

PHS PTO Meeting

December 10, 2019

Attendance: Gabby Addison, Debbie Broadwater, Cindy O'Connor, Chrissie McKeown, Jessica Clark, Julie Cappuzio, Mickie Rutledge, Brian Jehning, Christine Koobatian, Mauneen Kania, Hollie Ward, Jen Nikolich, Yvette Lomaro

President's Report - Christine Koobatian

The BOE meeting was last week and a new chairperson was elected, Marion Manzo.

Vice President's Report - Hollie Ward

Treasurer's Report - Jen Nikolich

- Direct donations has hit \$15,000.00 and was deposited. Money was spent on envelopes for the Panther Pass cards.

Teacher's Report - Cindy O'Connor

- Teachers are really grateful for the grants. Madge O'Toole is so thankful for the headsets. "Almost, Maine" was successful and there were about 500 people in attendance.
- Andrea J thanks us for the glass kiln. She is excited to use it with the kids.
- The senior English class format is potentially being changed to allow for two electives rather than mandatory Senior English first semester and an elective second semester.
- There was a sweatshirt making workshop at PHS by LINK crew and Best Buddies to fundraise for the Vicki Soto Memorial scholarship. They will be worn on the 18th and a donation will be made from PHS to the memorial fund. There were about 40 kids participating in the decorating.
- Sit With Us has begun this year. We have 17 ambassadors for students to connect with and students will be encouraged to reach out to them.
- The Holiday Hustle will be held this weekend and is a sophomore sponsored fundraiser. There is a kids run first and various events in addition to the run.
- Active Minds is being supervised by guidance counselors and two students to help create awareness and reduce the stigma around Mental Illness.
- Auditions for "Mamma Mia" will be held on 12/18.

Principal's Report - delivered by Brian Jehning

- November 27th was another successful Career Day with 13 panels throughout the school.
- All fall sports have wrapped up and winter sports are underway.
- There will be a senior assembly on December 17th sponsored by SMART. There will be a documentary about a student that lost his life from mixing drugs and alcohol. Freshman and

sophomores will look at course registration with advisors and juniors will be talking about PSAT testing follow up, college prep and Naviance and Khan academy with guidance.

- There was a shelter in place day safety drill today.
- Next PTO meeting will address course registration and program of studies.

Holiday Staff Events - Chrissie McKeown/Mauneen Kania

There is a sign-up for next week's Holiday Cookie and Treat Bar (12/17). Gift cards have been donated to help offset the costs, and there has been an increase in requests for gluten free items. This event is a lot of work, but a lot of fun. If there is a weather impacts school, it will be moved to the next day.

Teacher Grants - Hollie Ward

A committee of a dozen met last week and reviewed 14 applications. We supported 7 of the grants for \$8,000.00. Headsets for the theatre department, wireless heart rate monitor for Anatomy and Physiology, Tri-pods for Photography, a glass kiln for art, custom music solution for the athletic department, specialty equipment for printmaking for art, and some form of support to the media center . Club requests are not able to be funded. We also like to support things that impact the most amount of students. Thank you to all who served on the Teacher Grant Committee.

Advisory - Brian Jehning

A typical theme of students who struggle through high school is that they have no connection to a staff member in their building. Advisory aims to address that. Advisory was held in the past once a week on a Monday. Last year's advisory didn't have a program so it has been revamped from having two teachers with a group of 24-26 kids. It now meets 4 of 6 days and is on the schedule, and groups are smaller with 1 staff per 12-14 students. Two of those advisory days are short and two are longer. A student committee helps create the lessons. Currently it is a mixed group of 6-8 students that meet every Friday afternoon after school. Themes were developed last year and lessons were created from that. Advisory also gives a set time for counselors or administrators to have access to students by grade for meetings and presentations. The senior English essay will now be a part of the junior advisory so that it will be completed before they leave for the summer.

Our next meeting will be held 7 PM on 1/14/20.

Date to Remember:

12/12 PHS Jazz and Chamber Concert

12/16 BOE Meeting 7:30 PM

12/18-19 Musical Auditions

12/18 Buche De Noel Competition 2 PM

12/18 Symphonic Band Concert

12/21-1 /2 Winter Break

1 /8 Choir/Band/Orchestra Concert 7 PM

1/13 Board of Education Meeting 7:30 PM PHS Media Center

1/14 PHS PTO Meeting 7 PM AP Room

*1/15 Midterms 1st & 2nd periods

*1/16 Midterms 3rd & 4th periods

*1/17 Midterms 5th & 6th periods

1/15 & 1/16 Talent Show Auditions (Tentative)

1/20 No School - MLK Day

*1/21 Midterms 7th & 8th Periods

1/27 BOE Meeting 7:30 PHS Media Center

All PTO meetings on the 2nd Tuesday of every month, except April, which will be 4/21/20.

*Midterms will be held on half days with no classes.