

## East Meck High School PTSO – In Person Meeting 01/11/2022 (7:30 am)

### **Attendance:** (18)

Mary Beth Ausman, Carola Cárdenas, Jill Federal (Z), Christine Haynes (Z), Devonya Hunt (Z), Jyotsna Maid, S.Y. Mason Watson (Z), Hasty Millen, LaSonya Moore, Kay Murray (Z), Ruth Nett, Genie Ombach, Rick Parker, Mary Rantala, Dyette Spain, Jenise Tate (Z), Nina Toth (Z), Merritt Tracy.

### **2) Approval of minutes:**

- Approved. Minutes can be found on the PTSO website.

### **3) Principal Report:**

- BIG thanks to PTSO for all we do in support. Secret Santa goes a long way.
- **Safety:** *Say Something Anonymous Reporting System* (APP) will be introduced to students and staff beginning second semester. Clear athletic book bags will come in February. East Meck will be assessed to receive safety scanners to be installed in three areas (500, 600, front) for the new schoolyear. SAVE-Club (Students against violence everywhere) has a campaign running to sign up.
- **COVID:** last weeks around 60 kids sick. Testing on campus possible, working to get the required code for the school. Info on website, Friday weekly update. **Snowball Dance** is on, unless it is not allowed (masks required). **Attendance:** around 250-350 students absent (81% attendance vs 94/95% before COVID).
- **Important dates: Jan 14-21: Exam week.** Exam days will be full days. Sign out possible after exam period is over for the day. Athletes must attend the make-up day to meet requirements. Exam schedule in connector/on website. **HELP NEEDED** to give teachers a break. **Jan 15:** celebration for **Coach Forshee** in the stadium at 2pm. Jan 29: Snowball Dance. **Feb 10: Midyear graduation** at 7:30 pm & **Graduation Jun 16** at 12 pm @ Bojangles Coliseum.

### **4) Financial Report:**

- Secret Santa is fully funded. \$2,000 raised in 2.5 weeks. Mary and Hasty are working on second semester direct give campaign. **Approval of financials at the next meeting.**

### **5) Update Teacher Morale Questionnaire:**

- We have received feedback from 53 teachers and staff with comments on their feeling from 1 (stressed) to 5 (doing ok). Teachers and staff mentioned some issues that seem

to have a short-term solution (health/paper supplies), some require items, that need to be purchased, and other topics, that require long term effort (like advocacy). Different groups involved started working based on the result. Next step is to start with a health supply drive. Group is open for everyone. Contact: Ruth Nett.

#### 6) **Grants update:**

- Our Letter of Intent for Charlotte beautification grant got selected for complete application. Usually one recipient for the amount (\$5,000). Mary Beth wrote compelling application for courtyard improvement as additional dining/outdoor classroom.
  - **Action: If you are aware of funding opportunities, please forward to Mary Beth.**

#### 7) **Update from Student Services:**

- Updates are on the PTSO website and in the 495 Connector. Intention is to increase graduation rate and reach out to families about available services. Cristine agreed to create a flyer to help spread the information. Volunteer assistance is still needed to reach out to families. If you can help, sign up through the google form.
  - **Action: Help needed:** <https://forms.gle/xdiu11YxDchyLPg99>. Spread the word about resources in your personal circle at East.

#### 8) **Update Memberships:**

- Actual number of members: 125.

#### 9) **Open Discussion:**

- Picking up topics from the teacher morale update.

#### 10) **Next Meeting: Feb 15, 2022 - 7:45 am @ZOOM:** **ATTENTION: NEW DATE based on survey results!!**

**Closing:** 8:30 am

Ruth Nett