

FCAHS PTO Meeting
August 31, 2022 @ 7pm., Held via ZOOM and High School

In attendance: Erin Butkovic, Dr. John McGee, Kate Vavpetic, Gina Johnson, Thomas Paserba, Carolyn Gould, Lisa McGough, Sachin/Linda Chittur, Tony Cardinali, Africa Herrera, Kanagaraj Rengaramanujam, Ashley Currin, Stacy London, Nikki Rosswog, Gwenn Gdovichin

President's Welcome

Kate Vavpetic

Meeting called to order 7 pm.

- Shared mission of PTO which is an organization that is liaison to teachers, administration, and parents. Goal is to do nice things for the students and teachers to know they are appreciated. The bylaws also state the PTO is to provide educational programming to support the intellectual life of community as well. With Covid this was on hold. We are open to doing other things and will ask for help.

Treasurer Report

Kate Vavpetic

- Reviewed the Budget. Most fundraising on hold with Covid.
- We will need to look at building up fundraising this year.
- Per finance report current balance is \$15,674.98.
- More than happy to hear from others about fundraising ideas and to accept volunteer assistance.
- Everyone is a member of the PTO. Any contributions of \$20 would be greatly appreciated. Please feel free to donate any amount. Paypal options will be available soon.

Principal's Report

Dr. John McGee

- Amazing start to year. Very positive. Moving into post Covid returning to school activities as if it was 2019.
- Held class meetings to review rules and regulations. Posted on high school website.
- Made numerous positive changes to enhance safety for all and decrease people coming in and out of building. Added extra police presence and staff supervision in halls and cafeteria. We are doing everything possible to make sure are kids feel safe and included so they can go on with the business of learning.
- Social emotional learning theme this year is SPREAD KINDNESS MAKE IT A HABIT EVERYDAY. Lessons, messaging, activities for students will be held throughout the year to keep vibe we are all inclusive.
- Added two new courses this year: Perspectives in History and Global Media elective.
- Designated room for diversity and inclusion, Room 169 connected to Commons area. Staffed 2 days a week this semester and 5 days a week next semester during third period.
- Additional tools for communication include Schoology class pages so students can see what is relevant to their class and parents can use email ASK_FCAHS@fcasd.edu for questions.
- Increasing mental health support for our students this year with help of outside organizations to provide additional student screenings and additional staff training. Staff will be trained in Columbia Suicide Severity Rating Scale for risk management.
- Worked first football game and so pleased with student section conduct.

- Community Outreach Committee will run Community Food Drive at end of September. The Greater Pittsburgh Community Foodbank has reached out to us for help. Home room competitions are organized. Held last two weeks starting Sept 19. Can also make monetary donation online. On Oct 3 Student Government and Student Outreach will take items to food bank and volunteer.
- Club Week begins September 12. Students are renewing clubs and thinking about new clubs.
- School pictures start on September 20. Health screenings are also done at same time. Hills Photography will at school that Friday to take senior portraits.
- Please send any questions to email ASK_FCAHS@fcasd.edu rather than go to social media. Response usually within 24 hours. We also send bi-weekly updates from Dr. Hower.

Old & New Business

Kate Vavpetic

- We host Donut Days and Wellness Days to recognize hard work of students each quarter.
- October is Homecoming and PTO has table at the Friday Carnival. Last year we sold cookies and flowers. We need help deciding what to sell and the volunteers to staff table (about 3 hours).
- In November we have the Gratitude Breads tradition. Parents donate a bread they've baked or bought and faculty and staff can pick up the last day before Thanksgiving break.
- Telethon in December. PTO helps out in various ways.
- Also participate in Open Houses with presence of a table. You do not need to be officer to help staff.
- In spring, we help with Senior Breakfast. Last year we donated food.
- Will be sending out SignUp Genius to get volunteers to help with events.
- Gwenn Gdovichin is gratefully coordinating Parent Student directories across the school district and is also working to simplify the process of collecting information. The Directory PDF file is online.
- Shared PALS information palsfinfo@gmail.com. Support group for all parents who have students who learn differently. There are monthly meetings usually the last Wednesday of the month.
- Successful nomination for Tony Cardinali as PTO VP. Parent of freshman and alum of FCAHS.

Respectfully submitted by Robin McDonnell

FCAHS PTO

President-Kate Vavpetic

Vice President-Tony Cardinali

Treasurer- Susie Littwin

Secretary- Robin McDonnell

2022-2023 FCAHS PTO Meetings

11/9/22 1:00pm

No December Meeting

1/26/23 1:00pm

2/7/23 9:30am

3/15/23 9:30am

4/19/23 1:00pm

5/17/23 7:00pm