

SYCAMORE HIGH SCHOOL PTO

General Meeting Minutes

Friday September 11 at 9:00 am

Via Zoom

Call to order at 9:01am

Approval of May 2020 Minutes

Karen Wolter

- Motion to approve: Angela Radakovich
- 2nd: Carrie Gause
- May 2020 minutes approved unanimously

Principal Report

Mr Mader

- 4th Day going very well, working through some issues, primarily technological problems (in process of upgrading computers as quickly as possible)
- Intention was for no new instruction during first week, teachers received a reminder to give students added time to complete any assignments from first week as they adjust
- District office is developing a protocol for analyzing individual requests for switching from Face to Face (F2F) to Virtual instruction and vice versa
- F2F Students doing an amazing job wearing masks and adhering to lunch room and school rules
- Working very diligently to make sure virtual students feel involved
- Have held 3 virtual student textbook pickups, continue to work on getting books to virtual students as needed, Ashwin Corattiyil is working hard to follow up with those students who still need textbooks
- Continuing with Building Remodeling plans:
 - Gym redone next year, entry will be moved to 2nd floor
 - Commons will look different, spirit shop will move upstairs
 - Hub will be remodeled

- Will start with Music Area remodel in current Main Office area, main office will be temporarily relocated (tentatively after Spring Break)
- Mock-ups and renderings are on display at the high school
- Projected completion: approx 3 years from now (27 month project beginning after Spring Break 2021)
- Will virtual offerings be available after COVID?
 - Education will change as we know it, but that is a conversation that will be had with community and board of education to determine the best model for students
 - First step will be to plan for what happens next semester
- As challenging as this has been, the administration has done what we believe is best for our students. Keeping virtual instruction “in house” will make flipping to all virtual (if necessary) much easier. Over 100 teachers are teaching both virtually and F2F, which is unprecedented in the area.

Faculty/Staff Rep

Ann D-K

- Counselors are working very hard to make this year feel as normal as possible, especially for the Senior class
- Seniors and parents will receive an email soon regarding a virtual college fair and essay writing workshop led by admissions officials from both public and private universities (Seniors only, will add one for Juniors as the year goes on)
- Senior transcripts are currently being sent out, those that had CCP classes this summer are currently being updated and will be sent out ASAP (all should be ready to go within the next week)
- Everyone is working very hard to navigate this new environment for both F2F and virtual students and working on ways to continually improve how we deliver education
- Counselors will be available virtually during 5th bell to address virtual student questions

- Keep an eye out for the biweekly Counselor Newsletter for updates, it will be more detailed than ever to address all the changes occurring this year

Presidents' Report

Alissa/Karen

- Welcome & Introduction of Board
- Describe the SHS PTO's goals for this year
 - Help the administration and facilitate their needs due to the restrictions for planning PTO events
 - Focus on "what CAN we do" rather than what we can't do
 - Support families and students in any way we can
- How we plan to communicate
 - Aviator Update
 - Website/Facebook Page
- What topics would you like to hear about with Coffee with the Counselor -first Coffee is in Nov.
 - Keep topics from previous years: scheduling, college admissions, mental health
 - We will compile suggestions from the Zoom chat and post them/send them to Ann D-K
 - Will look at adding the October Coffee with Counselors back into the schedule
- Senior Class - Carrie Gause and Victoria Parks
 - Focusing on what the Seniors CAN do and creating a memorable year for them
 - Homecoming possibilities
 - Senior Halloween (move outside?)
 - Senior Start of the Year picnic (currently on hold, looking at October)
 - Decorated the front for the start of school as a photo opp for Seniors
 - Senior Slideshow Email address: pictures from senior year only, trying to get all seniors

- Email: 2021aves@gmail.com for pictures
- Gathering donations: \$40 donation = 1 Aves Class of 2021 mask, for every additional \$10 donation = additional mask
 - Looking at mailing to parents, not handing out via students
- Looking for vendors for senior window clings
- Senior Class rep email: hsptoseniorclass@sycamoreschools.org
- Senior Class FaceBook page: Sycamore High School Class of 2021 Parents
- Will recruit a parent or two to be the Virtual Student liaison for the class of 2021

Treasurer's Report

Amy Courtney

- Review & Approval of the 2020-21 Budget
 - Motion to approve: Amy Courtney
 - 2nd: Michele Neat
 - Budget approved unanimously
- Financial Report
 - Currently in a positive cash state/healthy budget

Vice President of Operations

Michele Neat

- Projects
 - Plan to get applications out in October and approved at November meeting
 - For students and staff to request funds to complete a project/idea that will benefit many
 - Trial this year for more individual projects that don't necessarily benefit many, but fill a need
- Academic Achievers
 - Students recognized for academic achievements
 - Typically recognized at Football and Basketball games

- Will need to think out of the box if students aren't allowed at games due to COVID
- Community Fundraising Events
 - Would like to use any of funds raised at these events to make a donation to support the community through Operation Give Back

Vice President of AVES Hangar

Carrie Dippold

- AVES Hangar update
 - Amy Taylor, manager, has done a great job setting up the online store (approx. 50% of sales have been online)
 - Free local delivery for online orders over \$19.99
 - Open during student lunches for students and staff only: 10:30-12:30 M-F
 - Can also order online and have students pick up in the store
 - Email the store if you are interested in volunteering

Recording Secretary

Karen Wolter

- Thank you to Schedule Pickup Volunteers
 - Especially Patricia Rohrer, Picture Day chair
- Thank you to Camilla Millar for Final Forms information video
 - Family Ambassadors new committee to help welcome new families to SHS
 - hsambassadors@sycamoreschools.org
- Directory Spot
 - Will be available late Sept and will be open to all SHS families to access
 - Will limit access to just registered PTO members later in the year
- Tell people where to go to join, report membership #s
 - School emails will contain link
 - PTO Facebook page, search for "Membership"

- <https://www.cognitoforms.com/SycamoreHSPTO/SHSPTOMembershipForm202021>
- Thank you to Elizabeth Otterman, Volunteer Chair

Corresponding Secretary

Sarah Baker

- Staff Appreciation - ice cream truck at lunch today for staff to enjoy
- Brainstorm ideas for what we do for Staff Appreciation this year
 - Food needs to be prepackaged for safety/health concerns
 - Email: hsptocorresponding@sycamoreschools.org

Suggestions for the PTO?

Alissa/Karen

Adjournment at 10:37am

Next PTO meeting is October 9, 2020