**PHS PTO Meeting Minutes**

Monday, June 12, 2023

6:30 PM – PHS AP Room

1. **Welcome and Introductions:**

Christine Koobatian, Jen Nikolich, Colleen Brower, Dr. Paul Jones, Julie Cappuzzo, Shana Hampton, Trista DiDonato, Cindy O’Connor, Jean-Marie Hudson, Maureen Nee, Jessica Clark, Amy Raefski, Mauneen Kania, Amanda Filippone, Yvette Lamaro, Alison Sokol, Sandra Lounsbury, Shannon Fellin.

1. **President’s Report: Christine Koobatian ([ckbtn@charter.net](mailto:ckbtn@charter.net))**
   1. Christine shared her gratitude and thanks to the PTO Board members and volunteers. Recognized our exiting PTO Board members: Jen Nikolich (Treasurer) and Colleen Brower (Secretary), and committee chairs Julie Cappuzzo and Shanna Hampton (Hospitality) and Jeanne-Marie Hudson (Scholarship). The 2022-4 PHS PTO Board will be Trista DiDonato (President), Amy Raefski (Vice President), John Baldelli (Treasurer) and Mauneen Kania (Secretary).
   2. Work to secure the proposed monument sign (see previous minutes for more details) will be done over the summer.
2. **Vice President’s Report: Trista DiDonato ([trista\_didonato@yahoo.com](mailto:trista_didonato@yahoo.com))**
   1. N/A
3. **Treasurer’s Report: Jen Nikolich ([jjnikolich@aol.com](mailto:jjnikolich@aol.com)) / John Baldelli ([jb@baldellicpa.com](mailto:jb@baldellicpa.com))**
   1. See financials.
   2. Current balance = $15,855.77
4. **Recording Secretary’s Report: Colleen Brower ([col52668@aol.com](mailto:col52668@aol.com))**
   1. N/A
5. **Teacher’s Report: Jodee Maciolek/Cindy O’Connor**
   1. Pomperaug Theater Company (PTC) (teacher Mrs. O’Toole):
      1. The theater department had a very successful Theatre Festival to highlight the work done in Acting 2, and Sketch Comedy Improv class on Sat June 3. The PTC Seniors also showcased their incredible talent Cabaret style before their awards ceremony on the same day. Seniors were awarded a total of $3000 for scholarships! This was all money donated throughout the year during PTC performances. Congrats to all PTC Seniors and to Acting 2 and Sketch Comedy Improvisation Classes!
      2. PTC was nominated for 15 awards and ended up winning 4 Halo Awards. Maddie Parrella (Best Featured Actress - Big Fish), Kyler Kumi (Best Featured Actor - Dancing at Lughnasa), and Jimmy Hunter (Director- Dancing at Lughnasa) all won singular awards and we all won the coveted "BEST PLAY" award for Dancing at Lughnasa! Go PTC!
      3. Anyone who missed PTC's "Big Fish" can watch our performance by following this link. <https://youtu.be/LdKNQ4DsKmY>. Thanks to Kyler Kumi for editing and filming the play!
   2. Cultural Potluck Fundraiser
      1. The Black Student Union (BSU), Latin X Club and GSA met on Friday, May 19, for a Cultural Potluck Fundraiser. The students ask local businesses to donate food, ice cream, and cookies. Some students and staff donated food and drinks. They had so much fun that evening with music, face painting, and games. It was a pleasure to be part of these activities and see the students come together and have a great time. It is essential to create these environments in the school community and recognize all the officers' efforts and leadership skills.
   3. Career Center:
      1. Hosted a presentation by Ricci's Academy and had an enthusiastic group of students in attendance. They not only gained information on the offered programs but were also invited to tour the facility, shadow any of their professionals and get a free haircut.
      2. Promoted two open houses at Lincoln Technical Institute and multiple community service opportunities.
      3. In a recent advisory, instructions were given on navigating the Career Center google site to get information for part-time and/or summer job opportunities.
      4. Continue to offer and lend support working on scholarship applications.
      5. Starting to plan events for next year and will be kicking off the year with August/September being open only to seniors who are invited to come in and work on college or trade school applications or any postsecondary planning.
      6. A special thanks to the Booth, Clark and McKeown families for their generous donations of hot chocolate. Without donations, we are unable to offer students this extra comfort when working in our space. If you have not had a chance to see the Career Center, please come visit.
      7. Please share feedback for ways we can continue to grow supports for all students.
6. **Principal’s Report: Dr. Paul Jones ([pjones@region15.org](mailto:pjones@region15.org))**
   1. Distracted Driver Presentation: Presented every 4 years; Committee will debrief this summer for improvement.
   2. Honor Society Inductions: Art: Marcus: Made bowls for sale; the money donated went directly to charity.
   3. Yearbook signing a success!
   4. Retirement Party: Recognized 4 staff with 122 years of service!
   5. Scholarship and Awards Night only highlights local scholarships and awards. There are many, many other scholarships and awards that students also receive.
7. **Committee Reports:** 
   1. Hospitality: Julie Cappuzzo ([juliecappuzzo@yahoo.com](mailto:juliecappuzzo@yahoo.com))/Shana Hampton ([shannakhampton@gmail.com](mailto:shannakhampton@gmail.com))
      1. Last event put on by Julie and Shana is Teacher Appreciation Week was very much appreciated!
      2. End of Year Staff Luncheon was organized by Amanda Filippone, the new hospitality chairperson. Julio’s catered with additional sweets.
      3. 2 events in August: Staff luncheon (Senor Panchos) and Freshman Orientation (Hometown).
   2. PTO Scholarship Committee Rachel Drago ([dragorachel1@gmail.com](mailto:dragorachel1@gmail.com)) & Amy Raefski (amyraefski@yahoo.com):
      1. $500 PTO scholarships were awarded to four PHS students: Isabella DeLeo, Samarth Keerthivasan, Ethan Hudson, Noah Ziedman
8. **New Business:**
   1. Sharon Bucchiarelli shared her concerns about the SIP position being eliminated at PHS.

Adjourned at 7:50 pm

Respectfully submitted by Colleen Brower

**Dates to Remember:**

6/12-16: Final Exams

6/13: National Honor Society Induction 7PM Auditorium

6/15: Graduation Practice 8AM Main Gym

6/16: Tentative last day of school - Early Dismissal

6/17: Class of 2023 Graduation Ceremony 10:00 AM

6/17: GradNite 10:30 PM Quassy Park

**Have a wonderful summer, and our very best wishes to our**

**graduating seniors and their families!**