

Wilde Lake High School
PTSA Meeting Minutes
August 25, 2020

- Attendees – Tammy Bleything, Gina Hoagland, Lisa Gray, Matta Zeinali, Demetrius Weatherford, Linda Leslie, Laura Burris, Erika Chavarria, Brett Molin, Alisa Putman, Anne Santos, Marcy Leonard, Yetti Lipede, Brynn Conover, Sonni Aribiah, Jen Wilson, Kathleen Keck, Kareem Penn, Yvonne Jackson, Choya Riley, Nicole Brown, Tracy Holliday, Christine Sheeler, Natalie Ziegler, Irene Julian, Pat Marshal, Katitti Williams, Christopher Varga, Debrayta Salley, Tracie Schmidt, Kimberly Hudgens, Kathy Wallace-Boschulte, Carolina Wilcox, Sandra Speiser, Erica Hirsch, Kadesha T., Lindsey Begley, Galina, Amy Gomez, Jennifer Colihan, Margaret Yarbough, Dori Mornan, Mira Reeves, Kathleen, Kahryn Ehrlich, Tanya Thompson, Sydney, Jennifer Treger, Annette Varoli, Laura Burns, Regina Clay, Tania Faulkner
- Meeting called to order at 7:05 pm
- Welcome to our new Wildecats parents and family members
 - Lisa Gray welcomed everyone especially the new Wildecats parents and families
 - The election of the new leadership team and approval of the 2020-2021 budget must happen during an in-person meeting which will hopefully be scheduled for September. In the meantime, Linda Leslie is helping Lisa Gray and Rebecca Beall with transitioning.
 - Shout out to the WLHS administrative team and teachers who were present at the meeting – Marcy Leonard (Principal) Choya Riley (9th Grade Asst. Principal), Brett Molin (10th grade Asst. Principal), Yvonne Jackson (11th grade Asst. Principal), Kareem Penn (Athletics/Activities Manager), Erika Chavarria (Spanish, Diversity, Equity & Inclusion), Jen Wilson (Reading specialist) and Kathleen Keck (English).
- Re-introduction of the new PTSA leadership team and our hopes for this year
 - Lisa Gray, President Nominee
 - Rebecca Beall, President Nominee
 - Kathy Wallace-Boschulte, Vice President Nominee
 - Matta Zeinali, Vice President Nominee
 - Tracie Schmidt, Treasurer
 - Demetrius Weatherford, Corresponding Secretary
 - Tania Faulkner, Recording Secretary Nominee
 - Alisa Putman, Membership
 - Jen Lowry, Membership
 - Irene Julian, Membership
 - Demetrius and Phillip Weatherford, Hospitality
 - Yetti Lipede, HC Drug Free and After Prom Representative
 - Pat Marshal, PTAC Representative
 - Cynthia Fikes, PTAC Representative Nominee
 - Lisa Gray, CAC Representative
 - Margaret Yarbrough, SECAC Representative
- Goals for this year
 - MemberHub is coming soon. This hub will be used for the PTSA to stay in contact with its membership.
 - The leadership team wants to make this the most supportive and community-based group this year. The team wants to do all we can to support family, teachers, students and each other.
 - Members were invited to think about how they can serve and encouraged to provide feedback and share any needs they have.

- Members were also encouraged to share information with families who could not attend tonight's meeting.
- Contact Lisa, Rebecca and Linda directly with any questions.
- Principal's Update - New School Year and Fall Highlights
 - Marcy Leonard introduced staff members on the call and encouraged families to contact them if they need anything.
 - WLHS is fully staffed for this year (six vacancies are filled). Teachers returned today. They attended a staff meeting this morning and then training workshops. Training workshops included building community in a remote setting, antiracism, school improvement plan, etc.
 - Teachers are ready to provide quality instruction.
 - There will be letter grades this year and the traditional grading system will be reinstated. Students will take semester and quarter courses.
 - Students will be in classes on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays for synchronous work in all four classes with teachers and time for additional support if needed. On Wednesdays, students will engage in asynchronous work. There will be Wildecats Time on Mondays for club meetings, activities, etc.
 - The administration will not allow the pandemic and virtual learning to interfere with the school's vision –
 - Ohana/family/community;
 - Equitable learning community and high expectations for all students;
 - Students finding their purpose, goals and a path forward after graduation
 - Students will have homework. Parents were encouraged to let administration know if students are over or under engaged. There is a lot going on and the administration wants to provide all the wellness and mental help needed. The Student Services team stands ready to support with these needs. Management of communication with classes will be better this Fall - consistent landing pages are being created for all four semester classes so that students and parents can easily find information.
 - Schedules will be available on synergy on 9/1 and for students on 9/4 and 9/5. Wildecats Ohana Orientation (WOO), a virtual orientation for all students, is on 9/3 at 9am. Back to School Night is on 9/10 at 6pm for parents (similar info as WOO, but more parent-related info including breakout sessions). Community messages will be posted on Canvas, school website, Twitter, Instagram.
 - WLHS will host ACT and SAT on September 12. Contact Mr. Rose for more information (eugene_rose@hcpss.org).
 - Performing arts classes will be offered for the full-year. Students can take for part of the year if their schedule will not allow them to take it all year.
 - Athletics is postponed until the second semester. Plans are being developed to have student athletes engage with coaches via zoom or google meet. Coaches are hoping to create workouts to keep them engaged while they are home. More info will go out to all next week. Updates will be in newsletter, website, etc. Contact Mr. Penn with questions (kareem_penn@hcpss.org).
 - Marching band will not come back in person however, Mr. Green plans to provide students with quality music instruction virtually.
 - Students will pick-up some text books on 9/16. Most books will be online. 9th grade students will receive special welcome gifts. Returning students will also receive a special gift.
 - Homecoming and spirit week dates are added to the calendar. Administration is brainstorming about virtual homecoming ideas. There will be no homecoming parade.
- Budget Review and request for member input
 - Highlights
 - \$24K in account - \$12K from grants (must be spent on specific items); \$12K available
 - Looking to keep budget lower than last year.
 - Expenditures include operating expenses, scholarships, After Prom, etc.

- Increased BSAP amount
 - Decreased Homewood and HC Drugfree
 - Decreased After Prom amount
 - Budget Categories –
 - Support for staff and students
 - After Prom or other activities
 - BSAP, Support for school psychologist initiatives
 - Graduate Scholarships
 - Hospitality
 - Need to figure out how to spend grant monies (Horizon Foundation mental health grant must be spent by end of year; teen parenting grant must be spent by end of October). So far, mental health funds used for two workshops. There will be a third workshop.
 - Mental Health needs – students need to form social attachments especially now during the pandemic. Suggested topics for the third workshop –
 - How to get students to feel part of the Ohana during virtual instruction?
 - Question, Persuade, and Prefer (QPR) training.
 - Members encouraged to contact Lisa, Rebecca, Linda with other suggestions.
 - Volunteers needed to audit the PTSA's financial books (expected duration of 1-1.5 hours). Tammy Bleything and Anne Santos volunteered to help conduct the audit.
 - The PTSA typically gets input on how to spend money and then votes.
 - Ideas on things to spend funds on are encouraged. Send ideas to Tracie Schmidt.
- PTSA Communication
 - Community emails are sent to remind members about monthly meetings. During important events (like redistricting), more emails are sent out.
 - No official Facebook or Twitter account however, the PTSA uses the Friends of Wilde Lake Facebook page.
 - Class of 2021 WLHS parents are brainstorming on how to make seniors feel special. Students are encouraged to complete the Class of 2021 survey.
 - Discussion of the work we can do to support our teachers, staff members and families as Fall remote teaching and learning unfolds.
 - Something to welcome new Wildecats families and make them feel part of the Ohana
 - Any days when PTSA can provide refreshments for teachers?
 - A small group of teachers will visit the school on 8/28 and 9/4 to pick up belongings.
 - Teacher volunteers will be at the school on 9/16 for materials pickup, 8am – 3pm.
 - Updates from the Maryland PTSA, PTAHC, CAC, SECAC.
 - CAC - on hiatus
 - Maryland PTSA – is under probation and trying to work through that. They recently emailed guidelines for PTA/PTSA's use of HCPSS outdoor property to conduct in-person meetings.
 - SECAC – no update
 - PTAHC – They recently emailed guidelines for PTA/PTSA's use of HCPSS outdoor property to conduct in-person meetings.
 - Voting – many children in WLHS are now eligible to vote. Are we doing anything to help them register to vote?
 - In February, BSAP focused on voting rights and helped register students to vote.
 - Cynthia Fikes will send voter registration process information to Ms. Leonard for distribution to the WLHS community.

- PTSA members can also use their own personal email addresses and social media accounts to share voter registration information.
- Outdoor activities
 - No outdoor activities can be sponsored by the schools, PTA, or any other formal groups. HCPSS website lists that outdoor tracks are open for use.
- HCPSS Announcements/Needs:
 - Volunteer help is needed with putting together 30,000 packages of instructional materials for students on 8/26-8/28. Email Wendy Ryan (Wendy_Ryan@hcpss.org).
- Closing and Sept./Future PTSA Meeting Dates
 - The PTSA needs to pass the 2020-2021 budget and officially elect a new board at the next in-person meeting
 - September meeting to be scheduled soon
 - Regular schedule for meetings – Lisa, Rebecca and Linda will come up with some options and send to the leadership team for votes.
- Adjourned at 8:39pm