

Sycamore High School PTO

PTO General Meeting Minutes

Friday, October 9, 2015

The meeting was called to order by Tami Comerford at 9:07am. Approximately 35 parents/officers/staff were in attendance.

Recording Secretary – Molly Polasky

The minutes from the September, 2015 meeting were presented. Karen Rickert made a motion to accept the minutes as written and Mary Wynn Haupt seconded. The minutes were approved.

Principal's Report – Doug Mader, Principal

- Last night was Parent teacher conferences and volleyball fundraiser for staff members' child who is battling cancer. Bookstore was open. Used actual bells to indicate end of each session but not all parents understood purpose.
- Fill the truck with canned goods for OGB (Operation Give Back) happening during ACE bells and at Homecoming game. Students can earn chances for parking spaces, front row seats at graduation, etc. for every 5 cans they bring in.
- Homecoming court chosen by student body. Over 900 kids voted via google sheets. Behavior at dance was great.
- Halloween at end of month. Senior parents should have received email regarding senior class events.
- Spirit challenge won by freshman class, senior class was upset. Admin planning something for them.
- Mr. Mader and 3 additional staff members going to Open World, will connect with Oracle.
- If a student does not have their typical device for a reason, there are chrome book carts in HUB or can borrow a computer for the day.
- Nov 9 will be meeting for senior class regarding cap & gown and graduation.
- New district web site should be rolling out by end of month. All school info will be updated and users trained.
- Staff meeting upcoming to train teachers on calendar function and they must be using by 10/20. Mr. Gutermuth to speak at JH PTO meeting and Tami C. will look into having him speak at HS PTO as well.
- Oct 14 testing hoping for 27-28 ACT average ACT score. Aspire online but uses format of ACT. Cost \$12 more per test to administer on paper and all testing moving to online format in future.
- If you are not receiving school emails, contact Ms. Wolkoff at Hs to have your email added.

Faculty/Staff Representative – Brian Sweeney

- Thanked 10th grade parents who attended college and career readiness meeting. 9th grade meeting to be held in January, 2016.
- PSAT to be held 10/14 for sophomores and juniors. Register in commons at lunch, now though 9/18. Cost is \$18, exact cash or check to SHS. Freshmen will take Aspire test on 10/14 which is ACT practice. Seniors will job shadow or attend college visit 10/14 and do not need to come to school.
- College planning guide distributed to all attending.
- Working on transcripts for seniors through Naviance and trying to see every senior face to face. Students should let counselor know through Naviance they have applied to a particular school. They can say they have submitted an application to initiate request to counselors before they actually apply. Counselors request **2 WEEKS** notice before deadline to provide transcript. Upcoming deadlines: 10/15, 11/1 & 11/15.
- New district profile being printed at HS. Comes out soon.
- Ann Delahanty-Koenig
- Counselors setting up help stations during lunch and ACE bell for seniors applying to college. Will be available over several days.
- Feedback from Coffee with Counselors – Will have mini workshops throughout the year. 1st will be interviewing skills for all grades. Students can come during ACE bells. Will publicize in all manners of communication to kids, parents, the PTO, newsletters, etc. Parents appreciate deadline reminders via twitter. Chelsea Rose still on maternity leave-caseload being covered by former intern, Meghan Bobinger. Will push emails that come from Naviance out to us. Will provide freshman and their families with Naviance access soon.

Treasurer's Report – Sheila Kidd

- Review of Current Financials - \$42,003.98 in operating fund. Have made \$172 from vending machines.
- AVES Hangar (Bookstore) update:
 - Just restocked quarter zips, camelbacks. AVES window sticker on order. New markdowns taken. A few planners left. Mosquitoland author coming to speak and a few copies left that can be signed. Merchandise updated frequently so check twitter and Facebook for updates.
 - Sold \$474 at conferences last year, \$2200 this year.

- Art department using bookstore's old display case, is in hallway by the HUB and looks gorgeous.
- Community Fundraising - Angela Radakovich announced that the City BBQ fundraiser made \$657 toward the HS PTO scholarship. She will turn in Pipkins's receipts soon – there is a box at the front counter for collection.

Recording Secretary – Molly Polasky

- Membership – Has made budget. Staff application forms sent out via email.
- The HUB – Will open soon and volunteers being solicited.
- Directory –Colleen Davies reported that she needs volunteers tomorrow and hopes content will be done by the end of next week, then goes for printing.

Corresponding Secretary – Suzanne Van Den Brink

- Thanked Christy Clough and Lisa Higgins for coordinating staff meal at October 8 conferences. Had great feedback from staff.

Vice-President – Jamie Green

- Projects to be reviewed in January, 2016. Will continue to review budget and hope to fulfill all requests but depends upon funds available. Project requests are similar to “gifting” at lower schools. Is a committee process at HS.

President's Report – Tami Comerford

- District and Mr. Mader agreed to PTO splitting payment for tables and chairs (\$10,000) over 4 years at \$2500 per year.
- Montgomery Women's Club helping to fund motivational speaker Javier Sanchez on testing day. Please support the Women's Club by purchasing tickets to their lecture series, 4 talks for \$130.
- Sandra and Colleen report senior class has sent emails to parents and is process of planning events. They want to respect everyone's time. Senior night is planned.
- Senior night for athletes, band and cheerleaders will be 10/16. Will have a dinner and be recognized at game. National Merit scholars will also be recognized at game.
- Need chairs for Odd Couples and After Prom. (Odd Couples co-chairs now in place). Carrie Gause reported that Fran Bitzer initiating After Prom process but cannot be at event. Juniors and seniors do not need to attend dance first but any freshman or sophomore invited by a junior or senior need to attend dance before they attend after prom. Date is May 14, from 12am to 4:30am. Need parent donations, are 1/3 of way to budget.

New Business

- Angela Radakovich announced GEAR event, STEAM Showcase, to be held 10/27 at HS with 6:30p speaker followed by exhibits showcasing science, technology, engineering & math opportunities within district.

Upcoming events –

Oct 9	Variety Show, 7pm
Oct 10	One Act Plays Festival, 6pm
Oct 14	PSAT/Aspire test/College Visits, Job Shadowing
Oct 15	Orchestra Senior Spotlight Concert, 7pm
Oct 16	End of First Quarter, Fall Senior Athlete & Band Recognition Night, 6:30p
Oct 19	No School
Oct 20	Picture Make-Up day
Oct 28	Coffee with Counselors, 9am
Oct 30	Senior Halloween
Nov 1	Senior Portrait/Baby Ad deadline for Yearbook
Nov 5-7	“The Yellow Boat” performed, 7:30pm
Nov 21	SBOB Craft Show, 9a-4p

Old Business - none

The meeting was adjourned at 10:25am

Next PTO Meeting is Friday, November 13, 2015 at 9am