

North County High School PTSA
Meeting Minutes
November 15, 2017

Meeting called to order at 6:37 p.m.

In attendance: Jennifer Mermod; Elizabeth Leight; Sonya Sutter; Alison Cherowitzo; Stephanie Doersam; Bill Atkinson; Ginny Ford; Nancy Sumwalt; Sarah Longo; Lisa Crittenden; and Mr. Fowlkes.

Welcome: Sonya Sutter

President Sonya Sutter welcomed all in attendance. Introductions were made.

Approval of October 2017 Minutes

Prior minutes were reviewed.

- Motion: Elizabeth L. motioned and Jennifer M. seconded to approve the October 18, 2017 meeting minutes with one change as agreed upon.
- Vote: Motion carried
- Resolved: Minutes from the October 18, 2017 meeting approved, as modified.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's report was reviewed. Lisa C. reported that all audits are completed; the IRS Form 990 was filed and the Maryland Charitable Notice was filed.

Principal's Report: Mr. Fowlkes

Mr. Fowlkes said that there was nothing new to report. Monday Advisory is continuing to review grades and determine where to go for Knight Time. Knight Time will continue on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays.

Overall discipline is better than at other schools. Nothing major has occurred. They are focusing on instruction.

They added collaborative planning in the middle of the day. There is some stress on the teachers.

Stephanie D. discussed that during the middle of the first marking period some students needed help with math; they could have used help sooner.

Knight Time was discussed. There was chaos during the first day telling the new students to go somewhere. The Board of Education wanted to discontinue Knight Time. Freshman had the lowest matriculation rate in the County. Discipline skyrocketed.

Stephanie D. brought up the topic of out-of-area students. A grandmother was following students to see where they were going and what they were doing; high school students were throwing rocks. More people are coming from the City (Brooklyn, etc.). They used to have two people personnel workers (PPWs); now there is only one (Jennifer Reuf). Homeless children are automatic (it does not matter where they came from). If they are disciplined they get moved to Glen Burnie or Meade. Most of the students do belong here though.

There is no plan to expand North County High School at this time. They are building a new Crofton high school now and plans for rebuilding Old Mill are underway. This may affect NCHS.

Countywide there are 35-50 students in some classes.

NCHS has the capacity of 2,314 students. We have 2,200+ now. Bill A. said the County had 2,100 new students this year, but no new teachers were hired.

During the past two years discipline numbers have dropped precipitously; the discipline ladder has changed.

Homecoming was discussed. Lisa C.'s daughter arrived at 7:00 p.m. and was in the dance by 7:15 p.m. Traffic was better for drop-off, but there were long lines for pick-up. Maybe we can get the police to direct traffic next year.

Respecting overall traffic, parents were contacted in advance to alleviate the traffic issues. More students rode buses.

There is a lot of police presence during the football games.

Per Lisa C., a parent requested an American Sign Language interpreter for future meetings. We may need to pay from the PTSA budget. Stephanie D. can post on Facebook to see if there is an interpreter willing to assist us.

Elizabeth L. asked if the Freshman knew about Knight Time prior to school starting. Mr. Fowlkes said they knew about it. Since Knight Time was rolled in, it was better this year.

Teacher's Report: Ms. Mermod

There will be no Advisory or Knight Time Monday and Tuesday; they will use the Friday schedule. Report cards will be distributed on Monday. Lisa C. thanked Ms. Mermod for the NHS help at the craft/vendor fair.

Committee Reports

Membership: Per Alison C., the staff were counted twice in the membership numbers last month. There are 134 memberships to date (91 Parents; 30 Students; 11 Staff; 2 Alumni). Sonya S. will send a message to Ms. Lewis to speak to the Staff. We have some dates now for upcoming events. They had one Fab. Friday so far; another one is scheduled for this Friday. Sonya will follow up regarding events to promote more membership. Some upcoming events are: (1) The play is tomorrow through Saturday. The weekly newsletter was wrong: the play is Thursday, Friday and Saturday at 7:00 p.m.; (2) the music concert (Dec. 12th); (3) the German concert; and (4) the basketball games. Sonya will speak with Ms. Gossage about a master calendar.

Hospitality: The grab-n-go snack set-up for the 10/19/2017 parent/teacher conferences was well attended. Thanks to all who donated. The next parent/teacher conferences are scheduled for 12/8/2017 and we will do the grab-n-go snacks again. Sonya S./Lisa C. will follow up for donations.

Senior Banners: Per Stephanie D., 24 banners are sold to date (only 20 paid so far). Lisa C. needs to match these up through PayPal; she will coordinate with Stephanie. There were two overpayments and they were for donations. The first deadline is 12/1/2017 (\$30). Stephanie will contact Mr. Summers and Ms. Lewis (and cc: Mr. Fowlkes); they will need the text for the ConnectEd messages. A discussion was held about a recently deceased student's banner. Stephanie will reach out to family to see if they still want the banner or want to change the message. This is okay with the vendor. We need to find out how to get the message out to pick up the banners at the end of the school year. Sonya S. will ask Kim Frye for the sample banner from last year.

After-Prom Breakfast: The next meeting is 11/28/2017 at 6:30 p.m. at NCHS. A quarter auction is scheduled for 2/24/2018 at St. Christopher's. We are still waiting for a check from Flippin' Pizza; the timing was not good; the place was small. Stacy L. is the Food Night Chair. We are looking at Green Turtle, Chick-fil-A; Five Guys. There is no theme yet for the prom.

Craft/Vendor Fair (10/28/2017): Lisa C. said there was a good turnout. There are no Saturdays available in March or April for the spring event. If we have it Sunday, 3/18/2018, the Music Boosters could leave the tables open after their 3/17/2018 event.

Ginny F. will check with the Music Boosters Board to possibly coordinate this. The Glen Burnie craft fair is also on 3/17/2018.

Reminders

Gift cards: Donations are welcome for the Fab. Fridays; Stephanie D. will post on Facebook.

Ready2Drive: For the January/April classes, we need someone to coordinate flyers at lunchtime. Mr. Tillman is an Administrator at Lindale Middle School.

Giant: This is a school fundraiser. The school's ID # is 01094.

Shop at **smile.amazon.com**: Select NCHS PTSA and the PTSA will get a small percentage of the sale.

Target: Does not offer this anymore.

eScrip: The PTSA's group ID # is 500044532. We occasionally get money from this.

Other Business

A discussion was held regarding Facebook. Cross-promotions are great to post other events; we will continue to specify who is holding the event.

Regarding the gift cards for the Fab. Friday events, it was suggested to get them through the Music Boosters. Michelle F. can share the link on our Facebook page. Nancy S. will contact Michelle to request this.

Elizabeth L. sits on the Kirwan Commission. The Commission's purpose is to evaluate education excellence in Maryland. There is a meeting tomorrow: to revamp the way funding is handled in Maryland; re: teachers' career ladders and what is being taught at universities to prepare them for their students; to recommend more career offerings and certificates to students. A report is to be ready in the spring before the Maryland General Assembly.

Stephanie D. said there needs to be more information on careers (plumbing/HVAC, etc.) instead of just the college focus. The students need financial literacy.

Next meeting: 12/20/2017 at 6:30 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 8:27 p.m.