

**Fairfield Ludlowe High School**

**PTA Meeting**

**Minutes of the Meeting**

**Thursday, September 20, 2018**

**Attendance:** Steve Baker, Amy Cooke, Sue Voltz, Christine Magliocco, Carrie Rullo, Janice Mayeran, Marcia Teureiro, Tanya Novelli Dunne, Bari Rabine, John Antonello, Courtney Bradley, Dorene Herron, Christi McEldowney, Linda Raymond

**1) Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Steve Baker at 6:05pm

**2) Approval of Minutes:** Carrie Rullo motioned to accept the June 2018 PTA minutes; Marcia Teureiro seconded. Motion passed.

**3) Reports of Officers**

**A) Headmaster's Report:** Greg Hatzis was not available to attend the meeting, so Bari Rabine, Headmaster Wright House and John Antonello, Headmaster Warner House spoke on his behalf.

- Thank you for the back to school luncheon
- The Chromebook roll out finished today with the Seniors receiving theirs
- A discussion of the cumulative grading process ensued; highlights included:
  - (1) It is a work in progress
  - (2) IC will show a snapshot of grades quarterly
  - (3) Honor roll and GPA's are calculated at the end of marking periods; you will know throughout the year where your child stands grade wise
  - (4) Posting grades quarterly is a natural deadline for teachers/students
  - (5) Middle school courses that count toward high school credits will also have cumulative grading. GPA will not be taken into account for middle school grades; middle school as a whole went into the same cumulative grading system
  - (6) There will be a 2-week grace period each quarter where teachers have a deadline to enter grades. There are always exceptions to this and the Heads of Houses will monitor
  - (7) Homework and formative assessments are not included in the cumulative grading. They are considered practice and students shouldn't be penalized for "practice".
  - (8) Summative grades are assessments for when students have "learned it"; judging at a point in time
  - (9) Why do we grade? For the student to know where they are and how far they need to reach their goal by the end of the year. Students will work

in their own self-interest and if they are not, that is the conversation...why not?

- (10) Mr. Anotnello overviewed the extensive side by side grade book research that went into the new cumulative grading methodology. Research showed if one student had a bad quarter, they did significantly better with cumulative grading.
- (11) Teachers are encouraged to comment in IC about the students' behavior/formatives for feedback if the student doesn't do well on a summative

#### **B) President's Report: Steve Baker**

- Steve welcomed everyone back to the first PTA meeting of the 2018/19 school year

#### **C) Treasurer's Report: Kathy Russell**

- Treasurers report submitted and on file as Kathy was unable to attend the meeting
- Steve announced 18,535.51 in checking; \$15,333.30 in money market

#### **D) VP Volunteers: Sue Voltz**

- A couple of volunteer positions are still open – Budget Rep, Post Prom, Senior Awards, co-chair for Senior Balloons
- The MySchoolAnywhere volunteer form was updated and old-fashioned flyers will be passed out at parent coffees; Sue and/or Christine will attend these coffees
- Steve thanked Sue/Christine since they become the default committee chairperson when the position is open

#### **E) VP Programs: Courtney Bradley**

- FLHS co-sponsored with Fairfield Warde High School a Study Skills workshop; flyer sent through Peachjar
- Discussion ensued about the Senior Center Valentine's Day program which Courtney had a question about

### **4) Reports of Committees**

#### **A) BOE Report: Tanya Novelli Dunne**

- Discussion held about the ECC decentralization. No decisions were made at the meeting. Public comment voiced about keeping it centralized. ECC wants to

expand because they are at capacity. Some considered it "decentralized" already because of the class added at Stratfield Elementary School.

- Discussion about a Magnet Program. Introduction of an Elementary Advanced Math Academy in lieu of a Magnet School. It is something which can be done within district; more research/discussion to follow.
- Dr. Jones would like a 10-year plan for installing air conditioning in all schools. It could be upwards of \$10M to air condition one school, so a 10-year plan would be needed so it is continuously being installed.

#### **B) Learning Grants: Carrie Rullo**

- All committee members are back along with one new volunteer
- Grant submissions have been changed to a rolling basis
- \$8,000 budget for a first coming first served approach
- Janice Mayeran will put the grant form in the U Drive so teachers have access and Carrie/Janice will work together to revise the form
- Janice has asked for updates on how much money is left, so she can keep the teachers informed

#### **C) FLHS Teacher Rep: Janice Mayeran**

- Janice has volunteered to come in Nov/March/May with a teacher synopsis of what is happening around FLHS

#### **D) Membership: Alison Jones Allen**

- Report submitted and on file; Alison was not able to attend the meeting
- Steve mentioned there was a great response for the \$65 family membership; almost the same amount of people joined as last year and the budget has almost been met

#### **E) Compassion Committee: Julie Smith**

- Reported by Steve as Julie was not able to attend the meeting
- A student lost a parent over the summer and a care package was sent to the family

#### **F) Beautification Report: Lisa Cirilli**

- Reported by Steve as Lisa was not able to attend the meeting
- Steve said the new planters at the school are actually baracades and the planters Lisa did for the 2018 graduation ceremony are still looking great

**G) Back to School Staff Lunch: Marcia Teureiro**

- Luncheon went great; there was enough money in the budget to support the main items
- Plenty of donations were received for what went above the budget and there was an overflow of food

**5) Announcements**

- b) Review of upcoming "Save the Dates" as outlined on the Agenda. Next meeting is October 11, 2018.
- c) Amy Cooke requested that people sign up for the A+ Stop and Shop Rewards program

**6) Adjournment:** Steve Baker adjourned the meeting at 6:54pm.

DRAFT Report respectfully submitted by Amy Cooke