

East Meck High School PTSO – ZOOM Meeting 03/15/2022 (7:45 am)

Attendance: (19)

Mary Beth Ausman, Cynthia Bailey, Carola Cárdenas, Cassidy Estes-Rogers, Jill Federal, Christine Haynes, Victoria Johnson, Jyotsna Maid, S.Y. Mason Watson, Kay Murray, Ruth Nett, Genie Ombach, Maria Papanikolaou, Heather Stark (Assistant Principal), Jenise Tate, Merrit Tracy, Tara Zimmerman, Ann, Jennifer.

2) Status Teacher Appreciation Week

- Amazon purchases are going great (candies, cookies etc.). Link in the last connector was wrong. Volunteers are needed to staff a table in front of the cafeteria, where students can write post-it notes/word of thanks for teachers that will go on poster boards/public display. Name of the teacher should be written on back for personal note. Supplies from sign up/delivery for breakfast can be given to Ms. Rodriguez in the main office.

3) Approval of minutes:

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

4) Principal's Report:

- **Registration process** is being finalized to see which classes will be offered next year. Rising 9th graders will have a virtual registration night. The count down to **Spring Break** is on. Students should re-boot their **Chromebook** due to some technical issues.

5) Financial Report:

- Continued to increase our **direct give campaign**. Our second semester, second chance campaign has concluded. Since its initiation in January, the campaign has raised almost \$7k. We paid second half of **Secret Santa hats** (\$1k) and purchased **lunch bags** for all staff for staff appreciation (\$840). We also submitted our documentation and paperwork for **sales and use tax refund**, expecting a refund of \$100 for the second half of 2021.
- **Teacher Grants:** We ordered a clay roller for the visual arts department (\$890), approved \$2,500 for our musical, but EMHS Foundation ended up funding it. Approved \$375 for French teacher conference and approved \$750 for sheet music for the instrumental band department. We have received three more applications: new photojournalism department, ROTC field trip, and Automotive department supplies.

6) Nominations Committee Update

- Nominations committee has interest survey out and meets tonight. They are looking at feeder and in-zone schools. So far, a little bit interest beyond board. **Members of the nominations committee:** Mary Beth-Ausman, Jyotsna Maid, S.Y. Mason-Watson, Chelsea Mellon, Genie Ombach. **Contact them if you like to be involved.**
- **Policy for nominations committee:** Revisions: Section 2e, 3b (language), 4a, 4b (repetitive language), 7a, 7e (changes to wording).
 - **Voting:** approved
- **Discussion:** leaving positions open for **incoming parents** – welcoming as ongoing effort. Establishing **co-chairs** for committees as part of the board. Continuity if chosen for 2 years and one steps down, the other can take over. We need more **dads**.
 - **Co-chairs** will be placed on the agenda for next meeting.

7) Update Teacher Morale:

- Jill Federal informed about **Classroom Central** pick up by PTSO, but flyer doesn't seem to be circulated yet. Ms. Stark will do a follow up to have it distributed to teachers.
 - Suggestion: building partnerships parents/teacher at HS level through maybe something impromptu after school or before.

8) Update from Student Services:

- Next listening session **Apr 05 @6:30pm**. Students from all grade levels present, publication on website to get parents engaged, but dialogue is adding more value to information shared.
- Coming up: pilot event in Spring/beginning of school to meet families where they are.
- Emotional wellness: Anxiety among students about grades delayed in Power School (district policy putting grades in Power School approx. 10 school days).
- Concern about teacher turnover. How are we connected to addl. outside resources?
- Information should be shared not only for targeted audience (example: dual enrollment not only for sophomores/juniors), but all families for planning.

9) Open Discussion – upcoming events: **Please check website for dates!**

- **Student representative:** draft given out to members present. Postponed. **Campus Beautification:** Saturday, April 23, @ 9-11 am (to be confirmed). **Student Services meeting:** Tuesday, April 05 @6:30pm. **Next Meeting: April 19, 2022 - 7:45 am @ZOOM:**

Closing: 8:45 am

Ruth Nett