

HIGH SCHOOL PTA AGENDA
Thursday, September 7, 2017
7:30pm

Welcome: Welcome back to a new school year. Welcome to our incoming 9th grade families and welcome back our returning families. Minutes from the June meeting are also on the tables.

The attendance book and Share folder were passed around.

Debbie introduced the Executive Board.

THANK YOU: to Mr. Murray, and our administrators for joining us tonight; Hilary Starr and Karina Merseburg for Membership; Frann Rappaport and Lisa Hindi and all who volunteered for our staff back to school breakfast; Frann Rappaport, Lisa Hindi and Hilary Starr and all who volunteered on the Freshman Welcome committee; our Audit Committee: Ivy Chasan, Cindy Mertz and Anna Nizzari; and Anna Nizzari for tonight's hospitality.

Vote of Confidence: I need to ask for a vote of confidence, which would give me the authority to speak on behalf of our unit without first taking a vote. I will only use this authority to respond in a circumstance when something about our unit comes up that our unit has not seen addressed before and I would then have the authority to ask questions on behalf of our unit and then bring the issue back to our unit. **Motion carried.**

Vote for expenditures: I would also like to ask for the authority to approve expenditures up to \$100 without first getting a vote. **Motion carried.**

Vote on Budget: We did not purchase a gift to the school last year, so we incorporated that line into this year's budget. We also reduced the gift to the school this year from \$2,000 to \$1,500. **Motion Carried.**

Motion to accept the minutes from the June meeting. Motion Carried.

Principal's Report-Mr. Murray:

Welcome. We have a great turn out tonight. Typically, at PTA meetings I share what has been going on at the school both the good and bad, it is only the 3rd day. Thank you for the faculty breakfast today, a nice way to start the school year; and the freshman mixer was today. Thank you for the gift to the school from PTA at the end of the school year we purchased the microphones for the stage for students to use during our shows. Over the summer the building was busy with district activities, so we did not have many building projects going on. Our head custodian lost his wife at the end of the summer and we were a little short staffed with some injuries, but custodians from around the district came here to pitch in and we were ready for opening day. We are hosting a custodian appreciation day tomorrow as a thank you for everyone for pitching in. We built a PAES Lab (Practical Assessment in Exploration System) for special needs students learning a trade. Chrome books arrived at the HS. Freshmen are receiving them this week. Next week there is an info. meeting for sophomore parents. 41 new and returning staff, 17 people retired at the end of last year.

Service Projects: Help for Houston: we are collecting school supplies.

At the 9/18 Bd. of Ed mtg. I will present the scholarship report for the 2016-2017 school year. I will share that at the next PTA mtg. As president of the administrators union we have been invited to join PTA and participate in the American Heart Association walk a thon on Sunday 9/17. We are looking forward to it.

Parent questions: A/C some of the classrooms are warm? The old part of the building has window units, not every room has one, but making the entire building a/c is part of the smart bond and will be in the works over the next few years, I will get more information on a timeline.

Parent suggestion: Senior Sunrise on the first day of school and sunset on the last day of school. In the past, the senior class watched the sunrise together on the football field on the last day of school.

Audit Committee Report: Ivy: met in late July, we did 2 reports college awards and the hs bank account. Everything was in order in both accounts. Everything matched and we are right where we should be.

PTA President Report:

We need some help, I will email a list of volunteer opportunities.

Over the summer, the BOE voted not to count the Geometry Regents if it was unfavorable to the students GPA because they felt the test was so flawed. In the Share folder is a draft of the letter they will be sending to Commissioner Elia and the Board of Regents, explaining their reasoning.

Security cameras are going to be installed in the buildings, beginning with the HS.

We now have a visitor and emergency notification management system installed in the buildings.

Enrollment in our district is at its highest: there are 4,946 students in the district.

On Election Day there will be an Opioid forum: one will be held during the day for school district nurses, social workers, psychologists, guidance counselors on Long Island. That evening there will be a community event.

The BOE is against holding a NYS constitutional convention – if there is a convention, delegates, who are usually legislators, can change anything - it's a threat to free education; the board of regents could be eliminated which would give the Governor direct control over education.

Long Island Heart Week- the American heart association heart walk at Jones Beach 9/17, we want the entire community to walk.

Any new business?

SEPTA Membership, Please join!

HS Membership, Please join!

Our next meeting is on Wednesday, October 11th in the library. Is there a motion to adjourn? second?