

PHS PTO Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, May 11, 2021

7:00 PM – via Zoom

Welcome and Introductions: Christine Koobatian, Jen Nikolich, Colleen Brower, Dr. Paul Jones, Julie Cappuzzo, Cindy O’Conor, Deborah Broadwater, Amy Raefski, Amy Parrott, Jeanne Marie Hudson, Lori Mazzabufi, Soledad DePastino (12)

President’s Report: Christine Koobatian

- Budget passed! Thank you to the many PHS parents who have been doing the supporting the budget for many years; need to recruit younger parents because this group of people will age out as their children move onto college. Brainstorm ways to recruit and generate new ideas regarding how to get the word out regarding the budget and referendum activities.
- Jessica Clark is our new PTO webmaster. Thank you to Don Winter for creating our PHS PTO website, and for all his work and dedication to the PHS PTO through the years.

Vice President’s Report: Hollie Ward

- Not present

Treasurer’s Report: Jen Nikolich

- Nothing new to report.

Recording Secretary’s Report: Colleen Brower

- Nothing new to report.

Teacher’s Report: Cindy O’Connor/Jodee Maciolek

- a. Kaitlyn Kell: This year 14 PHS students participated in the National French Contest:
 - i. A Gold medal was awarded to Constance Larrandabure
 - ii. A Silver medal was awarded to Aliza Creel
 - iii. Bronze medals were awarded to Isabella DeLeo, Jason Hu, and Enea Dedej
 - iv. Honorable Mention was given to Ciaran Flanagan, Jack Canalori, Megan Sokol, Samarth Kerthivasan, Abigail Luis, and Julia Vela
 - v. We would also like to congratulate Daea Raidhi, Shannon Dowling, and Miranda Rotunda on their commendable performance and participation in this contest.
- b. Heather Messina: AP Research students are completing their year-long research studies with their presentation and oral defense in front of a panel of adults last week and this week.
 - i. Skills21 students will be competing in the ExpoFest Team Challenge on May 26 with their product Uproot Eco...a vertical farm system for the home.
 - ii. Other students are also competing in the individual "Personal Interest Project (PIP)" category with their projects of choice.
- c. Patricia Mete: 8 students participated in the national personal finance challenge on April 6 and 7. It is an online competition consisting of 30 questions to be answered in 30 minutes.
- d. Madge O’Toole: Pomperaug Theatre Company is excited to be able to present to the community our first outdoor theatrical event with Shakespeare in the Park.
 - i. We will perform the comedy “Much Ado About Nothing” on June 9 and 10 at 6pm and June 11 at 3:30pm in the soccer field at PHS.

- ii. Tickets are sold at the door or through presale by cash or check made out to PHS. More information to follow as we are not taking reservations yet as we need the latest information on Covid restrictions.

Principal's Report: Dr. Paul Jones

- A. Luncheon was fantastic! It was nice to have the luncheon during the Teacher Appreciation Week instead of at the end of the year.
- B. AP exams going on for a week and a half now. Smooth process.
- C. End of the year events: refer to them on the PHS website.
- D. Just because the State of CT has relaxed COVID protocols, schools still need to follow strict guidelines outlined by DPH and SDE.
- E. Junior and Senior proms are just for each class; no other students are allowed to go. Junior Prom is just for Juniors; senior prom is just for seniors.
- F. Student vaccinations: Many seniors will be vaccinated by the end of the year activities.
- G. Honor Society event will be for all those who have not been inducted in the past 2 years. Due to the large amount of people expected, only 1 person can attend for each inductee.
- H. Senior Athletic Event: Since no banquets are allowed this year, PHS wants to honor senior athletes.
- I. Senior Drive: will be much like next year and worked well last year.
- J. Graduation: More information coming soon.
- K. Student schedules for 2021-2022: Will be going out at the end of the school year.

Committee Reports:

- 1. Hospitality: /Julie Cappuzzo
 - 1. Parents have been very generous to donate because they are so grateful to the staff for all they've done for the students this year.
 - 2. Julio's went above and beyond for the luncheon. We are grateful for their help to make this a great event.
 - 3. Mini end of the year event is being planned.
- 2. PTO Scholarship- Jeanne-Marie Hudson
 - 1. 4 seniors chosen; they represent 4 different experiences at PHS.
 - 2. Committee members include Jeanne Marie Hudson, Irina Mulla, Kim Trombetta, Liisa Koeper, Leslie Nagy, Amy Raefski, Kellie Sood, Cristen Weber, Jessica Bisceglia
 - 3. Committee met in person to choose winners.
 - 4. 35 applications; down from past years but that seems to be the trend all around.
 - 5. Will distribute four \$500 scholarships.
 - 6. Applications evaluated on an essay prompt.
- 3. Prom Decorations Committee: Nicole Dragone/Heather Rodgers/Lisa Duhamel
 - 1. The proms will take place this year under a big tent that will be set up behind the school, and there will be food trucks, a desert truck, and DJ and dance floor.
 - 2. The senior prom will be on June 5th, and the Junior prom will be on June 6th.
 - 3. The PTO has been asked to assist with decorations to help make these events memorable evenings for our juniors and seniors. Nicole, Heather and Lisa have met with the class officers and class advisors for their ideas about their vision for the evenings. They will be seeking donations and volunteers to set up/decorate on June 4, 5 & 6th. A request will go out shortly.

New Business/Discussion

- e. No new business to discuss.

Adjourned at 8:10 pm

Respectfully submitted by Colleen Brower

Dates to Remember:

5/14 Half Day - Professional Development
5/24 Board of Education Meeting 7:30 PM
5/25 Senior Band/Orchestra Concert 6PM Tent
5/28 Senior Picnic 9:00 AM Holiday Hill
5/29 District Art Show 10:00-2PM Tent
5/31 No School - Memorial Day
6/1 Underclassmen Awards Night 6PM Tent
6/2 Senior Athletic Night 6PM Tent
6/3 Honor Society Inductions 6PM Tent
6/4 Yearbook Signing 12PM Tent
6/4 Senior Awards/Scholarship Night 6PM Tent
6/5 Senior Prom 6:30 PM Tent
6/6 Junior Prom 6:30 PM Tent
6/7 No School - Teacher Work Day
6/9-11 Spring Theatre Performance - Practice Field
6/14 Early Dismissal
6/15 Early Dismissal
6/15 Board of Education Meeting 7:30 PM
6/16 Anticipated last day of school - Early Dismissal
6/17 Senior Drive TBD
6/18 Class of 2021 Graduation 9AM

All PTO meetings on the 2nd Tuesday of every month