

**Sycamore High School PTO**  
**General Meeting Minutes - DRAFT**  
**Friday, May 10, 2019 @ 9am**

**Board Members in Attendance:** Alyssa Schmeling, Angela Radakovich, Carrie Dippold, Elizabeth Bruggeman, and Alissa Simms

**Call to Order** - 9:10am

**Approval of April 2019 Minutes** - Alissa Simms

- Minutes from the April 12, 2019 meeting were approved as read by Sherri Yuskewich  
[Http://tinyurl.com/quickminutes](http://tinyurl.com/quickminutes)

**Principal's Report** - Doug Mader

- After Prom was beautiful -Thank you to Tami Comerford and all the parents who helped
- Athletic Booster golf outing was fantastic - Thank you to Tammy Fales and all the parents who helped with that event
- Scheduling is progressing but battling staffing issues with district office -want schedule done before students leave the building
- 2 Romanian educators with us currently -one was director of a Finnish school in Romania -Maple Dale and Finnish School will be connecting virtually to create a global classroom -they may read the same book and share virtually
- Elementary walk -Seniors will be bussed to the elementary schools
- Senior pranks -don't want students getting into trouble -marbles and toothpicks have been mentioned as possible pranks this year -increase in misbehavior before breaks and at the end of the school years - graduation ceremony is a privilege not a right

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

- Unable to attend

**President's Report** - Angela Radakovich/Alyssa Schmeling

- After Prom
  - many hours are put into this event -down 100 kids from last year -there was buzz about being locked in which has never been an issue in the past and Seniors saying they attended last year and wanted to do something different for their Senior year -we need to find different ways to communicate with the students
  - Thank you so much to everyone who helped with After Prom!!! -still looking for someone to chair this position next year -reward is the students -many parents and staff went above and beyond - decorations were over the top -games were awesome -trapeze was so much fun and students enjoyed -it was a huge success
- After Prom Preview -more attended this year than last year -150 people walked through -1/3 of the crowd had students coming later that evening -many freshmen, 8th graders, and alumni walked through - maybe have those attending next year sign in
- Senior Class 2019 -Suzanne Van Den Brink

- Thank you to Lisa Sichel for organizing the letters and seed packets!!
- Thank you to Lisa Berry and Elaine Kerr for their Launch Day work!!
- Senior Picnic coming up(Dads are grilling this year instead of administrators)
- Graduation signs -those not picked up are saved because you can use the other side or tape something over
- Cap and Gown distribution -changes added an IKEA bag and a hanger
- Marty's Waffles owner is an alum of Sycamore and will be at Sycamore serving waffles the morning of May 15th
- met with Kenna Wahlquist and Rhonda Augustin, the upcoming chairs
- Join SAFA(Sycamore Alumni and Friends Association) to keep getting news about Sycamore after your last student graduates
- Senior Class 2020 -Kenna Wahlquist and Rhonda Augustin held their first meeting on April 30th, 2019 and there was a large turnout
- Graduation Seats -Doug offers seats to PTO volunteers who have been involved throughout their years at the HS -Thank you to Doug for these seats!! -if you have been given seats, signs are printed in different colors for each family and put on the seats -Board members and big committee chairs get 10 seats -5 seats for subcommittee chairs
- Odd Couples (financial placement moving forward)
- Gina Rugari Scholarship -(Sycamore High School student who passed away in 2015) -Charlie Stocker mentioned this scholarship at our April meeting and requested that the PTO add it to their scholarships -the PTO Board has discussed and we recommend this \$500 scholarship go to someone who has shown special concern or care toward special needs students -many of our PTO scholarships are academic and this scholarship would include a different kind of student -counselor will select the student -the PTO now supports 5 scholarships -we rewrote bylaws to reflect the new scholarship
  - In the past, Charlie Stocker has personally funded -to fund this scholarship, we hope to increase the contribution of the other 6 Sycamore schools from \$140 to \$150 and hold additional fundraisers -fundraising chair will focus a bit more on raising money for scholarships -alumni parents might want to contribute to this -we should ask through district and SAFA
  - Molly Polasky and Tammy Fales made a motion to accept the board recommendations to accept a 5th scholarship and all in favor

**Corresponding Secretary's Report - Elizabeth Bruggeman**

- Honored "graduating" Senior Parent -parents that have their youngest as a senior
- Thank you to Staff/Administration for all that they do!!
- Staff Appreciation -it is today (5/10) for the entire staff -Mary Jo and Vivian setting up in the HUB

**Treasurer's Report - Carrie Dippold**

- Financial Report - \$99,877.69
- Tahona Profit - \$636
- The Hangar Report -one week left and it has still been busy -we were open during the mattress sale - last day this school year is May 17th, 2019 (closing for science wing construction) -Monday pizza party for the work study students as a Thank you -flags, banners, and Mylar balloons(\$5) still available -A Huge Thank You to Jill Whaley and Lisa Tosh for all their hard work!!!

**Vice President's Report - Missy Reardon(not in attendance)**

- PTO Scholarships, 2019 -Mary Tyler -need to wait until Thursday to hear results -Thank you to the committee for all their work!! -Scholarship Equity Fund currently has a good cushion
- Projects -most have been submitted and reimbursed except for one project

**Recording Secretary's Report - Alissa Simms**

**Old/New Business**

- ByLaw amendments and vote -last month we presented changes to the bylaws -one of the biggest changes was incorporating standing rules into the bylaws -many other buildings do not have standing rules and it seems easiest to have all the rules in one document versus 2 documents
  - Motion on the table from last month -all those in favor of proposed ByLaws (all in favor)
- Scholarships -we made amendments to the ByLaws to add the additional PTO scholarship (Gina Rugari)
- Nominating and Voting -we need a written ballot if 2 people running for the same position otherwise you don't need a written ballot
- Odd Couples is being moved into the general fund and will no longer be a self funding committee -hard to throw a great party with no money -Odd Couples has been self supporting but PTO still gave them some money the last few years -more money might help get better food options -students do enjoy Odd Couples because it was an event mentioned on their PTO scholarship applications

**Announcements**

- Next year's dates:
  - August 23, 2019 -Back to School Coffee, 9am in the staff lounge
  - March 7, 2020 -Odd Couples
  - April 18/19, 2020 -After Prom Preview/After Prom

**Adjournment - 10:31am**

**Next PTO Meeting is Friday, Sept 13 @ 9am**