**PHS PTO Meeting Minutes**

Tuesday, September 14, 2021

7:00 PM – PHS Media Center

1. **Welcome and Introductions:** Christine Koobatian, Jen Nikolich, Colleen Brower, Dr. Paul Jones, Julie Cappuzzo, Doreen Grey, Rachel Drago, Linda Hopkin**,** Cindy O’Connor, Maureen Nee, Christine and Matt Iseppi, Jessica Bisceglia, Jeanne-Marie Hudson (14)
2. **President’s Report: Christine Koobatian ([ckbtn@charter.net](mailto:ckbtn@charter.net))**
   1. Welcomed everyone and commented on smooth opening of school this year.
3. **Vice President’s Report: Hollie Ward ([ward24@me.com](mailto:ward24@me.com))**
   1. N/A
4. **Treasurer’s Report: Jen Nikolich ([jjnikolich@aol.com](mailto:jjnikolich@aol.com))**
   1. Reviewed budget; most of the money in the budget goes to Teacher Grants and the rest goes to other functions in the budget such as teacher appreciation lunches, student scholarships, freshman orientation lunch, and student events)
   2. Budget for Hospitality is slightly higher than last year.
5. **Recording Secretary’s Report: Colleen Brower ([col52668@aol.com](mailto:col52668@aol.com))**
   1. N/A
6. **Teacher’s Report:** Cindy O’Connor (**[coconnor@region15.org](mailto:coconnor@region15.org)**)/Jodee Maciolek (**[jmaciolek@region15.org](mailto:jmaciolek@region15.org)**)
   1. Staff is always so appreciative of the luncheon and all the other things PTO does for them.
   2. Teacher Reps are trying to collect information from staff in new way this year.
   3. Auditioning for the Fall play in November called “Hounds of Baskerville”.
7. **Principal’s Report: Dr. Paul Jones ([pjones@region15.org](mailto:pjones@region15.org))**
   1. Smooth start to the school year. Parents, please encourage students to wear masks, completely covering their nose and mouth.
   2. Open House plans are still being decided. It will be a virtual event.
   3. PSAT coming on October 13th for 9, 10, 11 graders. The PSAT results for 11th graders is also for National Merit Scholarship. Juniors will also take the SAT’s in the Spring.
   4. Make up days for pictures coming out soon.
   5. Feedback on the schedule: New schedule adapts for both class meeting frequency and meeting time of each class. Classes are now 69 minutes.
   6. All clubs will be fully functional. Club Fair will be virtual, but all club meetings will be in person or virtual.
8. **Committee Reports:**
   1. Direct Donation: Colleen Brower
      1. Accepting donations both in check format as well as Venmo (new this year). If you’d like to make a donation, here is the information regarding how to do so:
         1. Make checks payable to PHS PTO, INC. or use Venmo. Venmo username is: @PomperaugHighSchool-PTO Type 3586 if you are asked to verify you are paying the correct account.
         2. Please put your donation in an envelope marked: “PTO Fundraiser” and mail to: PHS PTO, Inc., 234 Judd Road, Southbury, CT 06488 OR drop off in PHS Main Office
      2. To date, we’ve collected about $6,800
         1. 53 families have donated via Venmo = $4,000
   2. Hospitality: Julie Cappuzzo ([juliecappuzzo@yahoo.com](mailto:juliecappuzzo@yahoo.com))/Shana Hampton ([shannakhampton@gmail.com](mailto:shhannakhampton@gmail.com))
      1. Families are so generous with the donations. Typically uses Signup Genius to set up donations needed, and families simply sign up for whatever is needed.
      2. Freshman Orientation:
         1. Pizza from Hometown and ice cream
      3. Welcome Back Staff Luncheon:
         1. Pizza and salad from Hometown
      4. Fall Events:
         1. Julie and Shana will meet next week to plan additional Fall events.
   3. PTO Scholarships: Jeanne-Marie Hudson ([jmphudson@hotmail.com](mailto:jmphudson@hotmail.com))
      1. Four $500 scholarships are awarded to graduating seniors. Applicants simply write an essay. Last year there was a low turnout of applicants, which was consistent with all scholarships offered.
   4. Teacher Grants: Hollie Ward
      1. PTO wants to start the Teacher Grant process earlier than what has been done in the past. Hollie will contact Dr. Jones to begin the process.
9. **New Business/Discussion:**
   1. PTO Sponsored Student Event
      1. The PTO sponsored student events in the past but due to COVID it hasn’t been done in the last two years. The PTO wants to put a group together to brainstorm ideas. It will be the entire school community of students. Outside ideas are best; steer away from ideas that involve food and groups gathered together closely.
      2. Ideas may be a guest speaker for the students and then can be for the parents. Suggested topics are anxiety; vaping, addiction but we are certainly open to other suggestions.
   2. PTO Board Succession Planning
      1. Current board is transitioning out at the end of 2023. If anyone is interested in shadowing the current board this year and next, reach out to us! We’d love to have you! We need a Vice President for next year, and would like to add an assistant Treasurer to eventually take over.
   3. Junior/Senior Prom discussion
      1. Recognized the generosity of time and donations of many parents and community members to create a beautiful event, led by the vision of Heather Rodgers, Nicole Dragone and Lisa Duhamel. Some discussion about possibly separating junior and senior proms in the future to make them special for each specific class.

Adjourned at 8:10 pm

Respectfully submitted by Colleen Brower

**Dates to Remember:**

9/16 - No School - Yom Kippur

9/27 - BOE Meeting, 7:30 PM Media Center

10/8 - No School - Professional Development

10/11 No School - Columbus Day

10/12 - PHS PTO Meeting, 7PM Media Center

10/25 - BOE Meeting, 7:30 PM Media Center

11/8 - BOE Meeting, 7:30 PM Media Center

11/9 - PHS PTO Meeting, 7PM Media Center

11/22 - BOE Meeting, 7:30 PM Media Center

11/24-26 No School - Thanksgiving Break

12/13 - BOE Meeting, 7:30 Media Center

12/14 - PHS PTO Meeting, 7 PM Media Center

12/24-10/2 - Winter Recess

**All PTO meetings on the 2nd Tuesday of every month**