Johns Creek PTSA Executive Board Meeting Minutes

February 14, 2017

Attendees:

Beverly Henson Liliana Brenner Marcia Grimsley

Denise Abramow Anna Seljan Liz Hayde

Nicole Adams Ann Marie Cassidy Patty Buchanan

Deepa Lahoti Kim Rutledge Jen Freyer

Cindy Tromer Jennifer Zubler Lisa Shanklin

Jimmy Zoll Sandy Garrett

Julie Hislop

Adele Baker

Paromita Ghosh

1. Principal’s Report- Dr. Zoll

* The rising middle school night in January was successful. Parents went to classrooms to meet with counselors in a smaller group setting. PTSA provided handout of “Tips for Rising 9th Grade Parents”.

8th grade field trip to tour high school was last week.

* Drug dogs visited campus last week. They were very thorough. Dogs are able to detect vape as well as other drugs. Nothing was found on campus. Received feedback from parents about visit- both positive and negative. On Fulton county app there is a Quick Tip icon for anonymous reporting. How-to- use Quick Tip with link will go on JCHS website.
* New superintendent wants a streamlined strategic plan and will be asking for a focus group. Goal is for strategies to be on paper by summer. School strategic plan waits for county plan.
* Budget update- projecting 50 more students next school year which will add two more teachers. Need to approach governance board in March. Rising freshman class has 525+. Rising number will not impact athletics.
* We received our seed fund request- $61,000. Plan to use funds to bring in well-known trainers for teachers to train for implementing devices; company is not device dependent. Will fund wireless access device for students who do not have wireless at home (estimating 40-70 students). Also will train students for i- school initiative to get certified in Apple and Microsoft technology.
* Device roll out is next week. There is not an opt-out option for students. Fulton county apps cannot be put on other personal devices.

1. Approval of Minutes – Nicole Adams

Jen Freyer made a motion to accept the December 13th minutes. The motion was seconded by Deepa Lahoti and was voted upon and approved.

Liz Hayde made a motion to accept the January 12 minutes. The motion was seconded by Deepa Lahoti and was voted upon and approved.

Posting of minutes is not required by GaPTA guidelines. The decision to post minutes was made by JCPTSA board years ago when it first formed and plan to continue to do so to remain transparent.

1. Gladiator Athletic Association Guest- Julie Hislop:

The pedestal built to commemorate the building of the school in 1997 (in the courtyard near the cafeteria) has room for a commemorative piece. The graduating class of 2013 approached GAA last year to put a large scale commemorative piece on the pedestal; they raised $9000. Julie found a Georgia artist who created a design of a gladiator on a shield in 60” bronze relief form. It will have a plague commemorating the class of 2013 and “founding fathers”. GAA needs additional funds from PTSA and gladiator army. Facilities alteration approval was done in March. GAA is asking for the $1500 that was approved by JCHS PTSA last year. It will take 6 months to build. Total cost is $13,700 plus $400 installation. PTSA Board agreed to uphold the prior commitment to assist with funding this project for GAA. Board agreed that a condition for PTSA fund approval is that we could use graphics associated with relief. Motion to donate was made by Marcia with stipulation that we have access to artwork upon request. Motion was seconded by Patti. Motion was voted upon and approved.

1. Treasurer’s Report – Deepa Lahoti
   * Please review budget to see if your budget needs to be trimmed or expanded by Feb 24.
   * Teacher stipends and mini grants- we’ve met almost 100% of budget. Only 50% of teachers and administration have requested their $50. Cut-off date is in March. Please send an email reminder.
   * Mini grants- budget is $13,000. Have dispersed $8,000. Please send a reminder before cutoff.
   * Large opportunity in donations and matching gift requests- Deepa recommends in membership drive provide a separate matching grant form. Also recommended email reminders for this year. Deepa will work with communications to create an online form.
   * Check requests need to be complete, signed, and turned in with receipts. Please do not tape forms- staple or paper clip. Turn-around time is a week. Deepa will make exceptions but needs advanced notice.
2. President’s Report – Beverly Henson & Denise Abramow

* Update was provided on leadership changes with Georgia PTAand potential impact on our local unit. Additional discussion was held regarding board structure bylaws change. The consensus of the Board was to remain affiliated with Georgia PTA. Additional discussion was held regarding next year's membership drive and it was agreed to restructure the membership drive. A support campaign will be initiated as well.
* Reports are being prepared for the Connect with Council award and National PTA School of Excellence.

1. Officer Reports
   1. Membership – Kathy Read & Marcia Grimsley

Orders are placed for yearbooks for members who joined at a level that receives free yearbook.

* 1. Legislation – Jen Freyer & Lisa Shanklin

Tuesday is PTA day at capital- Lisa will write a report.

Question about taking students to capital: There are opportunities for students interested in politics. Student day used to be in February but was a challenge because students didn’t want to go.

* 1. Communications – Liliana Brenner & Anna Seljan
     + First Inside the Colosseum will go out next week
     + Liliana had been communicating with College and Career Center to update posts about visits. Suggestion about using twitter: she will check with guidance- Jay Mercer.
  2. Administrative Support – Diane Kolosna & Liz Hayde
* Waiting on third quote for scholarship plaques. Thank you to Deepa for looking in archives for a complete list of scholarship recipients.
* College and career center has new bulletin boards and tv.
* Vicky, Liz, and Diane met and wrote out a “Road Map to Success” plan that they would like to see utilized on the CCC bulletin boards. They plan to meet with Mr. Mercer to review prior to putting in place.
* Counselors have done an email blast with link for students and parents to sign up to meet with counselors as well as a You-tube video.
* Several open committee positions- college and career center maintenance, managing parent volunteers, and business partners
  1. Academic Enrichment –Shikha Gupta & Patty Buchanan
* Honor roll recognition in March- check on funding for treats
* Question- will we do more mini grants?
  1. Student Activities – Ann Marie Cassidy & Kim Rutledge
     + Baby photo contest is complete- checking on how winners are announced
     + Carnival planning going well.
     + Discrepancy on funds- will check with Deepa
  2. Health Services – Jennifer Zubler & Sandy Garrett
     + Wellness week is March 20-24. The theme is “Finding what works for you”. There will be daily themes/activities. Monday is good deed day, Tuesday is Tea day and orchestra. Wednesday is Tibetan bowls. Thursday is dancing in library (yoga last year). Friday is mindfulness- ways to relaxation, time management, stress management.

Will get sign up genius for parent volunteers. All activities will happen during lunch periods. Want to get clubs that have something to do with health/wellness to get involved- student ambassadors, beta club, hosa club, Will to Live club. Will provide info about free apps as well as wallet size cards.

* + - Parent night that Thursday- officer from JC police dept. and counselor from Insight- drug rehab – will talk about drug awareness.
    - Interested in Wellness Wednesdays- once a month through year vs just one week.
  1. Staff Support – Angel Franklin & Kim McDonald

Mardi Gras luncheon: Roswell Smiles Dentistry will donate for staff appreciation

Other Discussion:

Reflections- waiting for state results. 7 students in consideration for state winner. Will find out late February or March, and will recognize at honors night

Devices and doughnuts nights- positive feedback and well attended and informative

School governance positions open.

**Next PTSA General Membership Meeting February 28 at 11:30**

**Upcoming Dates:**

February 11 4:00 School Governance Council meeting

February 15 No Homework Day

February 16 8:30 – 2:00 PTA Day at the Capitol - Sloppy Floyd Building 200 Piedmont Avenue

February 17-20 Winter Break

February 22 9:30 - Linda McCain community meeting at River Trail Middle School

February 27 Senior Treats

February 28 Mardi Gras luncheon for teachers and staff

March 4 District 10 Meeting

March 14th PTSA Executive Board Meeting at 9:30