

PRHS PTSA Minutes

Thursday, March 15, 2018

Sherrri Preston opened the meeting

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of 1/18/18 PTSA Meeting Minutes - Julie Slattery and Donna Branca

Student Representative Reports

- Cindy Caputi - 11th grade - the Junior Prom theme is “Enchanted”
- Olivia Piscani - 9th grade - Gertrude Hawk Chocolates fundraiser happening. They are discussing new fundraiser - candles or B. Good restaurant possibly
- Tigue Beaudry - 8th grade - Pirate Socks sale begins Monday, 4/9/18
- Class of 2020 - as reported by Jackie McGee:
 - Krispy Kreme fundraiser: 3/16/18 - 3/27/18. Delivery 4/17/18
 - Information is on Google Classroom and Remind
 - Class will do a Luigi O’Grady’s fundraiser date - TBD
 - BJ’s Brewhouse fundraiser is on 5/31/18
 - Dorney Park trip is 6/20/18 - \$70 fee includes park admission and bus.
 - This trip will be limited to 80 students

Treasurer’s Report: Ray Neubauer

- Available cash report - \$23,200 in checking today
- Funding for future scholarships - \$5,600
- \$8,000 for this year’s PTSA scholarships
- Next Meeting - Budget - Actual - will bring whole year together

Principal's Report: Mr. Michael Murphy

- Midterms went well - no weather interruptions; 1/29/18 starts new semester
- February 9-10 - Senior Class Musical - "Seussical"
They performed at Tuesday night's Board of Education meeting.
- Scheduling process began - most are done - some makeups happening now
- Next for scheduling - current PRMS 7th graders - electives are selected through the online portal
- Chromebook Rollout in 2/18 went very well. Extra meetings were held to help parents.
- February 22 - International Night/Empty Bowls - tremendous night - grows bigger every year.
- March 5 - Ping Pong Tournament - previously delayed because of snow. John Piscani won the final championship vs. Mr. Wolf.
- March 6 - 4 Core Honor Societies Induction (Social Studies, Science, English and Math)
- 3/18 - Pearl River Saint Patrick's Day Parade - PRHS Marching Band performing
- March 26 - 7th Grade Parent Orientation. Format revised in recent years based on parent input. A student panel will be present representing each grade level
- April 10 - World Language Honor Society Inductions - 7:00 pm - auditorium
- April 11 - 13 - NYSED ELA Assessment
- April 13 - Junior Prom - 7-11 pm - High School Gymnasium
- April 20-21 - PRHS Musical - "Curtains" a murder mystery musical comedy by Rupert Holmes - 7:00 pm
- April 26 - Pirate Palooza, which is a display of talents - Auditorium - Mr. Rose
- May 1 - 3 - NYSED Math Assessment
- May 7 - 18 - Advanced Placement Exams
- May 15 - Budget Vote
- Walkout Update - Students handled themselves very well. They prepared themselves well. Students approached Mr. Murphy with ideas so that everyone was on board together. Students exited the building on the campus

side only. A few of the students led a moment of silence. Approximately 400 students participated. Students moved back into the building in a very orderly manner. School administrators commended the students for honoring what they intended to honor.

- K-12 email alert coming out this evening regarding PRHS building security. Currently, 11 doors are open for morning drop off. This number will be reduced to four beginning on Monday, 3/19/18
 1. Flagpole Entrance
 2. Central Avenue Sign Parking Lot - Entrance through Administration doors
 3. Gymnasium
 4. Central Avenue Lot - 3rd floor English Wing door
- District is hiring for many positions - parents are needed for hiring committees
- Questions
 1. Final Ranks will be released soon. Ranks include 7 semesters - held up for flu season makeups still happening.
 2. District Calendar - still to be released

Faculty Report: See attached document from Miss Arney

Old Business:

- Apparel Sale - very low sales - will not repeat next spring. Will try the fall sale again

Committee Reports:

- Scholarship Committee - filled needed spots but more are welcome to join the committee.
- Staff Appreciation Luncheon is scheduled for 5/23/18. PTSA will be looking for a new chair for staff appreciation luncheon

New Business:

- Spring Fundraiser - A Taste of Pearl River - April 19th
- Donate Clothing Drive - 4/28
- Senior Citizen Deja Vu Dance - 4/14/18
- Board Positions available: President and Corresponding Secretary
Denise Anselmi expressed interest in the Corresponding Secretary position.
- No Color Run next year - Dueling Pianos and spa night are possible ideas

Question:

- Guidance transition plan for Mr. Bernasconi's move back to PRMS

Next and final PTSA Meeting for 2018-2019 - May 3, 2018

Meeting Adjourned

**Minutes respectfully submitted by E. Byman and T. McGeever -
Co-Recording Secretaries**

Project Graduation Meeting to follow

PTSA Faculty Report
March 15, 2018
Doreen Arney

Community Service:

Our annual Deja Vu event is on Saturday, 4/14, from 12-3. Students interested in earning

community service can see Mr. Bernasconi in the HS Guidance Office to sign up. For students applying to NHS, this counts as actual community service, not school service.

From the Guidance Department

Counselors have met with every English class to request courses for next year. They are just finishing up with a few students who were absent. Course requests will be available on the Portal soon-;a K12 will be sent out when they are.

Counselors are continuing to meet individually with Juniors regarding College

From the Classrooms:

From Tricia Sutton, Science: The Science Research Fair will take place on Tuesday, March 20th in Pirates cove from 10:45-1:05. Students from Honors Living Environment will be presenting their research posters on topics in botany, microbiology, human physiology and animals. Parents are welcome!

From Paul Martin, Art: Five (5) **Pearl River HS photography students** were selected as **FINALISTS** in *Fuji/Photographers Forum Magazine HS student contest*. Over 16,000 entries were received from the US, Canada and around the world.

Ava McGuinness, (10) Steven Burns, (10), and Jaclyn Kiggins (10), Marco Farsetta (12) and Aidan Casey (9) each had their photos selected as **Finalists**. All 5 student's photos will be published in the hardcover book ***Best of College and High School Photography 2017***, published this spring by the editors of *Photographers Forum Magazine*. Congratulations to Ava, Steven, Marco, Jaclyn and Aidan!

From Eileen Shepard & Doreen Arney: Three students representing Pearl River High School recently won high honors in this year's third meet of the WordWright Challenge.

Junior Olivia Tricano earned a near-perfect score and placed among the 42 highest scoring eleventh graders in the country. At the same time, freshmen Ava Raffa and Lorna Reilly both placed among the 90 highest-scoring ninth graders nationwide. The texts for the juniors were a pair of poems by Dave Smith and William Carlos Williams; the text for the 9th and 10th graders was Robert Frost's poem "After Apple Picking." Congratulations to these students!

From the Math Department: Pi Day was celebrated on Wednesday, March 14th by holding a Pi-athon. Students could earn extra credit points during their lunch periods by reciting pi to as many places as they could remember.

From Coach O'Keefe & the Phys Ed Department: Chris Woolgar, Mark Travalingo, Diane Gillule and Mr. O'Keefe went to a Drumming for Fitness conference which improved the curriculum tremendously. They start the unit in 4 weeks and will use the information in their classes.

From the Clubs:

From Megan Johnston: Yearbook is in final stages and will be the most creative yearbook ever published at PRHS- it's pretty EPIC.

From Tricia Sutton, Freshman Class Advisor: Also, the 9th grade Gertrude Hawk chocolates will be arriving on Wednesday, March 21st. Expect delivery by the end of next week.

From Michelle Olinsky, 8th grade advisor: The Class of 2022 (8th graders) is having its annual fundraiser, starting Monday, 4/9. They will be selling custom Pearl River socks for \$8 per pair. A flyer is being created and will be posted on the PTA website once it's completed. The sale will run from 4/9 through 4/20.

From Stephen Parisi, Dungeons & Dragons club: The Gaming Club has the results of its Magic: The Gathering tournament. Jimmy Walsh won first place at 111 places ; Conor Burke 2nd at 110 ; Steven Burns 3rd at 91.

From Coach O'Keefe:

SADD did second blood drive of the year and we were able to collect 50 pints of blood which is great considering it was flu season. That's a total of 130 pints for the year. SADD once again had another successful toy drive. All of our donated gifts went to a family in need here in Pearl River.

SADD and VASSA teamed up two weeks ago and had our students do Character Education activities with mine and Loraine Moylan's health classes. Gilbert Hawkins was able to bounce into both room and help also. 8 students in each room spoke to the 8th graders about the dangers of drugs/alcohol but also about proper decision making. They are doing it again this Friday due to the St. Patrick's Day parade Sunday.

Chris Woolgar, Mark Travalingo, Diane Gillule and myself went to a Drumming for fitness conference which improved our curriculum tremendously. I start the unit in 4 weeks and I will be able to use the information in my classes.

From Maureen Carroll, Youth & Government Advisor: A group of 12 students travelled to Albany last weekend to attend the NYS Youth & Gov't Conference where they were key members of a mock gov't of over 500 students from across the state. Our 9-12th graders either presented bills they wrote to a legislative body or argued assigned cases in front of a judicial body. Seniors Conor Burke, James Gilbert, and Jean-Paul Jeremie presided as justices of the court while senior Jimmy Maher, junior Bekim Gashi and freshman Liam Fitzpatrick successfully argued their cases before them. Sophomores Olivia Flynn, Marisa Anselmi, Alanah Fitzgerald and Ciara Timoney wrote and presented a bill requiring individuals over the age of 70 to retake their driver's test while sophomores Colleen Griffin- Turk and Julia Colbert wrote and presented a bill amending a Public Housing Law to require that residents be subjected to a drug test before moving in and then monthly thereafter. This inspiring program, run by NYS YMCA, takes place in our State Capitol building where students get to live history in the seats of our senators and legislators.

From Tom Mullane, Marine Science Advisor: The Marine Science Fair on Sat. 2/24 was an enormous success.

The club hosted over 300 guests and educated and entertained with exhibits on starfish, plate tectonics and the deep sea zones, plastic pollution in the oceans, whale and sea turtle migrations as well as why sea turtles are endangered, frogs and toads (live animals!) and so much more. The PRHS Marine Science Club is so appreciative of all the people who came to the fair because they love sharing what they've learned. In addition, this year the club will now be able to "adopt" several marine animals via donations which will go to the study and care of these injured or threatened animals.

From Beth Carter, Forensics Club Advisor: The first Forensics Team at Pearl River joined the Rockland Forensics League for competitive debate and won one of their debates. They will be debating next week in round two of debates and look forward to this experience. The students involved are: Anna Carney, Amelia Lesnick, Bridget Maye

Mrs. Carter also encourages everyone to come see the production of *Curtains*, the spring musical. It currently has over 70 students involved in the production.

From the Teams:

From Coach Hawkins: In Pearl River Boys Winter Track, Matt Politis Finished 4th at the NY State Meet in the 1000m and our Sprint Medley Relay Finished 3rd at Nationals with a US #3 overall performance- the team members were Nick Malftinano, Brian Flaherty, Thomas Wilson and Matt Politis.

From Shannon Flood:

Ciara Durcan (9th grade) placed 5th in the mile Racewalk at Nationals. 5th in the entire nation! She is an All American now. The only freshman in the race!

On the boys side...they broke two school records at Nationals, in the DMR relay and the SMR relay. They also placed 3rd in the nation in the SMR! This relay consisted of Nick Malfitano, Brian Flaherty, Thomas Wilson, and Matt Politis. These four gentlemen are All American as well!

