



Parent-Teacher Organization

Meeting Minutes

January 8, 2024

Virtual Meeting

1. Welcome & Roll Call

- a. President – Heather Farley - Present
- b. Vice President – OPEN
- c. Treasurer – Brenda Wood - Present
- d. Senior Party Treasurer – Stephanie Heiberg - Present
- e. Secretary – Jennifer Bharucha - Present
- f. Communications – Heather Farley - Present
- g. Event Coordinator – OPEN
- h. Staff Appreciation – Sarah Fahning - Present
- i. Website / Social Media– Julie Peyer - Present
- j. Fundraising – Heather Farley – Present
- k. Others in Attendance – Tes Davies and Prayati Ockenga

2. Approval of Minutes - ACTION ITEM

- a. November, 2023 (attached)
 - i. Motion to approve by Heather, 2nd by Jennifer, motion passes.

3. Review Financial Reports – ACTION ITEM - Brenda and Stephanie

- a. November/December Budget Review
- b. Budget looks good. We are on track with staff appreciation events with our current funds and have not had to use the funds from the Gertens fundraisers or the \$ from Kowalski's.
- c. \$3800 has been spent on mini grants so far. Brenda is waiting to hear from 3 teachers.
- d. The check (~\$1000) from the winter Gertens fundraiser should be coming soon.
- e. Stephanie has been purchasing boxers and raffle items for the Sr. Party.
- f. Motion to approve the budget by Julie, 2nd by Heather, motion passes.

4. Staff Appreciation – Sarah

- a. Review of December Buca meal.
 - i. Tes had a detailed list of how the event went.
 - ii. It went well but we could use more people for set up and to help run the luncheon. Suggested having more shifts so volunteers aren't there for 5-6 hours. We could use an extra ½ hour for set up as 45 minutes was not enough time to get everything set up. We should plan for at least 4 people for set up.
 - iii. Tablecloths for the serving tables would be nice. Sarah will see if we have any in storage.
 - iv. Unloading the pop took a long time. Pop could be set up the night before and stored in the walk-in cooler in the kitchen.
 - v. We needed 2 sides to the serving line. The 1st lunch hour was very busy. There was a line 15 minutes early.

- vi. 2 additional pans of meatballs were ordered.
- vii. There was enough food and not much left over.
- viii. We could use sponges for washing dishes and also Clorox wipes and paper towels for clean up.

b. February 29th Conference Meal

- i. Tes will check with Med Box Grill to see if they can cater this meal. Sarah will get the details on how many people we serve, etc.
- ii. Sarah will set up a sign up genius so the PTO can sign up for shifts and then we can email this to get help from other parents.

5. Events

a. Touch Base about Cornerstone/Washburn

- i. Prayati summary of the “shoes” in the Health hallway. This may help us determine what we should ask Cornerstone to focus on. After again reviewing about 30 of the "shoes" in the Health hallway where students responded to the prompt, "If you walked a mile in my shoes, you'd know what it feels like to..", here are thoughts for what we could ask Cornerstone to focus on for the upcoming mental health event:

1. Discuss ways to cope with anxiety and stress.
2. There were quite a few comments in the shoes about having social anxiety, anxiety in general, as well as being stressed to be perfect, stress about the future, etc.. with some comments also talking about depression.
3. Provide resources that are available for dealing with big issues like divorce, loss of loved ones, and traumas (caused by instability at home due to addiction, violence or otherwise).
4. Ways to re-engage post-pandemic and make friends in a big school like EPHS.
5. Maybe this is not a good topic for Cornerstone so much, but it was a theme I read with student's comments about being the quiet kid, or having ADHD, feeling alone, being ignored, not having anyone to talk to... that sort of thing.
6. This is a summary of mental health-related topics from the "shoes" in the Health hallway in November, 2023:

| Mental-health related topic | Recurring? |
|---|------------|
| have Social Anxiety | 3+ |
| be the Quiet Kid | |
| have ADHD | |
| feel alone, useless | |
| feel stressed | |
| be ignored. | |
| deal with anxiety attacks | |
| be poor | |
| have terrible parents | |
| struggle with depression | |
| have parents who are divorced | 3+ |
| have parents who fight all the time | |
| have a bad relationship with my parents | |

| | |
|---|----|
| to not feel good enough (pressure to be perfect, make mom proud...) | 3+ |
| have no one to talk to | |
| deal with eating and body issues | 2 |
| have lost a loved one | 3+ |
| have alcoholic parents | |
| religious trauma | |
| be left out and made fun of | |
| move to a new country, new school | |
| bullied to the point you have no friends | |
| have test anxiety | |
| struggle with procrastination | |
| not disappoint people, be under pressure from coaches and parents | |
| see physical violence at home | |
| be sexually assaulted | |

- ii. Brenda will work with Nate to set up a meeting in February or March.
- b. Fat Pants event in Spring
 - i. Heather will look for a date for this.
 - ii. We will have a raffle for parking passes again (Brenda will get these) and will ask for Sr. Party donations.

6. Principal's Update – Nate Gibbs

- a. November meeting we discussed Cell Phone Usage Policy. There were some questions for Nate that we tabled until January meeting.

7. Senior Party – Andrea / Stephanie

- a. They will meet this month. The newsletter info will be updated later.

8. Website – Julie no updates

9. Fundraisers

- a. Heather needs to set up a Spring time Cookie fundraiser with Chick-Fil-A

10. Teacher Mini Grants

- a. \$3800 spent so far, waiting to hear from 3 teachers.

11. 2024 Meeting Schedule

- a. February 12, 2024
- b. March 11, 2024
- c. April 8, 2024
- d. May 13, 2024

12. Other Business

- a. Planters – Sarah

13. Adjourn