fundraisers:

- *FUNd the FUN
- *Directory ads (Local Businesses supporting PTO through ads: Photography 144, NextTier Bank, Roger's Driving, Resnick Roof, Waldron Private Wealth, Kat's Coffee, Santo Coyote)
- *Spirit Wear sales
- *3D printed keychains for Friendsgiving
- *Other ideas
- *Restaurant Nights

Administrative

- *Fall Booster meeting, audit submission
- *New reimbursement form
- *Streamline Money/collections
- *New QR code

PTO support so far in 2025-25

- *Freshman bulletin board - ombre stars & Sparkles
- *Kona Ice for freshman/new student orientation
- *Welcome Back to School yard sign
- *Snack & Decor in staff lounge
- *Restocked Ram's Way (Student & Staff)
- *Volunteers for Picture Day
- *Share Info via social media & Friday Flash
- *Rebranded FUNd the FUN
- *Utilized Student Support Fund

Reports from VP/Secretary

Questions/Comments

Next PTO mtg: 1/15/26

Adjourned meeting at 11:45am

Respectfully submitted 9/21/25 by Jennifer Beuse