

Poolesville High School PTSA
Tuesday, February 15, 2022
7:00 pm
Membership Meeting Minutes
[Zoom Link](#)

1. Welcome and Introductions
 - a. Meeting called to order at 7 pm. Session being recorded for posting on PTSA website.
 - b. Member registration in chat – 34 members attending
 - c. Quorum verification
2. Review and approval of January minutes
3. President's report
 - a. Treasurer appointment – Kelly Elam has agreed to be our PTSA Treasurer. We are very excited she will oversee the PTSA finances. Thank you to Kelly for taking on the toughest role on the PTSA.
 - b. PTSA Letter to MCPS Athletics – President signed a letter along with other MCSP PTSA Presidents asking to give special consideration to parents as spectators of school sports. Pleased to see spectator capacity has been opened up to 50%.
 - c. Post prom fundraising campaign – The \$20.22 donation campaign is up and running. We hope all parents will support the Post Prom event.
 - d. Volunteers Needed for two committees. These are finite committees. Important we get people to serve on these committees:
 - Bylaws
 - Nominations
4. Principal Carothers' report

As Dave said Prom is on the horizon. Date is still May 6. There was concern about an indoor prom at the Hilton. High Point Farm was settled on as the new location for Prom. Move of bus loop has gone smoothly. Please park and drop off in the student parking lot. Do not drop off on the Wootton Avenue side. Impressed with new offices that have been put together last month. There are new attendance procedures. One of our attendance secretary passed away. There were communication issues. There is now a special attendance email address and a google form that should be completed for absences. SGA and students were disappointed that the winter pep rally was cancelled. Looking at next Friday the 25th for a pep rally to celebrate the winter athletes and have some fun. It's been a great start to the second semester.
5. PHS School Construction Update

Jen from Dustin joined and shared a presentation. Exciting this month after getting approved so we can move forward. General schedule has not changed. We are in Phase 1 now. Dates have not changed. Dustin is working on a lot of paperwork, permits, contracts, literally every piece of material in the building has documentation associated with it. That process has started. Prep work is being done on the West side of school is underway via shift work. On the 21st, will take advantage of no school and make some noise. Need to move transformer that is near the science building to get ready for Potomac Edison to come out in April. Changes coming up: fencing will go up on south side of school by the parking lot, and parking will change to southernmost part of parking lot. Fencing will mark off the construction zone will really start to go up very soon. Next month we will have another update. New gym is in Phase 2 in 2023 but money has not been officially approved.

6. School Security Review:

Mr. Carothers thanks for opportunity to discuss. On Fridays we give students an opportunity to share their feedback. We talk about security and wellness in Advisory. There are some learning gaps and social emotional gaps and gaps in conflict resolution. We have two separate presentations. Kids have Advisory lessons every Friday. This presentation is what was shared with students on Jan 28 after the shooting at Magruder. Gave students an opportunity to share their feelings and ask questions. Goal is to prevent emergency situations, and what to do if there is an emergency. Security goes around every day to make sure doors are shut. There is one monitored entry point for all visitors. We have access to officer Roberts even though the SRO program was removed. WE are lucky to have access to him. He spent a couple weeks on site. He is our community engagement officer located at the UMCVFD station.

Q. Why are terms used sound like institutional words like “defend” and “lockdown”

Q: Is there security after school especially in the parking lot?

A: No, only during school, but we don't have security after school but Mark has done some supervising after school. But we do have cameras.

Q: Increase in violence in past few months? Why no consequences?

A: There are consequences we follow the MCPS code of conduct. We have only two fights all year. Students were given consequences. There are consequence for students not wearing mask properly. Consequences are confidential, it may seem they are not happening but they are. We want students to be in a productive learning environment and that is the end goal.

7. Well-being presentation:

Ms. Wilder shared a presentation on Community Well-being, conflict resolution and social-emotional. All HS are expected to have Advisory period. That time is carved out to support students for both academic support. Friday advisory is an actual lesson. Designed to be dedicated to the health of the community and knew it would be important to have these sessions. Includes relationship building and getting students to get to know each other. Advisory is an extension of 2nd period. We thought it would be better than homeroom. All staff are assigned to advisory classrooms. We share information, problem solve, build community. 2nd semester we needed an overt tending to student well- being. These slides will be shown to students in the upcoming Advisory period. Well-being will be discussed throughout the rest of the year. Kids are really enjoying Advisory period. It is important that kids feel they are being heard and valued.

8. Committee Updates:

a. Membership

i. sign up form <https://forms.gle/gkLVDytE7oQooVPo9>

b. Communications

c. Fundraising

d. Post-prom – Cheryl is coordinator. We are kicking off the \$20.22 donation campaign. Would love to have every family at PHS donate to help fund the Post-prom. Every family can help to make this happen. We need prizes! We have raffles throughout the night, and we have an Amazon wish list for prizes. Can be shipped to us from Amazon. Details are shaping up. We need students to get involved! Post prom starts Friday May 6 and runs until 5 am Sat morning. We need parent volunteers to help with the event as well.

e. Staff appreciation – Staff is very appreciative of the staff appreciation events and all of the donations.

