Johns Creek PTSA Board Meeting Minutes

, 2016

Attendees:

Beverly Henson Diane Kolosna

Denise Abramow Liz Hayde

Nicole Adams Matt Vance

Deepa Lahoti Kathy Read

Cindy Tromer Patty Buchanan

Ann Marie Cassidy Sandy Garrett

Kim Rutledge Kim McDonald

Jennifer Zubler Suzanne Warren

1. Principal’s Report- Assistant Principal Matt Vance
   1. Update on personalized learning- A large effort that has a big hook- personalized devices. Goals are for students to take ownership of learning, for teachers to engage students in active and relevant learning experiences, for all to take ownership- why am I taking these classes, what is my direction,

and to provide engaging students experiences- teachers present quality instruction but we have seen that lecture works in some content but it’s not a go-to strategy- want to stretch instructional approach in different directions

* To support this school is looking to provide each student with a device. Looking at 4 devices- Microsoft surface, I pad, dell chromebook, dell laptop. Selection committee will get feedback from teachers, students, parents, etc from surveys and feedback.
* Determination will be made today. Wednesday school governance council will be presented with selection for approval
* Roll out to teachers January to March, could roll out students possibly late March, but likely to wait until new school year
* Question about what happens if it is broken or lost- assumption will be that it will be handled same way as other textbooks. Policies will be made after device is chosen and will be conveyed
* Will still use textbooks- hard copies and online
* Question- How will teachers learn how to use devices effectively- teachers are receiving training- January 5&6- set expectations for what technology use will look like, how teachers can manage it

1. Approval of Minutes – Nicole Adams

Kathy Read made a motion to accept the October minutes. The motion was seconded by Deepa Lahoti and was approved.

1. Treasurer’s Report – Deepa Lahoti

Income- 133,000- senior activities taken in above budgeted

Membership 84%- 992 parents teachers and students have signed up. Would like to reach membership of 1069- need 72 more

Seniors activities- 375 signed up

Teacher stipends- 137 signed up, 37 received $50

Mini grants- already distributed $1800

On check request forms- please be neater and fill out forms accurately and correctly, highlight what you need reimbursed on forms

Reminder to sign check request forms

Beverly- we can add back into our budget- we have $5000 we can move around because of lawn maintenance. Please consider if your committee needs additional funds

1. President’s Report – Beverly Henson & Denise Abramow

Update on facility and grounds- school is taking landscaping maintenance costs out of schools budget. We will still support school as needed.

Outdoor classroom- governance council approved it. Took time over summer with bids, but finally found a contractor. Location will be side of cafeteria. The student committee is looking into sustainable furnture. Need to consider the logistics about how space will be used.

School of excellence- Thanks to those who completed the survey. There were 108 responses. National PTA has goals- choose 1 out of 3. Goal- family and community engagement. Survey shows that we do a lot well but room for improvement… In May there will be a follow up survey and will send a report of what we do. Most negative were issues we don’t have control over- ie communication with teachers.

Holiday brunch is Dec 13 at 9:30- Flying biscuit is giving us a room. Would like to invite guidance counselors, media center. Bring back lunch for support people. Provide a $15 wrapped gift for exchange.

Opportunity School district- GA PTA is an advocacy group- concensus was that amendment 1 would pass… Ga PTA put great efforts to get it not to pass. They are now working hard to support those schools in need. The have contracted with an outside group called Solera. Info will be in today’s e-blast.

By-laws changed co-VPS to first VP and second VP. Will need to clearly define positions. A few schools sent by-law changes and were denied. Beverly and Denise sent an email asking purpose of this and if it can be overridden. Will keep posted as they receive info.

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

Will email report with updated numbers from October.

Marcia is working on email that Dr. Zoll will sent out to push membership

Discussed ways to increase membership.

Senior activity email will include deadline cutoff of December 31 for scholarships- Possible membership table at senior treats? Poster about scholarships?

Teacher membership is high- Mr. Vance would like names of teachers who haven’t joined- he will motivate and wants 100% participation

* 1. Legislation – Jen Freyer & Lisa Shanklin

Candidate forum- 7th year, disappointing turn out- only 35 people. Did an excellent job, but will need to determine if we will host because turn out continues to decline

* 1. Communications – Liliana Brenner & Anna Seljan
     + Let them know if there is anything you want to share on semi-annual newsletter. Will be put out in January so get info to them by end of December
  2. Administrative Support – Diane Kolosna & Liz Hayde
     + New signs for college and career center
     + Partner with Kim Sherman to start process of scholarships
     + Exploring options for college and career sign ups
     + Bulletin board ideas- will discuss with counselors to input start with two 4 X6 and split them so each grade level has one
     + Diane and Pam were trained how to update college profiles; discussed the info that profiles contain. Profiles can be accessed on guidance website as well as PTSA website. There is a sign up genius for college visits. It is on e-blasts as well as PTSA website
     + Scholarship plaques- Deepa is getting names. Liz is getting pricing for two new ones
     + Question about international night- who sponsors it- recommend contacting world department chair

Business partners- Sandy Garrett- need to finalize application and need to advertise-and hit up for businesses to sign up. Many are renewals. PTSA and school working jointly on this. Plan for donations- need to thank sponsors on morning announcements, FB page, etc. Application should be placed on website.

* 1. Academic Enrichment –Shikha Gupta & Patty Buchanan

Grants requests were double our budget. Budget of $13000- gave out all of it.. Main criteria for consideration is how many students it touches.

Highlights- weight training machine, French/English dictionary, novels, digital equipment for live streaming, color printer for yearbook and newsletter, science equipment, calculators, hot plates, etc….

Suggestion that they move powder puff game to spring football game.

Student ambassadors are professional representative of school- kids need guidelines/expectations for attire, attendance, etc.

Is it possible for a teacher to sponsor? It is listed as a club. Question about how to get info to parents? Meeting reminder on e-blasts

* 1. Student Activities – Ann Marie Cassidy & Kim Rutledge
     + Still collecting senior fees
     + Krispy crème this week
     + Getting started on baby photo contest in December- 5 volunteers
     + Carnival planning- budget of $16,000. Everything is reserved. Working on logistics
  2. Health Services – Jennifer Zubler & Sandy Garrett

Red ribbon week in October was successful. Next year will focus on speaker for entire school. Didn’t get much student or teacher engagement. Need to consider ways to get them more engaged next year. Mr Vance suggested a full interdisciplinary approach

Wellness week is in spring.

* 1. Staff Support – Angel Franklin & Kim McDonald

Korean luncheon is December 5- would like a PTSA board presence there.

January- healthy grab and go for teachers- should we include all staff? Yes, going forward include all staff

Upcoming Dates:

November 16 Reflection winners open house exhibit- N. Fulton Council PTA 10-2

November 16 Senior Treats

November 21-25 Thanksgiving Break

December 1 Orchestra winter concert

December 7 No homework day

December 14 School Governance Council meeting- 4pm in Media Center

December 23-January 9- Winter Break