

HS PTA Minutes
October 11, 2017 Meeting

Thank You: to Mr. Murray and our administrators for joining us tonight; Hilary Starr and Karina Merseburg for Membership; Jenn Federmann for our daily announcements; Anna Nizzari for tonight's hospitality and Maureen Cooke for our website.

Jessica Butindari introduced herself as the new K-12 substance abuse counselor. Her office is located at HS in the Guidance Department, although she is working with all schools. She has been meeting with guidance, social workers, administrators and students. She will be leading a parent workshop 11/13 at 7, the topic is active parenting. She is looking forward to Community involvement and Looking at programing ideas.

Mr. Murray's Report: It is great working with Jessica so far, it is good to have her located here at the HS. She is starting to build up a clientele.

Since our last meeting we have had a successful: Senior BBQ, Grade 12 Operation apply, Safe teen driving night, Senior photos, Financial aid night, DECA instillation, and World Language Honor Society induction. Tomorrow we are holding a mini induction for those that did not get into National Honor Society in the Spring last year, we now included the 4th marketing period so any students eligible will be inducted tomorrow. Hot topic- Graduation and the concern that this is the largest class, Good News! It will be live-streamed, we have the commitment from the District to purchase the equipment needed for the live streaming. You will click a link and be able to see it in real time.

There have been on going discussions about testing and the amount of tests going on at not just the HS but at the middle school too. Mr. Murray is spearheading a committee of teachers and administrators to look at a model to address the # of test on any given day especially prior to a holiday. Looking at google calendar or selecting a unique day. Hoping to get committee going soon so it can addressed soon.

Thank you again for the school gift- microphones for student events.

There was a drug arrest that took place recently 2 of the young men were affiliated with our school one graduated this summer one is still a student and a third is not from our school. Some parents have contacted Mr. Murray that they were concerned that they were not informed, our policy is that we do not give out information about specific issues such as this, but this is a teachable moment. There was some 'fake news'- we did not have a student od on the first day of school, we did have a drug related incident on the first day with a student but it was not an overdose, and not associated with the 3 arrested students. The police did not reach out to the district about the 3 arrests so we did not issue a statement .

Another issue is the Cell phone collection or holders in school. We have a problem with cell phones, students use it to cheat, they take the cell in their pocket and say they have to go to the bathroom and then they cheat. Teachers are frustrated by this, so some teachers created a cell phone holder, like a shoe bag, every student got a # and they placed their phone in the pocket with that #. Teacher said it was working great. Parents complained that teachers should not take their child's personal possession. We had an incident several years ago that a teacher took a phone and accidentally dropped it and the phone broke which created a problem, the business office said you can't take phones, but rather the teacher was instructed to write a referral for the student. The teachers cannot take responsibility for any phone.

Questions: The student id's, that everyone now has, but the upper class did not get new ids if students take SAT/ACT at other schools they need a valid school id, College Bd. says last year's date is not valid? Mr. Murray will look into this.

Homecoming Parade- It starts at Mattlin in the parking circle area, line up at 1:15 march through the back of parking lot and then there is homecoming village (steps away from the football field) with games, activities for younger children

Treasurer's Report: \$ 13,406 operating account; \$ 5,223 college awards account

Announcements: On Monday, October 16th, PTA Council and the BOE are presenting a Meet the Candidates Night at POBMS. Candidates for positions on the Town of Oyster Bay Board will be on the panel, which will be moderated by Kristin Thorne, Channel 7 Eyewitness News Reporter. A flyer with more details is in our share folder.

On Tuesday, November 7th, also at POBMS, there will be a Student/Parent/Citizen Summit on the subject of How We can End the Opioid Epidemic – Tools and Strategies for Prevention. The Keynote speaker will be Harvey Milkman, PhD. This will take place at 7:30pm.

Committee Reports: Arts in Ed-every school getting the same amount as last year \$1000 (\$1500 with BOCES discount) the committee would like the funds and programming to go towards the arts, music, dance, theatre.

Booster club- Homecoming Saturday

Health- First meeting is at the end of the month

BAC- nothing to report

Nutrition- new system instead of just meeting at the HS we are traveling to each of the schools and bringing kids into the meeting to get their feedback on the food. 1st meeting we went to Pasadena, it was a lot of fun getting feedback from the kids. At the HS the menus cannot be accessed until the last day of the prior month. At the middle school and HS students can use id to purchase, we are going to offer breakfast all day at the HS to address the kids that have lunch 1-3 who they don't want to eat a burger, this will be on a trial basis.

Parents Night Out- Thursday 12/7 Marios in Plainview to raise money for scholarships, it should be a fun night.

Septa- Night Out 11/8 at the Mansion in Woodbury at the golf course, Dueling Pianos, vendors and raffles looking forward to a good night.

Site based- no report

Athletic committee- didn't meet yet, Parent shared a concern that Twice at JV soccer games the coach did not have ice, today they had to get ice from the other team- shouldn't our coaches have ice?

Transportation and Safety- there is an app on designated staff phones in case of immediate emergency such as an active shooter or a fire the police have pictures of the rooms and they have access to the building cameras. Bond allowed additional cameras and blue led to indicate when a building is in lock down currently we have to announce over the loudspeakers. This will be put into place soon, mid year.

The 2 members that volunteered to audit this month's books, will meet after the meeting and report back at the next meeting

Parent Questions: September was suicide awareness month and this was not discussed at all in this school; Freshman were told to create a Facebook profile to get the information about clubs, some students do not have Facebook and parents do not want them to have it, club advisors should be encouraged to use Remind App rather than the Facebook group.

Teacher-Teacher- tonight was very difficult to get on and ran very slow, each appointment is 5 min if there is a resource room or special ed. you should have 10 min, it did not let parent double book. Complaints about the overloaded system, lots of discussion.

Student parking- plenty of spots for this quarter, parking goes first to the people who never applied, then to people who parked once then parked twice. Often students do not submit for the Fall with hopes of getting a spot in the winter.

Are there monitors at the bathrooms? Yes- But not at every bathroom and at certain times of the day; 9-2 there are hall monitors and teachers' monitors during passing times near some of the bathrooms. It is to address vandalism. Parent concerned about smoking marijuana if a student sees something in a bathroom they are encouraged to tell an adult, then security is alerted.

Sunday- Fire prevention event at Headquarters at 10am.

Raffle from European Wax- several members won gift certificates.

Next meeting 11/27