

**South County PTSO
Board Meeting
April 8, 2019**

In Attendance: Cassy Gilmore, Priti Patel, Becky Chaves, Steve Waugh, Gary Morris, Carla Olivo, Janice Myers, Nannette Henderson, Paula McKay, Julie Hopkins

Meeting called to order at 7:05 p.m. A quorum was in attendance.

Nannette Henderson presented the minutes from previous meeting. They were approved as written.

President's Report: Nannette Henderson

1. We must appoint a nominating committee to help select candidates for 2019-20 school year. Committee members Barb Cammarata, Kristen Redding, Peggy Shahin

Motion to appoint committee: Carla Olivo

Second: Cassy Gilmore

Unanimous approval

2. Annual membership meeting date changed to May 13th. PTSO membership must be active by April 30th in order to vote at the meeting.
3. We need a speaker for the May meeting. Possibilities discussed:
 - *Access Fairfax organization spoke to MAC in early April.
 - *Holly Biehl may be able to speak about paying for college. Discussion: please leave plenty of time for questions. (Ex. The GI Bill for military families may be used for college tuition, but it is dependent on specific college).
 - *Academy classes: great idea to revisit this next year
 - *Director of Athletics at Howard University spoke at MAC last year re. NCAA sports.

Treasurer's Report: Julie Hopkins

Accepted as written. Club funding requests discussed and voted on:

1. DECA request for \$400 approved by email vote (PTSO Board). DECA is going to Orlando during Spring Break and requested more funds to offset costs to student competitors.
2. Library request for board games. Some games have been donated. Remaining games requested should cost about \$100

Motion to approve funding: Julie Hopkins

Second: Cassy Gilmore

Unanimous approval

3. Student Council request for paint supplies: \$200, but realistically should be closer to \$100

Motion to approve funding: Cassy Gilmore

Second: Julie Hopkins

Unanimous approval.

4. National French Honor Society: request \$200 to pay for honor cords for graduates.

Motion to approve funding: Julie Hopkins

Second: Cassy Gilmore

Vote: NO

Discussion: cords funded in the past, yet club funds are not available due to change in sponsor and lack of accurate records. The school has told the sponsor that club dues cannot be used to pay for cords, and that seniors pay for their own cords. Mr. Morris agreed to pay for the cords.

Committee Reports

ANGP (Paula McKay): Need volunteers.

- Sign-up genius has been created and many spots are open. She expects that after spring break underclass parents will sign up.
- Carla is writing an article for SOCO magazine telling why the community should be involved with the ANGP.
- Ticket sales are lower than last year at this time.
- Prom is on May 18th, Lawn sign pick up is on May 20 (sales also lower this year), and Senior awards are on May 31st

Baccalaureate (Becky Chaves):

- June 6th at St Bernadette's. Rehearsal will be during the week prior.
- Postcard invitations were mailed out today. The online RSVP system is up and running.
- Auditions will be held after spring break.
- She would like to encourage staff and feeder school principals to attend this year.

Grounds/Beautification (Steve Waugh):

- Buzz Haley from Silverbrook Nursery would like to walk the grounds and discuss a working partnership with the school (what needs to be done, etc)
- Is it possible to place small signs that say landscaping maintained and provided by the company? Silverbrook Nursery would also like a banner on the athletic fields.
- Steve will work with Mr. Morris' schedule to find a time to walk the grounds

Directory (Kidada Bivins):

- Not getting much traffic for the amount of work that is required.

Golf Tournament (Nannette Henderson for Peggy Shahin):

- June 10th
- \$2500 prize to team/club that registers the most for the tournament (must have a foursome to play)
- Online auction and raffle

Scholarships (Nannette Henderson for Shelly Logar):

- Application deadline at the end of April. Only one received so far
- Parent or student must be PTSO member
- Scholarship review committee will be formed

Staff/Teacher Appreciation (Cassy Gilmore):

- April 26 – Taco Bar/ Mexican theme
- Sign up genius is out
- Email invitations will be sent to staff soon

Teacher of the Year

- Reception date has not been set yet

Principal's Report: Gary Morris

Building culture and family has been the focus this year

- Moving toward defining school improvement plan
- Math remains a focus this year
- Accountability for all with the School Improvement Plan
- Teaching SOCO core values – one per month – that are tied to Portrait of a Graduate
- Increasing equity, literacy, systems of support for students
- Focus on improving communication, getting departments out of their “silos”.
Departments are introducing themselves to the staff, and the focus must be on the *students*. Every teacher is responsible for every student
- All department chair positions have been audited (9 positions), and it is going well.

Equity focus within the county

- Overall, students are supporting each other
- Bullying is not a huge problem
- All students need to be supported and feel safe
- Mr. Mims, new hire for SOSA (systems of support advisor)

FCPSon

- Please ask questions if you have them. School needs to share answers w/community

Mrs. Manning (SCMS principal) is retiring

- replacement should be named in May
- He is working closely with the process

Broadcast Journalism class

- Working to revitalize the program since small enrollment lead to cancellation
- Mrs. Delinski will be working to rebuild, promote clubs, etc.
- SOCO has an industry standard broadcast booth, which is an excellent resource

Lunch debts

- FCPS asks the schools not to mention debt to students
- Schools send our letters or messages to resolve the issue
- \$300,000 deficit county-wide as of 2 months ago, but this is being paid down slowly since the government furlough was part of the problem
- Lunch debts do impact prom and graduation for seniors

Concern: announcements are still not being played consistently. Mr. Morris suggests that parents email teachers directly. Next year announcements will be played in 2nd block period.

Meeting adjourned at 8:32 p.m.

Minutes recorded by Julie Hopkins.