

**PTSO Board Meeting
September 10, 2019**

Present:

Patty McCabe, Valerie Pontiff, Janna Lacatell, Johanne Campbell, April Stein, Kim Buckton, Ted Vahey, George LeBlanc, Livia Aber, Linda Hanusaik, Millicent Lawton, Henry Turner. Amy Parminder and Jacquie Arbuckle - Northside Dining.

Absent:

Beth Tierney, Karen Cutone

Meeting commenced at 4:05 PM

Opening Remarks (Valerie Pontiff):

- Introductions
- Approval of May minutes postponed until next meeting.
- Board Norms:
 - Arrive on time, end on time.
 - We are ambassadors to the school. Volunteer.
- Voting of the by-laws and slate: do they need to be done at an all-school meeting? Can they be done electronically? Valerie and Patty will research.
- Do we want an at-large member? What role would he/she fulfill? We technically have two open board spots.
- Ted Vahey has a flagged list from sign ups of people interested in volunteering.

Northside Dining (Amy Parminder and Jacquie Arbuckle):

- 9 have signed up to host (3 of past hosts declined to host again); one is new.
- 28 hosts are needed.
- Match parents with kids the same age.
- Class representatives communicate - focus on grades 9 and 10.
- Not typically a fundraiser; do we want to make it one?
- Dessert home has been secured.
- Patty will help with troubleshooting sign up genius.
- No wine at appetizers - can't have alcohol with students present in the school.
- 185 guests last year.

Communications (Millicent Lawton):

- It has been a learning curve.
- Alternate weeks of Tiger News and Planner (list of dates). On-boarding Beth Tierney. Beth will "own" the Planner, Millicent will focus on Tiger News.
- Re-educate people on frequency and how to submit items.
- Less is more. Most will appreciate not being overwhelmed with emails; some will want more.
- Limit stand-alone emails.

Budget (April Stein and Livia Aber):

- On track with income goals for beginning of year (dues and planner sales).
- Planners are with housemasters.

Programming (Linda Hanusaik):

- Scheduled program dates are October 10, November 19 and May 2.
- Oct 10: Documentary in theater on anxiety and mental health; panel discussion to follow. Middle schools and Newton South will be invited.
- Program on safety. How to find meaning, happiness and joy in high school (spring). Mental health, finding connection.
- Get educators and parents together to discuss how to shift focus from achievement to happiness/caring. Making high school enjoyable and fun.

Tiger Talks - speakers (volunteer or paid)

- Speaker on Thurgood Marshall
 - Poet Laureate
 - Argentinian music group
 - Transgender speaker for freshmen (gets honorarium)
 - Tiger Talks are for students
- One thought is to have teachers come to Oct 10 program and say "This is who spoke to students."

Web Site (Ted Vahey and Kim Buckton):

- People asked for a new web site. Why? Do you want it to look different? Use it differently? Move to WordPress? We need a committee to explore.
- Anything the PTSO is planning on doing goes in the Planner/Tiger News on Tuesday mornings.

Other:

Grants and projects next time - Joel Bloom to be invited.
Multicultural night in the fall.

Meeting adjourned at 5:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Johanne Campbell