Johns Creek PTSA Executive Board Meeting Minutes

April 9, 2018

Attendees:

Denise Abramow, Lisa Shanklin, Nicole Adams, Beverly Henson, Anna Seljan, Sandy Garrett, Diane Kolosna, Liz Hayde, Kim McDonald, Ann Marie Cassidy, Kim Rutledge, Jennifer Zubler, Issure Chen, Emily Hackworth, Karen Blake, Suzanne Warner, Chris Shearer

The meeting was called to order at 9:36 am.

1. Principal’s Report- Dr. Shearer
   1. First official day was 4/9/18.
   2. First Meet and Greet will be on 4/17 in the Media Center from 10-11.
   3. Shared that he is into lacrosse and coaches his 7th grade daughter. His children are in middle school and high school.
   4. Stated that he values transparency and communication and is present and accessible. Described creating a culture and instruction that is student centered and student focused.
   5. Discussed areas of concern:
      * Physical science pass rate is below the state. Interested in looking at how that class is taught and approached.
      * AP pass rate is very high- 82-83% pass rate (3 or higher). Plans to look at it class by class to determine why 18% are not passing.
      * Concerned about the mental health aspect of children who do not pass. Referred to ‘Race to Nowhere”; problem has moved beyond parents pressuring kids to kids pressuring themselves. Would like to work with parents and counseling department to change this climate.
      * Discussed achievement vs growth. Will address potential complacency with teachers that can occur when achievement levels are high.
      * Discussed the CCPRI survey which has us at a 4 star rating; wants to get us to a 5 star rating. Will look at survey data (parents, teachers, students) and discipline data.
2. Approval of Minutes – Nicole Adams

Karen Blake made a motion to accept the March 13, 2018 minutes. Diane Kolosna seconded, and the motion carried.

1. Treasurer’s Report – Nikki Schreck- absent
   1. Please check with your chairs for outstanding reimbursements and submit receipts.
   2. Student ambassadors is not over budget; t-shirts were purchased first and money will be returned.
   3. Looking at bank change from PNC.
2. Secretary’s Report- Nicole Adams

No report

1. President’s Report – Denise Abramow & Lisa Shanklin
   1. PTSA has a google account for non-profits which PTSA will begin utilizing in 2018-2019 school year. Lisa demonstrated Google apps on i-phone. She will type up procedures. Every PTSA email address is in Google drive. Lisa will email passwords. Requested that we begin transferring documents into Google Drive.

Genius scan is free; the app makes docs into pdf files.

* 1. Open election for North Fulton Council is 4/11/2018.
  2. May 15 is the North Fulton PTA School of Information at the Teaching Museum which will provide training for positions. North Fulton Council would like to implement mentorships.
  3. Movement in non-profits is towards collaboration. Lisa would like to begin submitting Community News in our e-blast. She is interested in doing a Community Resource Fair. Discussed personal reflections on Community Resources and providing services and help for those in need. This could fall under Health Services. Lisa reviewed the PTA mission- “To make every child’s potential a reality….” as well as information on the Safeguard Alliance which PTA supports. Lisa is interested in joining the Chamber of Commerce. Discussion about engaging students and parents.
  4. Addressed the need for a PTSA presence at activities, sporting events, etc. to encourage participation.
  5. Discussion about the need and use for agendas.
  6. School gift: picnic tables to commemorate Sue Mitchell. Diane Kolosna found a company that will donate and deliver two tables. We will have to put them in place; Diane is contacting several companies. Table and seats will be a cream color. Tops of seats and tables will be polished. Will go in front right of school near the principal’s window. Will include a plaque. Estimated time TBD.
  7. All committee chairs and VPS need to complete committee chair guides.

1. Nominating Committee:
   1. There are four open VP positions. Sandy will email Anna to out specific info in e-blast about VP of membership.
   2. Co-Presidents and Recording Secretary will invite new people to the meeting on Monday, May 7.
   3. Karen Blake made a motion to approve the slate of officers proposed for 2018-2019 school year to be presented to general membership. Jen Zubler seconded, and the motion carried.
   4. PTA bylaws state that the vote for the slate of officers needs to be made in April with a minimum of 25 members, and the officers should be installed in May; the list of nominees should be posted 10 days in advance of the vote. We are behind 3 days in posting the list for it to be voted upon at Honors Night, which will be held as a general membership meeting. Denise will disclose that she posted it in a shortened period and will ask if there is any opposition.
2. Officer Reports
   1. Student/Senior Activities- Kim Rutledge and Ann Marie Cassidy
      * Going well. Budget numbers will be reconciled with deposits into paypal.
      * Received two emails in February and March concerning a la carte payment for Carnival. $65 out of $85 senior fee is allocated to the carnival. This is a recurring issue every year. Move on When Ready impacts almost a third of seniors who do not get benefits of senior fee. Discussion about concern. Consensus is to continue established protocol.
      * March 29 senior treat- tropical smoothie café.
      * April senior treat TDB
   2. Academic Enrichment- Kim McDonald
      * Position of Counseling Liaison started to support guidance counseling department with communication with parents. Kim McDonald made a motion to rename position College and Counseling Liaison and to move it under VP of Administrative Support. Jen Zubler seconded and the motion carried.
      * Honors night- Kim, Susanne, Lisa and Denise are volunteering at 5:30
      * Honor roll recognition- 1125 qualify
      * Mini grants are completed.
      * Alyssa Glatter reports that she thinks the gold section of the Wall of Excellence is too big. Would like to consider changing requirements or adding a platinum section. She will need to bring a proposal to board.
      * Student ambassadors powder puff game is on May 18 at halftime during spring football game.
   3. Administrative Support – Diane Kolosna & Liz Hayde
      * Plaques are ready to be put up after honors night.
      * Considering redoing the College and Commitment Board.
      * Online submission form and QR reader are being implemented for college commitments. Send to Anna to include in e-blast.
      * Coordinate with Ann Marie when lawn signs are given out and/or next senior treats to give students forms.
   4. Communications – Anna Seljan
      * No report
   5. Health Services – Jennifer Zubler
      * Wellness Wednesday next week is tea and coloring, and what works for you to help with anxiety and stress. They are giving students stress cards during lunch.
      * Vice Principal Agans is considering working in extra time during exam week for stress management.
      * Looking into having someone do mindfulness and service dog therapy next year; need permission and scheduling.
      * Requested opinions about use of money in budget for thank you gifts for volunteers.
      * Also considering use of budgeted money for online mindfulness training. Northwood Elementary school uses a mindfulness program which was implemented by principal Ahuja.
      * Discussed mental health safety online.
   6. Legislation- Karen Blake
      * Legislative update in e-blast tonight.
      * No voter registration next month because student council had one in March.
   7. Membership – Sandy Garrett
      * 1 member joined
      * Begin plans for membership forms for next year. Discussion about opt-in for membership directory. Suggestion to poll to determine need for a directory. Will check with other high schools to see how its done. Also need to reevaluate membership benefits.
   8. Staff Support – Issure Chen & Emily Hackworth
      * Thank you for staff appreciation week

Meeting was adjourned at 11:53 am.

Upcoming Dates:

**Next PTSA meeting will be Monday, May 7th at 9:30 am in the JCHS Media Center Conference Room. All incoming board members and committee chairs are invited to attend.**

April 14 Prom

April 17 Meet the Principal- 10-11 am (Media Center Conference Room)

April 17  Honors Night (Vote on PTSA board nominations)

April 18 Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast 9:00 – 10:30 – JCHS Auditorium Lobby

April 18 Linda McCain Community Meeting – Chattahoochee High School at 7:00 pm

April 24 Orchestra Spring Concert

May 18  JCHS PTSA Student Ambassador Powder Puff Game

May 20  JCHS Baccalaureate for Seniors

May 21 Senior Class Carnival 11-2

May 24  Graduation