

Poolesville High School PTSA
Tuesday, January 18, 2022
7:00 pm
Membership Meeting Minutes
[Meeting Recording](#)

1. Welcome and Introductions:
 - a. Session is being recorded for posting on PTSA website
 - b. Member registration for meeting can be done in the Zoom Chat window
 - c. Quorum verification

2. PTSA President's report:
 - a. BOE testimony – The MCPS Board of Education met last week where David Griffith, Poolesville High School PTSA President, testified on behalf the PTSA.
 - b. BOE Meeting – the meeting included the approval of Poolesville High School Phase I construction contracts
 - c. Phase II budget and gym inclusion - In the discussion of the PHS modernization project at the BOE meeting, Seth Adams mentioned that \$30 million in Phase II will include a new competition gym as part of the project. The PTSA President mentioned this is a very encouraging development, and very exciting for the high school and community.

3. Principal Carothers' report:

Mr. Carothers expressed gratitude on behalf of his family, and how very nice it is to be supported by the Falcon family, for the flowers and cards received after his mother's passing. He praised the School Admin Team who took leadership in his absence and was appreciative of all the support. He also reminded everyone that the last day of the semester approached, and it will be a big weekend when admin offices will be moved in preparation for construction. The Bus loop and main entrance will be moved to the Wootton Avenue side of the building, which leads students into the media center foyer as of the start of the new semester. There will be signage in the building so everyone will know where to go. Mr. Carothers also understands the concern about the surge in covid cases; we had our surge before winter break. If you have questions and concerns, reach out to Mr. Carothers or the school counselors. Thank you for your patience and support.

4. PHS School Construction Update:

Jen Roberts from Dustin Construction shared a presentation. She mentioned that upon BOE approval of the construction contracts, the BOE sent notice to Dustin Construction to proceed with work on the PHS modernization project. There is no change to the current plan and schedule as of now. As Mr. Carothers mentioned, the Admin offices and bus loop will move locations at the end of the semester. Construction fencing will start to go up, and fencing will begin to block off and redirect traffic. The south parking lot remains as student drop off, and there will be building walkways for students to access buildings. More and more activity will be kicking off over the next several weeks. Dustin is very excited to work together with the Poolesville High School community through any challenges. The PTSA President remarked that this is an a-ha moment for the project after so many years.

Q: Will security be on hand to help direct traffic at student drop off?

A: Mr. Carothers commented that "Yes there will be re-direction of traffic. Some staff parking will be eliminated on the Wootton Ave side, and thus, moved to the South Lot. Some student spaces will be removed. The County is working on investigating whether there are other spaces nearby that could be used for student parking. Refer to weekend message about student

parking permits, and if your student does not have to drive to school, do not. We can have security out there a little earlier to direct traffic in the morning knowing that the first few weeks will have bumps along the way.

Q: What is the flow of new bus loop? Will do not enter signs be removed?

A: Yes, correct—signs will be removed because the flow will be reversed in the new bus loop. Busses will enter the Wootton Ave lot on the W. Willard side.

Q: How many student spots will be repurposed for the staff?

A: Less than 50, but don't have exact count. We do know that we have unique needs as compared to other schools. Visitor parking will now be on the Wootton Ave. side. We appreciate everyone's flexibility in the next few weeks.

5. PTSA Committee updates:

- a. Membership – Secretary provided information on Spring membership drive, which is kicking off and made an appeal to non-members to join the PTSA by purchasing a membership in the PTSA online store.
- b. Fundraising –
 - i. Mardi Gras bags fundraiser coming up in February
 - ii. Student club grants – The past fundraisers have been successful, so we are at a point where we can start distributing funds to clubs through a grant application process. The Club Grant application will be available shortly.
- c. Post-prom – the PTSA's thoughts and efforts are turning to Post-prom. 2022 fundraising campaign for Post prom will begin soon to get donations of \$20.22 per family. May 6 is the date of the event, and we will need a lot of volunteers to make the event successful.
- d. Staff appreciation – Christine and Jess appreciate all the support and donations so far. The staff really do go out of their way to express their gratitude. The new staff appreciation event date for this month is January 31 (moved from Jan. 10).
- e. Cultural Arts – Efforts had to be suspended this year due to Covid
- f. Reflections – we missed the window this year but will gear up for next school year

6. Poolesville Magnet House Spotlight:

- a. Ms. Binns – Global Ecology House
Ms. Binns shared a presentation of the Global Ecology House which ties together science and social studies. She commented that it is wonderful to be back in the building and to be back to doing field trips.

7. Approval of December Meeting minutes:

First VP made motion to vote on approval of the meeting minutes. Motion was seconded. Voting was opened. All ayes to approve, no nays. December minutes approved.

8. Next PTSA meeting:

The next PTSA General Membership meeting will take place Tuesday, February 15 at 7:00 pm. The meeting will be held virtually.

PHS PTSA Secretary Signature: Andrea M. Stokes

Date: February 14, 2022