

POOLESVILLE HIGH SCHOOL PTSA GENERAL MEETING

MARCH 16, 2021

The general meeting of the PHS PTSA was held virtually. There were 16 participants at the zoom meeting.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: The President, Dawn Albert, called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm. She welcomed everyone and asked that a motion be made to accept the minutes from the February meeting. Jacqueline Zeranski made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Laurie Kreitzer seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved. Dawn then went on to ask for volunteers for the nominating committee. According to the current by-laws each officer can only serve for one year, so the entire board positions need to be filled. Dawn volunteered to be on the committee and chair the committee since she is retiring from the PTSA board. The other two members are Jane Lehrman and Helen Trainor.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT: Mr. Carothers' reported that the reopening of school had gone very well. He stated that the students that were in person were upbeat and excited to be back. The next group due to come back to the school building are the Seniors and students in the Project Lead the Way program. They are due to start on April 8th. Mr. Carothers explained how lunch would operate once there were more students in the building. There will be 3 areas for eating; the cafeteria, media center, and the small gym. All 3 areas have been setup with desks 6 ft. apart. On April 19th when the other grades return, lunch will operate on a rotational schedule based on the alphabet. The lunch schedule, as well as additional information, will be sent in the Sunday message prior to each groups return date, as well as posted on the school website. He also talked about the bus schedules. Each student riding a bus must have a pass which they can get from the school. The busses will be following the same routes as before. However students will not be permitted to stay after school and take the extended day bus unless they are in the extended day program. Mr. Carothers is hoping as things improve with the virus status that he will be able to have clubs meetings after school and then the students would have the ability to ride those buses. He informed us of the BOE decision to hold school virtually on the first 2 days back from Spring Break; 4/6 /& 4/7, because of the possibility of people traveling over the break. He stated that as of this date there are approximately 470 students returning to in person learning. The AP exams are scheduled but the process of how it will be delivered is still a work in process. The SAT test will take place on 4/13 in the school building, only those students taking the test will attend school that day. All other students will have a normal virtual asynchronous day. Mr. Carothers went on to explain about the rotational week schedule for students returning to school. The information will be sent in the Sunday messages as well as posted on the school website in the orientation information link.

As of now Graduation will take place at PHS in the stadium. However there will be no Prom. There will be a Senior Unity Day celebration at the school. As more information becomes available from MCPS, he will share.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Membership: No Report.

Staff Appreciation: Once again a “Big Thank You” to Helen Trainor and her committee for providing some kind of staff appreciation each month.

Senior Activities: Planning for some kind of Post Prom event is still ongoing. See the PTSA website and Facebook page for updated information.

New Business: A question was raised about what would happen to the current personalized bricks around the school building as well as the mosaics? Mr. Carothers spoke with the building team about these items as well as the Senior Bench. He stated that they would save as much as they could and incorporate them into the new building. Dawn asked if we could do a fundraiser and sell more bricks. He said yes. There are no changes regarding the gym status, but we will continue to push for a new gym.

The BOE has approved the plan for construction at PHS. Start date set for this summer and completion date Fall of 2024.

The SRO program will be voted on soon. The hope is to revise the current program; not eliminate.

CLUSTER REPORT: Jane Lehrman said that the Poolesville cluster meeting on 4/22 will be held virtually. At this point she has no other information on the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:57. The next general meeting will be on April 20 at 7:00 pm via Zoom.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra M. Baggett

PHS PTSA Secretary