Johns Creek PTSA Board Meeting Minutes

August 16, 2016

Attendees:

Beverly Henson Liliana Brenner Diane Kolosna

Denise Abramow Liz Hayde Jennifer Zubler

Nicole Adams Kathy Read Shikha Gupta

Cindy Tromer Marcia Grimsley Patty Buchanan

Ann Marie Cassidy Jimmy Zoll Jen Freyer

Kim Rutledge Kim McDonald Lisa Shanklin

Deepa Lahoti

1. Principal’s Report- Dr. Zoll

Dr. Zoll welcomed and thanked the board. He reported that things are going well. We are 10 over enrollment; last week we were 60 over.

Check out new media center. Centennial had such success that funds were used to renovate all media centers.

Lots of positive going on.

However, he referenced Group Me post; concerned that possibly 400-500 students saw it but only one reported it.

Liz raised the question- Is there a method for reporting? Dr. Zoll’s answer- Tell an adult in the building, email principal…

Students haven’t started digital citizenship yet; it will start in a few weeks.

Introduced Officer Alexander.

Email about “Zanies” and “Dreambar”- both Zanex related. Will be sending out info to parents.

Question about parking- Mr. Harris handles it; there will be a lottery this week for remaining spaces. There are between 90-100 spots left. Seniors get a spot. Juniors who are in the “Move on When Ready” program will get a spot. Kids who are in Tag internships will get a spot. Kids in virtual class will not be guaranteed a spot.

Question about virtual classes- when is deadline for county vs school guidelines? School has a deadline but county does not. Prefer using Fulton virtual vs Georgia virtual. Kids taking AP virtual class don’t do as well on AP exams. Can not guarantee when the virtual class will take place- may not be during first or last period- its where it fits in your schedule.

Question about Newsweek top schools- why aren’t we in there? There is a survey sent to school that needs to be filled out- Dr. Zoll did not get it. He will check into it.

1. Approval of Minutes – Nicole Adams

Deepa Lahoti made a motion to accept the May 10 and July 19 minutes. The motion was seconded by Liz Hayde and was approved.

1. Treasurer’s Report – Deepa Lahoti
   1. Deepa reviewed the reimbursement process. Deepa needs a hard copy of the reimbursement form with receipt(s) and the signature of your VP. An approval email can be attached in lieu of a signature; the signature needs to be done at a later date. Deepa will get presidents’ signatures.
   2. Last month budget was passed out. Please look at your items and make sure you know what you are spending. Please stay within budget. If you need additional funds, we can review and approve.
   3. Next month there will be a new profit/loss statement; there is so much activity she would like to wait to get a more accurate statement.
2. President’s Report – Beverly Henson & Denise Abramow
   1. Beverly thanked everyone for coming to the information days.
   2. On September 14 at 9:30am (check in is at 9), there is a North Fulton Council “School of Information” in Roswell at the Teaching Museum. New superintendent will speak. After he speaks they will do breakout groups.
3. Officer Reports
   1. Membership – Kathy Read & Marcia Grimsley

Kathy spoke- Kudos to Dr. Zoll for giving an extra membership push at the teacher back to school breakfast. Total membership numbers are 438 (about $50,000).

Need help at senior night, Tuesday august 23, at the membership desk. Denise will help at table. Big push because of scholarships. Ann Marie and Kim are speaking and will mention it.

There are 40-50 member forms with student info but they did not pay for student to join. Beverly suggested emailing those and asking them if they intended for student to join.

September 22 is freshman night. Diane volunteered to help.

Also need help at other curriculum night Wednesday Sept 7 from 6:30-8:30.

There is a dinner for teachers that night from 4:30-6:30- Kim will man a membership table for teachers there- we have 96 teachers so far (there are around 140 teachers). There will be tables in lobby for parents and students.

* 1. Legislation – Jen Freyer & Lisa Shanklin

October 25- Tuesday is the candidate forum. Lisa is working on an MC. We have approval to use the auditorium.

Jen Freyer- Voter registration drive to tie in with senior treat day. A request has been made by board of elections to get us a registrar during the two lunch periods. If it is approved, Jen will advertise. 17 ½ to register- 18 to vote.

Suggested that we reach out to clubs to promote it.

Lisa- Fight the new drug is coming Thursday, August 24. Clay Olsen is the speaker.

There will not be a student forum because if digital training. Lisa is concerned that children aren’t getting info from that.

Please spread the word about the parent program.

Marcia- captain Garrison Daniel- teacher- national organization called “Close Up” takes kids to DC for a week. They get school credit. He would like to go for inauguration week, and he asked for PTSA to talk it up. Beverly asked that he submit an article for the PTSA e-blast. Dr. Beatrice Wallace is also a sponsor.

* 1. Communications – Liliana Brenner & Anna Selja

No update

Lilianna will email with volunteer spreadsheet- she has some for college and career fair as well as membership.

* 1. Administrative Support – Diane Kolosna & Liz Hayde

Met with Jay Mercer about which counselors are involved with each activity.

Career fair- Need refreshments and snacks for college reps and incentive for students. Will discuss with Cindy Tromer.

* 1. Academic Enrichment –Shikha Gupta & Patty Buchanan

Reflections has begun. She emailed committees with budget.

Teachers need to join PTSA by Sept 30 to apply for mini grants. Cindy Tromer will begin that process in October. Grants can be used for classrooms, clubs, athletics… There is a committee who looks at applications and decides which will be approves. Cindy is looking for members of that committee.

Grants are done in fall and if there is money left over again in the spring. There is $13000 in budget for mini grants.

Beverly cited examples- electronic balances, French magazines… Remind teachers to apply for grants at curriculum night.

* 1. Student Activities – Ann Marie Cassidy & Kim Rutledge

Ann Marie spoke. They met with Mr. Martin and are meeting with committee members. Received list of volunteers- over 30 volunteers. Will update later.

Senior night is coming up; busy getting ready for that.

Ann Marie- Student ambassadors have always had a board member as a liaison, but not this year. Kathy Towers is in charge. How do we convey needs to her? And all the students who joined PTSA qualify to apply to be a student ambassador; Lilianna gave Kathy contact info for people who joined. Kathy will be invited to next board meeting. Beverly would like to improve the program.

* 1. Health Services – Jennifer Zubler & Beth Seiden (absent)

By September meeting they will have red ribbon week plan- October 24-28. Can use donated gift cards- just not purchase. We can dedicate e-blast to Tidbits for parents. If you know of a speaker please let Jennifer know. Activites will take place during lunch.

* 1. Staff Support – Angel Franklin (absent) & Kim McDonald

Please look in closet before making purchases for an event.

Welcome back breakfast went well.

Will feed them at curriculum night boxed dinner from Jason’s Deli.

For staff breakfast in October a sign up genius will go out.

Other Discussion:

Cindy Tromer updated about College and Career Fair on Sept 14 which will take place during both lunch periods. Need to spread the word out as much as possible. Looking for suggestions on how will we publicize. 36 colleges and technical schools will attend; Cindy has an updated list. Anyone is welcome to attend. Committee is still working on logistics- possibly in courtyard under bus canopy. Lilianna (?) will put info on PTSA website. Will ask Megan Ford to put ad on school website as well. Looking for incentives to get kids to go- Ann Marie suggested a “passport” with stamps- get enough and name will be put in for a raffle- credit for school store? Offer this as an opportunity for kids who can’t visit schools. Long range plan is to have an activity for each day- speaker about essay writing, etc. Will announce it at senior night.

We have a college and career center in the guidance office off of the conference center. There is now a door on the left to make it easier for kids to access.

When colleges are here, kids sign up and leave class to go… we need someone on PTSA to support this- Liz will find out.

Beverly requested that VPs email committee chairs with budgets etc.

Upcoming Dates:

August 23- Senior Night 6pm

August 24- PTSA sponsored “Fight the New Drug” program

August 30- Academic Intervention program starts (Wanda Moran)

September 5- Labor Day holiday

September 7- curriculum night

September 13- PTSA meeting

September 14- JCHS College and Career Fair 11:30 am- 1:30 pm

No homework day

September 22- Freshman Night

October 5- Sophomore, Junior Night

October 25- PTSA sponsored Candidate Forum