

Sycamore High School PTO

PTO General Meeting Minutes

Friday, January 9, 2015

The meeting was called to order by Vice President Angela Radakovich at 9:09am. Approximately 35 parents/officers/staff were in attendance.

Recording Secretary – Jamie Green

The minutes from the November, 2014 meeting was presented. Patty Banzhaf made a motion to accept the minutes and Sandra Seger seconded. The minutes were approved.

Guest Speakers

- Board of Education presentation by Jean Staubach and Diane Adamec
Board of Education hires the District's Treasurer and Superintendent. They set policies for the district but not day to day operations. They provide the funding for the school district. The Board meets the first Wednesday of the month in the morning at the Board of Education building and the third Wednesday of the month at EH Greene school in the evening. Our last levy for operation funds was in 2004. Our budget has grown less than 1% over the last 10 years. It is a year by year decision on whether or not to ask for an additional levy.
- Upcoming events of SHS by Ashwin Corattiyil, Dean of Students
Spring 2015 Career Speaker Program will be on April 21 and May 1st. April 21st will focus on Information Technology, business, and engineering. May 1st will focus on Culinary, Photography, Interior Design, Fashion and Art as well as Medical and Integrated Studies (Law, Psychology, and Criminology). Please contact Ashwin if you know somebody interested in sharing their career with our students. He is also looking for additional businesses that would be interested hosting our students as Interns. Ashwin – 513.686.1770 ext. 3045 or corattiyila@sycamoreschools.org
- Overview of Testing/Assessment by Karen Bare, Assistant Principal – testing coordinator
In March we will have 3 weeks of testing. 2 weeks of OGT. Week one March 16-20 for all 10th graders; Week two March 23-27 for make-up testing. The Next Gen & PARCC testing is being mandated by the state of Ohio. Next Gen testing is the new graduation test for science (scientific Investigation 9th gr) and social studies (American History & government). The social studies test is not required for graduation yet and will be a paper test this year. PARCC testing for 9th grade in English, Algebra I and Geometry. More details to come. The state will publish the approved requirements in the next 2 weeks.
- New Courses for 2015-2016 by Melissa Wolfe, English Dept. Chair and Andrew Wheatley, Interactive Media
Next year, we will be offering many new courses including Screen Writing and AP Language & Composition. Government will be changing to a 1 year course (not next year but for the graduation class 2017).

Principal's Report – Doug Mader, Principal

- We expect our Jr. & Sr. to be leaders demonstrating Respect & Responsibility.
- Aviator Flight Plan for K-12 grade will expose kids to careers and work experience/opportunities. This will include a Career Speaker's series
- We are introducing 8 new Learning Communities – Interactive Media, Health Services, Teaching, Fine Art, Engineering, Fashion Design, Business, and Global Law Studies. The Learning Communities will include a blue print of suggested courses.
- We are currently talking to 15 outside companies about internships for our students. Internships can be one of three levels – shadowing, Intern I, and Intern II.
- These programs will also be tied into the College Credit Plus program.

Teacher Representative – Vince Rahnfeld

- We are getting ready for 2015-2016 scheduling.
- We are busy getting ready for upcoming events are College & High School Planning meeting for 9th & 10th grade parents, Academic Fair, and 8th grade day

- College Credit Plus – we are working with Cincinnati State, Miami University and University of Cincinnati. These tag courses are guaranteed to be accepted at all Ohio Colleges (state universities). The finalized state rules will be published in February.

Treasurer's Report – Rhonda Augustin

- See distributed financial reports for our current balance, income and expenses.
- Bookstore update - The bookstore is now on Twitter at @shsbookstore. We are taking Credit Cards on Fridays. Order forms for 3rd quarter required reading will be distributed soon.
- Market Day – forms are at the Front Desk.

Vice-President – Angela Radakovich

- Project application requests are due by 1/9/2015 (today). The Project Committee will meet on 1/27 to review the requests. They have a \$5000 budget.
- Nomination committee is forming. The committee nominates board members & committee chairs. Please let Angela know if you are interested in being on the committee.

Corresponding Secretary – Maureen Gearin

- The coffee was supplied by TIP (transition students) supervised by Tamera Brewer.
- Operation Give Back is looking for books “The Giver” and any books by author Margaret Peterson Haddix. The books will be used for reading groups.

Recording Secretary – Jamie Green – no report

President's Report – given by Vice-President Angela Radakovich

- PTO website is up and runningsend items for the website in a pdf format to Tami at the SHS PTO email hspto@sycamoreschools.org to be reviewed. She will then send them to the website manager, Sue Schuetz, to be posted.
- 2015 Senior Class Committee (Karen Bemmes, Lisa Tosh, Angi Marks) – GameWorks Night on Thursday 15th – almost 200 tickets sold
- AfterProm – on 5/17 – theme is being finalized – next planning meeting is 1/21 – looking for some chair committee members in games, volunteer coordinator and publicity.
- ODD couple Dance – next planning meeting on 1/13 @ 7pm

Upcoming events –

Jan 9 – The Firecrackers will be performing at tonight's basketball game. They will be filming for their upcoming movie.

Jan 10 – 7:30pm – Improv Show

Jan 13 @6:30 – College and high school planning meeting for 9th grade parents will meet in teacher's lounge and 10th grade parents will meet in mail auditorium.

Jan 23 – Winter Dance after Basketball Game

Jan 29 – Jan 31 @ 7:30 – Aves Theatre – “Catch Me If You Can”

Feb 3rd – 8th Grade Day

Feb 5 @ 6:30-8:30pm – grades 8 – 11 – Academic Fair

Feb 7 @ 7pm – Cabaret – in the commons – features performers of the Chorale Program

Feb 18 @ 9am – coffee with Counselor – topic “Scheduling and Curriculum”

March 14 – Odd couple Ball

May 17 - After-Prom

New Business

None

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30am.