

Sycamore High School PTO
General Meeting Minutes - DRAFT
Friday, Jan. 11, 2019 @ 9am

Board Members in Attendance - Angela Radakovich, Alyssa Schmeling, Missy Reardon, Carrie Dippold, Elizabeth Bruggeman, and Alissa Simms

Call to Order - 9:07am

Approval of November 2018 Minutes - Alissa Simms

- Minutes from the November 9, 2018 minutes were approved as read by Tammy Fales - <http://tinyurl.com/quickminutes>

We will be audio recording this meeting to be posted on the PTO website.

Principal's Report - Doug Mader, Principal

- Course planner is available as a paper copy and online
- Academic Fair Jan 17, 2019 -mainly for incoming 9th grade students and parents -sent letter home -after fair we go into recommendation day -do a curriculum preview for a week where teachers can tell students about courses available to them
- Recommendation Day Jan 30, 2019 (rescheduled to Monday, Feb. 4th, 2019 due to a snow day) -running 14 period day so students can visit first and second semester classes -every student can see every teacher and get their recommendations -typically friends or teachers determine the classes students choose
- Master Facility Concept Testing Sessions -district has come up with 3 options to renovate and/or rebuild Sycamore Schools and they want feedback from the community -all options have a remodel of the HS -construction would take place during the summer months similar to how science wing was done so we don't interrupt instruction -architects are good at taking our dreams and making them realities
 - Jan 24 @ 7pm EH Greene Intermediate
 - Feb 9 @ 10am JH
 - Feb 12 @ 6pm Montgomery Elementary
 - Feb 19 @ 6:30pm Symmes Elementary
 - Feb 21 @ 7pm City of Blue Ash Council Chambers
 - Feb 23 @ 10am Sycamore HS
 - Feb 27 @ 6:30pm Terwilligers Lodge
- Feb 6, 2019 -school board meeting about 1st floor of science wing that is to be done this summer 2019 including a new store room for the bookstore
- With the rise of vaping and juuling, the HS is cracking down on students -if a student is caught with vaping/juuling products or vaping/juuling, they will receive a 5-day suspension and a citation from the City of Montgomery Police Department(students will go to unofficial court -see mayor and get community service instead of official charges but if cited a second time the charges will be official charges) -it is illegal to vape under 21 years old -Doug brought examples for parents to see what these

products look like -Juul looks like thumb drive -it is like smoking 20 cigarettes at the same time -older vaping devices are larger and there is lots of hot vapor -Juul vapor is not hot and easier to hide -can do it in the classroom -students blow what little vapor there is into their shirts -3-4 boys in same stall will share it -easy to use, it doesn't smell, and students receive instant gratification -dab, a concentrated form of marijuana, can be used in these vaping devices -during class meetings, they will be rolling out the leader in me program(7 habits of highly effective people) and addressing the new vaping/juuling policy

- Montgomery has a drug dog now -he will be arriving in a week and will be here very often

Faculty/Staff Representative's Report - Ann Delahnty-Koenig, Counselor

- Scarlet Oaks field trip is today (Jan. 11th) for sophomores who signed up
- After scheduling is rolled out, counselors will spend Feb meeting one on one with students to verify their schedules against graduation requirements
- School wide ACT for Juniors is March 12th -no writing -Torch Prep classes are being offered at Sycamore HS (hasn't started yet-6 weeks before ACT)
- pre ACT for sophomores is being given the week of Jan. 14, 2019
- ALL freshman will be going to Junior Achievement Inspire on Feb. 13, 2019 at the Duke Convention Center -students will get hands-on experiences and meet professionals and skilled tradesmen and women who can explain what's great about their careers and what it takes to become qualified -all Sycamore freshman will have the whole floor for 2 hours by themselves -students will get pizza when they return to school -want to send all grades but there isn't the opportunity to send more
- Semester classes - parents can meet first semester teachers but no opportunity to meet second semester teachers -parents could meet the teachers during conferences but limited spots available -considering changing conferences to an all day event like the JH, EH Greene, and Elementary schools do or virtual meetings so parents who can't physically be there can still meet with teachers
- ATTN: Senior Parents -graduation practice will run differently this year because of the Cintas Center's schedule
 - Rehearsal is Tuesday, May 14th in the morning -go to Cintas and practice the entire ceremony
 - Friday, May 17th -students will do a walkthrough in the HS gyms so we can practice twice
 - Some seniors will have AP conflicts but will be able to attend at least 1 practice
 - Graduation is May 19th @ 9am
- Encourage students to try those outside of the box classes when scheduling -counselors met with DECA students and invited graduates as well -graduates talked about how these outside of the box classes changed their lives -all graduates said that in college fellow students couldn't believe Sycamore students had access to so many different opportunities in classes
 - DECA prepares emerging leaders and entrepreneurs in marketing, finance, hospitality, and management -offered Freshman year to Senior Year -project based learning class that allows students to integrate classroom instruction into real-world business problems
- College Credit Plus classes are for any student in 7th-12th grade -if you want to take a course online through a college you could access that through college credit plus -some colleges might not accept them as college credit except maybe those colleges around us but it would be a free class that your child can take -if you take government over the summer make sure counselor approves this class and that is counts toward graduation

President's Report - Angela Radakovich/Alyssa Schmeling

- Sycamore Advisory Commission supports the Sycamore Board of Education -used to be known as the Sycamore Planning Commission -looking for new members to take Elaine Kerr's position -if interested in joining, you need to complete and return a Sycamore Advisory Commission application -the deadline for submitting an application is March 4, 2019
 - Link to application <https://www.sycamoreschools.org/domain/508>
- Senior Class - Suzanne Van Den Brink presented
 - Thank You to Tammy Fales and Molly Polasky for all their work on Senior Night at Main Event(Dec. 20th) -over 200 seniors attended and had the entire facility -not funded by the PTO -funded by senior parent donations and sponsors which kept the price down to \$20/student -many parent volunteers, teachers, staff, administrators, and photographers attended -students had a great time!
 - Counselor Appreciation Lunch -March 8th 11:36-12:36
 - Launch Day, Ice Cream, and Graduation Signs -May 3rd 11:36-12:36
 - Senior Picnic -May 16th 11:36-12:36
 - Senior Baby Ads for yearbook due March 1, 2019 -links in the SHS Weekly Aviator Update -everything is done online
 - Senior Pictures -Suzanne will check with yearbook committee to send out a confirmation list of which student pictures they have
- Odd Couples (Lindsey Johnson and Cindy Loon (Decoration Chair)) March 9, 2019-presented logo Boogie Wonderland 1970s disco -it's a dance where students bring one adult and come for catered dinner and dancing to a live band -meeting on Wednesday nights 7-9pm to paint beginning Jan. 23rd(meet in the commons but working in an area that overlooks the gym on the left hand side) -great for students to get hours for National Honors Society -couple more coordinator spots to fill (need 3 more volunteers) -\$25/person -using an app this year that students have created and will solve past reservation problems -want one parent to go with one student and if the other parent wants to attend they can come volunteer for part of the dance then enjoy themselves -sport teams and clubs create tables (Shelley Foy has info for all the sports teams) -8-10 at a table (ideally 8)
- After Prom (presented by Tami Comerford) -January kick off meeting soon -need hospitality volunteer (need someone to coordinate hospitality to parent volunteers) -chairs, sponsorship, and entertainment volunteers still needed -theme is Under the Sea -student involved in logo -full committee meeting next Tuesday(1/15) and Thursday(1/17) to look through the shed to see what we have -ordered new lighting -hopefully we will get more lighting for the commons funded -hypnotist again this year but always looking for something new -want to get the kids here to keep them safe -freshmen and sophomores can attend if they go to prom with a junior or senior but juniors and seniors do not have to go to prom to attend

Treasurer's Report - Carrie Dippold

- Financial Report - \$101,915.74 for Total Assets
- The Hangar Report - doing really well -already over what was budgeted for profit for the year -will be open for the Academic Fair

- \$3800 donation was received last week from a 1997 Sycamore graduate and her company(Sales Force) will match her donation -alumnus wants money to go toward STEAM activities -we have her contribution and waiting for her company to match it -she was pleased with her experience at Sycamore and wanted to give back -looking into ways the money can be directed
- SAFA is a Sycamore alumni group (contact is Ashwin) -could ask parents and alumni to donate to scholarship fund -PTO gives out 4 \$1000 scholarships (fall fundraisers go toward scholarships and elementary schools/EH Greene/JH contribute \$140 each)

Vice President's Report - Missy Reardon

- Project Request - we still have money left and we found a need for lighting and bins to store the lighting to keep them safe used by Odd Couples and After Prom -the request is under \$600 -motion made and seconded by Tammy Fales and Angie Miller and all in favor
- Nominations for 2019-2020 PTO -if you are currently in a chair position we hope you return -you need to let Missy Reardon know if you are coming back or not so we can begin filling empty spots

Recording Secretary's Report - Alissa Simms

Corresponding Secretary's Report - Elizabeth Bruggeman

- SAFA luncheon in December -Thank you to Missy Reardon, Maria Wright, and Becky Dawson who all provided desserts -Ashwin came up with a Sycamore trivia game to get everyone participating -it was well attended

Announcements

- Jan. 23, 2019 - Coffee with the Counselor @ 9am Topic: Scheduling -will be recorded
- Jan. 23, 2019 - College Credit Plus meeting/AP Credit meeting @ 5:30pm/6:30pm
- Master Facility Concept Testing Sessions(see dates above) -get the info out to our younger neighbors -December district newsletter had a link to proposals -district wants our feedback
- GEAR Students to Students forum - amazing experience to hear what seniors share with our students
- Sycamore Athletic Booster Winter Social (Let the Good Times Roll) -Feb 23, 2019 7-11pm at March First Brewing \$35/person if prepaid -food included -different tournaments and a silent auction -check details online at sycamoreathleticboosters.com -honoring Teacher and Coach Lisa Meyer
- Jan. 31, Feb 1 & 2 - Sycamore Theater presents Radium Girls

Adjournment - 10:27am

Next PTO General Meeting is Friday, Feb. 8 @ 9am