



**Newton North High School**  
**PTSO Board Meeting, January 11, 2022 (5:00-6:15PM)**  
**Location: Zoom meeting**

**MEETING MINUTES**

<b>Attendees:</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Patty Eagan <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Heather Pozen <input type="checkbox"/> Karen Cutone <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> April Stein <input type="checkbox"/> Livia Aber <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Janna Lacatell <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ellen Wrigley <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Henry Turner <input type="checkbox"/> Amy Winston	<input type="checkbox"/> Kim Buckton <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jennifer Bentley <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Susannah Wardley <input type="checkbox"/> Gayatri Aryan <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Karen Ghiron <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Borislava Stoyanova <input type="checkbox"/> Alberta Chu <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dima Basha <input type="checkbox"/> Mark Tacki <input type="checkbox"/> Linda Barros
<b>Additional Attendees:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Joel Bloom	<input type="checkbox"/> Cecelia Kwartler

Agenda Topic	Owner	Time Allotted
<b>Call To Order @5:06MM</b>	Patty, Heather	1 minute
<b>Motion to Approve Prior Meeting Minutes</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Motion approved</li> </ul>	Janna, Ellen	1 minute
<b>Review of PTSO Norms</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Need to keep to our time limits: if no updates are needed, time can be allotted to others</li> </ul>	Patty, Heather	3 minutes
<b>Financials</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>P&amp;L</b></li> <li>• <b>Treasurer's Report</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Not much to report. Great response for Staff</li> <li>○ Appreciation donations: double what was hoped for.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	April, Livia	10 minutes
<b>Programming</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preparations complete for open Zoom workshop by Dr. Abel Sanchez of MIT/Cybersecurity, "Preparing Your Teens for the Digital Transformation of Jobs and Careers". Workshop will be held on January 31, 2022 from 5:00 - 6:00 pm, with 30-45 minute presentation duration and remaining time for Q&amp;A.</li> </ul>	Bori, Karen	5 minutes

<b>EdEx Update</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PTSO updated on the Sails Campaign: ready to receive donations. Reach out to Dave Stickney for location of sails; letter will need to go from Henry to the community. Messaging will need to start soon to stay ahead of Celebration messaging and fundraising.</li> <li>• Considerations for drainage under sails? Yes - especially with placement and at higher ground to avoid mud and mess under the sails.</li> <li>• Field lights will be a multi-year capital campaign, not the EdEx project.</li> </ul>	Karen	6 minutes
<b>Community Engagement</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First zoom coffee meeting: 10 rsvp, 6 attendees</li> <li>• Jan 31 will be the first zoom night out, few responses so far.</li> </ul>	Dima, Alberta	4 minutes
<b>Metco Update</b>	Mark	5 minutes
<b>Grants &amp; Programs</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Joel completed his 8th year as chair, stepping down next year, and someone else may be ready to step in. \$10k put toward grants requested by teachers.</li> <li>• Budget will accommodate other requests that may come in during the year.</li> <li>• One request was not approved: too big, but may become next year's EdEx project.</li> </ul>	Joel	7 minutes
<b>Communications</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gaytri continues to get content out to class parents.</li> <li>• Engagement seems higher than last year, going very smoothly.</li> </ul>	Susannah, Gayatri	3 minutes
<b>Directory/Dues Working Group</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No update: scheduling challenges over the holidays, targeting next meeting to deliver an update.</li> <li>• Looking at data gathered by reviewing other PTSO websites in surrounding communities to support a decision going forward.</li> </ul>	Jennifer, Cecelia	5 minutes
<b>Technology</b>	Kim, Jennifer	5 minutes

<p><b>Principal's Update</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Major Covid surge going on in the school. Able to sustain having classes.</li> <li>• 20% of students out consistently; Staff absences is moderating, in line with data in the state.</li> <li>• Athletics, arts, performances are limited to parents in audience, following HHS guidance.</li> <li>• Questions for next year: trips? Advertise them? Starting to think about planning ahead still in light of covid.</li> <li>• Consideration requested to post absences earlier in the day in Schoology, which are currently distributed at 8:15AM. Henry to follow up.</li> </ul>	Henry, Amy	10 minutes
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<p><b>Additional Topics:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Discuss adding two new Committees to PTSO: ELL Committee and FORJ Committee</b></li> <li>• General question posed: How might these added committees benefit the PTSO community reach and expand perspectives? What “problem” are we solving by adding each as a committee? Open Discussion:</li> <li>• Consideration may be required for length of meetings to make sure that we have enough time to hear updates from each committee as we expand.</li> <li>• Having a seat at the table may be beneficial for visibility for the organizations Want to make sure that the broader community is aware of these two groups.</li> <li>• The role of each of these committees would need to be distinguished and defined.</li> <li>• ELL families may be missed in PTSO communications due to language and cultural barriers and has been identified as underrepresented and a potentially marginalized community. While NPS has adopted better translation software for communications, this is just one step. Having an ELL committee representative, we may learn / better understand some of the ways that different communities receive and pay attention to information.</li> <li>• FORJ was created city-wide through NPS, creates a learning community for families as well. There is representation on some elementary and middle school PTSO committees and serve to educate and communicate messaging, not necessarily represent an underserved population. Have expressed interest in engaging more with PTSO, which may be initially best served by inviting FORJ to attend a PTSO meeting and provide information.</li> <li>• All in favor of an ELL Committee, with prospective connections to get started. PTSO to reach out to the ELL teachers to identify potential parent reps.</li> <li>• Some question about whether a FORJ Committee is a good fit to join the board, but invite them to come to a board meeting to share more about their programming</li> <li>• <b>Follow up on Email List use / policy development</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Topic deferred</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>Patty, Heather, others</p>	<p>10 minutes</p>
<p><b>Total Time Allotted</b></p>		<p>75 minutes</p>



Meeting end time: 06:02 PM

Minutes respectfully submitted by: Janna Lacatell & Ellen Wrigley