

# East Meck High School PTSO/In person/Google Meet Meeting 3/14/2023

## **Attendance: (14)**

Mary Beth Ausman, Carola Cardenas (G), Angela Concha de Hernandez, Christine Haynes, S. Y. Mason-Watson, Chelsea Mellon, Ruth Nett, Genie Ombach, Maria Papanikolaou, Rick Parker, Pilar Pohlheber(G) Mary Rantala, Lorree Riley, Denise Winston (G)

1. **Welcome** by Board President R. Nett at 7:36 AM

2. **Minutes** approved for February 15th meeting, motioned by M. Papanikolaou, 2<sup>nd</sup> by M. B. Ausman, motion passed

3. **Principal's Report:** Mr. Parker in attendance

- 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter, last day to turn in assignments is 3/21, Long haul before spring break
- ACT test taken by Juniors, need 44 more students to take it to obtain 95% participation, a pep rally was held and incentives were given to participating students and winners will be announced.
- Voluntary CMS Student survey from 3/10-3/17, Panorama Survey on 3/28 relating to SEL during 3<sup>rd</sup> period, parents can request for students to opt out, Summary can be shared, really seeking surveys from 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> graders.
- School Improvement Team (SIT) discussed morning traffic drop off options and have reached out to CMS Transportation coordinator and Chick-fil-A to look at the front parking lot beside current morning drop off. Will need suggestions for manpower needed and cross walk training. The cost of a police officer is estimated of \$11,500. C. Mellon suggested better signage and could be a way to cut down on manpower and perhaps PTSO can help with funding for the signage. S.Y. shared the safety issue of students crossing Monroe Rd not at the Cross Walk and the pot holes in the Parking lot. C. Haynes shared the CMS Magnet transportation changes may also affect inflow traffic for next year.
- Parent Volunteers needed-Need help with Marketing. Volunteer Center Needed. Groups need to be welcoming to all, organized, and planned out. S.Y. Mason-Watson, we should consider where volunteers want to serve and contribute and not be voluntold. C. Mellon suggested each group have their own job descriptions and G. Ombach shared each group has their own needs. R. Nett shared there are Volunteer Opportunities and Volunteer Roles. P. Pohlheber shared she received the East Meck Volunteers emails however that is only sent to CMS Registered Volunteer that chose East Meck. R. Parker said perhaps a survey or google form on what services do you have that can benefit the school and not about just what's needed. D. Winston asked if there is a way to send text message for volunteer needs. P. Pohlheber asked who would oversee managing the volunteer lists. S.Y. Mason-Watson shared probably create a volunteer team to reach out to the individual groups and reach out to the community at large and collaborate with one another. C. Mellon a volunteer coordinator could also share with partners such as churches and maybe we could share our job descriptions with other groups for an

example for them. Wouldn't want to coordinator to have to scramble to find volunteers then end up doing all the work themselves. A. Concha de Hernandez, we could ask each group to have a volunteer coordinator and have meeting to share all volunteer needs and opportunities. R. Parker said all onboarding welcoming messages should be the same, welcoming, and inclusive. Perhaps a Parent Square group just for volunteers. R. Parker knows if a student is involved in an activity most likely that is where the parent will Volunteer but it needs to be expanded for the good of all. C. Haynes suggested a Volunteer Advisory Committee, Coordinator, staff members, a task force and creating a volunteer center. R. Parker the call for volunteers can be shared at all events (sporting, open houses, etc). It must be manned and there must be follow up with the same message. M. Rantala the PTSO website could share all these opportunities as it can be updated real time. P. Pohlheber perhaps an incentive for volunteers. C. Mellon a way to reach out to new parents coming in with an interest to East. R. Parker shared idea around 495, become part of the 495-volunteer club and volunteer 495 minutes during the school year. Could create signage to promote and have tiers. C. Mellon shared the idea of having a handprint displayed for volunteers that volunteer over 10 hours. C. Haynes is to get the East Meck Community involved and we should showcase how families can get involved.

- R. Parker shared his new initiative of being "Eagled" (ducked) Teachers can give to students anonymously. Discussion held on to keep in mind equity and that some students never get recognized and that it's not the same group of students to get recognized. For this to be positive encouragement for students. Perhaps keep a log of who they are being given too to track the equity in this initiative.

4. **Membership Report**-No new updates

5. **Financial Report** by Treasurer M. Rantala

- Provided reports for review
- Quickbooks will now be a cost of \$75 a year vs. \$30 a month
- Provided awarded grants update and anticipating a Robotics team request.
- 4/22 is Earth Day and advising Student Congress they have funds available
- Updating staff and the ICC about the grant program
- M. Rantala has reached out to all line items that have not used their funds with request they be used by 6/30/2023.
- S. Y. asked if funds are rolled over if not used and goal is for funds to be used school year they were raised however if not used they will be rolled over.
- May meeting will include voting on budget for 2023-2024 school year

Financial Reports approved, motioned by C. Haynes, 2<sup>nd</sup> by G. Ombach. Motion passed.

6. **Nominations Committee update** by Nominations Chair C. Mellon-14 outstanding responses from survey to Current board-need to know their interest for next year. 2<sup>nd</sup> survey out to membership for those interested in serving next year.

7. **Open Discussion** by President R. Nett

- The automotive dept is still in need of an old Windows XP tower to run diagnostics-request has been shared on all our platforms. Perhaps the ED2 divide program has one available. G. Ombach will inquire and share with Paola about the program to share with families.
- P. Strand is working on a Small Business directory and is preparing a letter for Spanish Speaking Families. A spearhead still needed as the collection of information is the easy part. Still figuring out the process and what it will look like.
- New Business-
  - C. Haynes and M. Papanikolaou shared about their participation in the South Charlotte CMS relief strategy for Ardrey Kell, South Meck and Myers Park and a middle school. Overview is in process. CMS asking how to broaden the message and have more representation and represent other voices, equity issues. More information to be shared as it may not directly affect East Meck however the Magnet Shuttle may affect our families and is more of an issue.
  - Upcoming events: Ujamaa -3/18, 4/22 Campus Clean up, Robotics team competition 3-18 currently ranked 14 out of 70-National competition to be held 3/31-4/2 in Greenville, NC on East Carolina University Campus.
  - Art Club should have the mural completed by the end of the week, weather permitting.

Meeting adjourned 8:57 AM