

FRIENDSWOOD HIGH SCHOOL PTO MINUTES

October 4, 2018

Executive Board: Dawn Barta: President; Jolyn Brand: V.P.; Liz Fischer: Treasurer; Shelia Askeland: Parliamentarian; Aimee Reyes: Secretary; Liz King: PTO Faculty Liaison

Call to Order: 11:53 AM

Dawn: We are trying Facebook Live today as an experiment! Jolyn is administering. This was in response to people who want to be here but can't. We will also try to have an evening meeting. We will need to verify everyone who is on Facebook Live that they are PTO members before we can let them vote on any items today.

The meeting was called to order at 11:45 am. A sign-in sheet was distributed.

Attending were Dawn Barta, Aimee Reyes, Liz Fischer, Liz King, Tammie LaBiche, Kristi Carpenter, Albert Cipolla, Tammy Lewis, Paige Rideout, Maria Karg, Hillary Rosenthal, Jolyn Brand, Naomi Villarreal, Debra Bollinger

Dawn acknowledged that Mr. Griffon was not present, and Liz King confirmed something probably came up. Dawn also introduced Paige Rideout.

Approval of Minutes: The meeting minutes from the September meeting were introduced. A motion was made by Kristi Carpenter to approve the minutes, and Hillary Rosenthal seconded the motion. Minutes were unanimously passed.

Campus Reports:

- Mr. Griffon: no report
- Paige Rideout - Executive Director of Fisd education foundation
 - Many events and positive things that happen throughout the district is in thanks to the donors. We started off this school year with a new employee luncheon. A fall fundraiser will be held at a sporting venue. We try to meet the needs to everyone for fundraising.
 - Grants is our largest fundraiser that goes straight back to schools and helps teachers. Grants will go live on cyberMonday(Nov 26) to tap into the shopping season. Directors have signed up from every campus to help assist teachers. Mustang Assoc. started this year and first 1000 students to sign up got a synch bag. Feb. 16 is gala at the Marriott Marquee.
 - At the end of the year we award teachers of the year with a \$500 check. These are selected by the principal of each school.
 - KK Jenkins and possibly Molly Crow are the directors for the HS.
 - Please look at fisdeducationfoundation.com for all dates. We were able to give back \$200K to staff and teachers who were affected by Harvey.
 - Dawn: Do you find the participation level is higher with lower graders versus the higher graders? High school grades are more expensive. For example the high school Bio Med program received 25K from the foundation so that the teachers could have what they needed to get started. Kids in this program will graduate with a CCNA. The foundation is involved in so many other departments in the high school. We want the students to walk out of the high school and be prepared.
 - Please call Paige with any questions.
- Liz King: No requests from Mustang cares and thank you for the supplies for the school nurses. If you have questions that Mr. Griffon would have covered, please contact Liz. The counselor supplies are good supply. Christmas stocking supplies will be sent out in Nov.
 - Art in the Park - Nov. 17/18 and will need volunteers and students who need hours. Kids can sign up on the website to volunteer.

Secretary Report- None

Treasurer report:

- Still working on the budget and gathering historical data. Ahead in comparison to last year on income and expenses but paid out more in scholarship. We will budget out for next year. We are doing well and membership dues were lower but have picked up and ahead from last year. Please spread the news that people can still join the PTO.
- Motion to approve the budget by Jolyn and Tammy second. Motion is approved.

Committee Reports

- Fundraising (Dawn Barta/Liz Fischer)
 - Dawn and Michelle met with the owners of SmallCakes Cupcakery and Creamery in Friendswood. To help celebrate teacher birthdays, each month they will donate a cupcake in a box for each teacher. We will do this the second Friday of the month. Through Liz King we have asked each teacher which flavor they want. Dawn, Liz, or Michelle will pick up and distribute. They are happy to do all 180 teachers. In addition, we will still provide cake on the last Friday of the month for teacher birthdays. SmallCakes will get a banner for their store. Their children go to Alvin but they also do it for the elementary school there.
 - Liz and Dawn met with new owner of Dickey's BBQ Pit in Friendswood. He is to get back to them on fundraising.
 - Sent a letter to Thad Rohr after meeting last week to touch base on new Out of the Blue campaign. Met about Higginbotham campaign. He will talk to Rotary club about community involvement in the matching campaign.
 - T-shirt with lotus flower - moms have been wanting more so we ended up printing about 32. We make between 9-10\$ for each shirt. Our merchandising expense will be higher but the income will be higher. Long sleeve cotton and dry fit will also be sold on-line. Hoping to have the same profit margin.
 - Hillary - someone at the band function on Saturday last week asked about what the PTO is selling and she told them we are only selling t-shirts. Pare down approach is working right now and without many volunteers working festivals and games gets exhausting so if anyone wants to talk about a committee, see Liz Fischer.
- Hospitality (Hillary Rosenthal)
 - First official hospitality event was the math department breakfast this morning. They were very appreciative. They won the 100% participation in the PTO and this was the thank you. The raffle was a little different where they had to solve a math problem (solved it correctly!). We pulled three winners.
 - The veterans day is coming up. Liz King: Have you talked to Diane about the date? Hillary to contact Dianne before locking down date. About 5 weeks to prepare. Kristi: Will you send out a sign up genius? Yes, it worked out great this time and within 2 hours the list was completely full.
 - Teacher holiday luncheon - will turn into a teacher holiday breakfast because of the final/holiday schedule. Monday, Jan 7. Healthy new year breakfast! In the break room or teacher work room.
 - Will start thinking about maintenance luncheon or custodial dinner which will be in December.
- Webmaster (Jackie Gibson) - no report.
- Membership (Kristi Carpenter) - nothing new, will send updated spreadsheet to Dawn and Liz.
- Volunteers (Paige Neumeyer) - no report. Sign up genius is very helpful.
- Mustang Cares/Student Success (Liz King) - see above.
- Academic Banquet (Hillary Rosenthal) - Homecoming is coming up and honoring class of 1999. By Oct. 18 all marketing materials will be complete. These will promote the academic banquet honoring 50 years of FHS and kick off our fundraising. Dawn: Connect with Dayna Owen. We want 50 tables sponsored at \$300/table for each class in the last 50 years. One table for each year or VIP table. Centerpiece will designate the year. Can have local businesses sponsor the years.
- Scholarships (Annie Clary) - no report. All scholarships were paid out from last year. Liz King: Does this include faculty? Liz Fischer: yes; but will check to make sure.

- Registration (Stephanie Renaldis) - no report.

Old Business

- College Night: Tuesday 11/13 @ FHS - need 6-10 volunteers from 4:30-8:30PM in the cafeteria. Need water for college reps. Tammy Lewis is one of the reps. Dawn will send out sign up genius closer to the date. Will find out if students can volunteer. Very good for all age high school students to start exploring options. Liz Fischer: for parents with younger kids; it's always good to bring because they get experience talking to people and start thinking of certain questions.

New Business

- We have permission to use Facebook Live for our PTO meetings. 20 people watching and 4 new members to the group. Very glad to have you all here!

Discussion:

Help for decrease in funding to academic clubs. Academic decathalon got their budget cut by \$1500 which was shocking. They need money for transportation for the competitions. Kids come in every morning for two hours to prepare for these competitions. What can we do to support this because academics should be our priority. Are there any other academic clubs that got funding cut? Liz king will ask Mr. Griffon to confirm this cut and if any other clubs budget was decrease. Can we do a grant? If so, we can purchase them till the end of November so doesn't help if they need it before Nov. It's difficult because teachers need to limit the amount of students because of the equipment and volunteers. This brings us back to what kind of district do we want to be? Currently we are known for academics and we need to stand behind our ranking of #1 in the Houston area.

Budget discussion: We are starting to work on the budget. Liz Fischer - trying to see if there's comfort in the numbers she is proposing. The board will meet before the next meeting and will post on website once it's approved. We are looking at the larger items like hospitality and scholarship. By April we want to have raised \$10K to get it matched by Higginbotham. For hospitality we feel strongly that the maintenance/custodial events they may not need catered events but have things donated. They see our kids everyday so we want to give back however, these should be shared between campuses. Last year the JH helped financially. Would like to not rely on our members so much for donations; it is a small group of parents who always donate and usually is on the head of the hospitality committee. Creating a balance is good for those parents who can't be here but want to contribute but we don't want to be relying on the same people all the time. We appreciate all the donations but please give us suggestions on how we can do it better.

- Dawn: Mr. Rohr would try to use his connections with businesses in town to get donations.
- Hillary: Use social media use Fundraising Friday to post needs on all social media pages.
- Maria Karg: Use a video that can be linked to the HS page. Maybe we could get kids to volunteer.

Question: What is the difference between the cupcakes and cakes on Fridays once a month? The cake is sponsored by High Point Insurance and is for all teachers once a month. Maybe next year we combine the two. But really, the teachers really appreciate the Friday birthday cake and the good will that spreads is huge. (Liz King).

Liz Fischer: Are there any plans for fundraising for the academic banquet. Debbie purchased the first table: 1979. It might be fun to have as a competition to see who is ahead.

Adjourned at 1:04. Motion by Aimee Reyes to adjourn seconded by Liz Fischer.

Next meeting is Nov 1, 11:45am

End of Meeting Minutes