



Wayne Valley PTO Meeting

Wednesday, November 18, 2020

7:30 PM

DUE TO THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC, THIS MEETING WAS CONDUCTED VIA ZOOM!

In Attendance:

PTO Board Members: Co-Presidents – Jennie Franklyn and Jill Spodek; Vice President – Vicki Lefelar; Treasurer – Maureen Machado; Assistant Treasurer – Ninfa Sykes; Corresponding Secretary – Deb Califf; Recording Secretary – Jessica Kroncke

School Administration: Mr. Palczewski - Principal, Mrs. Hampton – Teacher Liaison

PTO Members: Valerie McGrath, Jen Graf, Michele Duffy, Kathy Sigona, Melony Heh, Teresa Kelly, Annie McKay, Filomena Pelish, Fran Cook.

Meeting was called to order by Jill Spodek with a motion from Anne McKay and Fran Cook.

Motion to waive the reading of the September meeting minutes was made by Anne McKay and seconded by Fran Cook. Motion passed unanimously. Motion to accept the minutes as written was made by Filomena Pelish and seconded by Anne McKay. Motion passed unanimously.

Officer Reports

President's Report

Jill Spodek let us know that we have a new teacher representative for the PTO and her name is Mrs. Hampton.

Vice President's Report

Vicki Lefelar had nothing to report.

Treasurer's Report

Maureen Machado stated we have over \$6K of income which does not include the current 50/50 raffle, membership dues, spirit wear, pavers and restaurant fundraisers.

Recording Secretary's Report

Jessica Kroncke had nothing to report.

Corresponding Secretary's Report

Deb Califf stated if you have an optonline.com email address, time to time newsletters/emails do not come through to your inbox. If you have this email exchange and are not receiving the PTO emails, reach out to Deb at: deb.califf@yahoo.com and she can send the email(s) to you.

Principal's Report – Mr. Palczewski

Mr. Palczewski wanted to welcome Mrs. Hampton to the PTO meeting. Mrs. Hampton teaches Special Ed and English. She is expecting a child very soon!

During the last board meeting, a Phase 2 plan was presented and what it could look like. Nothing is final until the board votes which will be on Thursday 11/19. There is a strong feeling the week after Thanksgiving will be virtual and after winter recess. Mr. Palczewski along with Wayne Hills principal (Mr. Rewick) have given their input to the Board from the high school level.

This week's football game was to be Friday 11/20. The original opponent River Dell has shut down due to Covid issues. Westside is the new opponent and the game will be played Saturday 11/21 @ 4pm and it will be Senior Day.

The school play (A Midsummer Night's Dream) is being streamed virtually tonight (11/18) and tomorrow night (11/19).

Staff and coaches have been flexible. It has not been easy but for the most part everyone has been very understanding.

Valley is planning for the PSAT for sophomores, opportunity will be later in 2021.

Valley is also scheduled to administer SAT's on Saturday, December 5th. Children will be less than 10 to a classroom.

Please continue to have patience with us. We are moving forward with plans for a Senior Prom and adhering to the 500 person limit to gatherings, even if it ends up being outdoors. Making the decisions as best as we can with health, safety and welfare in mind.

Teacher's Report – Mrs. Hampton

Mrs. Hampton introduced herself as the new PTO liaison. She is very excited to interact with the parents of the WV community.

Nothing to report but to piggyback on Mr. Palczewski, the teachers are working hard to make sure the students are having their activities whether it is virtual or in person and maintaining social distancing. With all of the clubs that Wayne Valley has to offer, the teachers are trying to bring the sense of community with the students.

Google Meets – some children are not logging in on time to classes and teachers are being understanding (i.e. – computer glitch, blank assignments being turned in during the Google Meets). Let's reinforce as parents that they complete the assignments on time. During the class time, some children are laying down, have their screens pointing to the ceilings. Let's also reinforce this.

Mrs. Hampton is emailing the teachers weekly on the PTO membership dues and the 50/50 raffle to encourage participation amongst the teachers.

Committee Reports

- a. Membership – Maureen Machado
We have 428 paid families to date. Last year we had 480 paid families.
- b. Board of Ed Liaison – Jill Lindsay
Jill sent in her report – Deb Califf read Jill’s report since she had another commitment this evening.

SEPTEMBER 10TH - WAYNE BOE MEETING reported by Jill Lindsay, BOE Liaison

Superintendent’s Report:

Dr. Toback reported that this was the first in public meeting of the year. The meetings are open and precautions were made to allow for the meeting in Anthony Wayne Middle School. He explained how the room was sanitized to allow for safe attendance by BOE members. The meetings are limited to BOE members by public can view them due to the limited number of people who can assemble indoors.

He was pleased to announce the opening of the Early Childhood Center at Preakness School. Principal Mrs. Hammond cut the ribbon and toured attendees through the building. The school has been closed to students since 1977 through today. It is officially supporting the drive for full-day kindergarten.

Back to school nights will be pre-recorded for parents and can be viewed and reviewed at any time. He then welcomed Dr. Goldberg to the meeting to speak with the BOE on COVID related measures and opening of schools assuring the parents and BOE members.

This concluded his report.

SEPTEMBER 24TH - WAYNE BOE MEETING

Superintendent’s Report:

Dr. Toback thanked the community for being responsible and adhering to the guidelines and being cautious. The district is working on the second phase of the school re-entry plan.

He reported that the Chromebooks that were purchased by the district have some issues with the chips. As a result, the district is purchasing new laptops to replace these.

US News and World Report 2020 reported both Wayne High Schools were rated Best High Schools in New Jersey and the United States. Wayne Valley was ranked 104 amongst 409 high schools in New Jersey.

Free breakfast and lunch available to all students in Wayne Public Schools.

This concluded the superintendent’s report.

October 8th - WAYNE BOE MEETING

Superintendent's Report:

Dr. Toback reported the graduation rates as required by the Department of Education. Total number of students graduating in the prior year was 600. The total number of students meeting the graduation assessment requirements was 155 students and 36 students met the alternate requirements classified in their IEP and only one student was denied graduation.

He reported the schools that went to remote learning as a result of positive COVID testing results in Cohort B cases (JFK) and that some classes in Ryerson Elementary.

Fall sports programs are in their competition season. Wayne Hills and Wayne Valley games will be over the weekend but tickets are limited. It can be watched on Channel 12.

Adversity, Equity and Inclusion Goals are beginning to use the Choices curriculum add on in classes. Teachers are receiving training on October 8th and will begin implementing.

This concluded the Superintendent's report.

October 29th - WAYNE BOE MEETING

Superintendent's Report:

Dr. Toback reported and congratulated the Wayne Valley High School National Merit Scholars for the Class of 2021.

**CLASS OF 2021
WAYNE VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL
Ken Palczewski, Principal**

NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP SEMI-FINALISTS

Alexandra Kazakov	Hope Mandler
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NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP COMMENDED STUDENTS

Gerald Cetrulo	Winston Lee
Jeana Fermi	Sophie McNeal
James Jun	Nicole Ricci
Min Jin Kim	Vanessa Rigoglioso

NATIONAL AP SCHOLAR

Sophie McNeal

AP SCHOLARS WITH HONOR

Gavin Aksoy	Amir Ibrahim
Jordan Aschenbach	Alexandra Kazakov
Evan Buckley	Min Jin Kim
Jack Byle	Noah Kressel
Gerald Cetrulo	Skylar Ryan
Katherine Shapiro	

AP SCHOLARS WITH DISTINCTION

Adrian Anaemeje	James Jun
James Calvello	Neil Kiame
Sohan Chatterjee	Winston Lee
Kyle Corso	Hope Mandler
Jeana Fermi	Sophie McNeal
Vanessa Rigoglioso	

AP SCHOLARS

Mohammad Aref	James Kelly
Peter Botbyl	Amanda Kiel
Angela Campos	Andrew Kiel
Joseph Feit	Mihir Mistry
Brandon Fox	Natalia Ortega
Salam Haroun	Nicole Ricci

This concluded the superintendent's report.

November 12th - WAYNE BOE MEETING

Superintendent's Report:

Dr. Toback reported on the Phase II Return to School Plan.

Due to holiday travel and higher risk periods there will be remote learning for the Thanksgiving holiday from November 30th through December 4th. School will return to in-person on December 7th. Again, during Holiday recess, there will be remote learning January 4th through January 15th and school will return to in-person learning on January 19th.

The district will then transition from virtual Wednesday to in-person Wednesdays while maintaining the current cohort model with grab and go lunches. The High Schools will move to their transitional Rotating Block Schedule while utilizing the current Hybrid Schedule High School Schedule.

All clubs, activities and sports will continue as scheduled.

The BOE had a lengthy discussion about the plan and members discussed the ramifications of closing schools. Movement to the next phase will be voted on at the next regular board meeting.

This concluded the superintendent's report.

c. Project Graduation – Val McGrath

Class of 2021 – Kathy Sigona let everyone know that the Tricky Tray at the Venetian in March will not be happening due to Covid. The deposit fee of \$500 that this class put down, will be rolled over to another class that wants to book the Venetian.

The Class of 2021 will have a virtual raffle, raffling off several “big ticket” items”. The items are still being determined. The raffle will be held in March. The PG committee is meeting with Wayne Hills to discuss combining efforts for the actual Project Graduation event. Investigating ideas on how we can make this actually happen in June. Do we have an event for the Fashion Show or do we not have a show of some sort? Do we film the kids walking the runway with no audience? Kids potentially would get dressed up in their Junior formal attire that they did not get to wear on a specific day/time, walk in the auditorium, film each one, put it together and send out to the parents. Maybe the TV production class can help with this. Mr. Palczewski will speak to the TV Production teacher.

2022 – Denise Lynch (not present but Val McGrath spoke) – 2 fundraisers are being planned (one before Christmas and another in May).

2023 – Jen Graf and Michelle Duffy – Raffle drawing is November 30th. All 650 tickets were sold for the 3 high end prizes. This is the only fundraiser for 2020. Not sure what will happen for 2021 in terms of fundraising.

2024 – A freshman board is currently being put together. FYI to Freshman parents, you will probably not hear from the board until next year. Fundraising typically starts in sophomore year.

d. Restaurant Nights – Jennie Franklyn

2 nights were scheduled

Wednesday, 9/30 – Jersey Mike’s: reflected in the budget, we profited \$496. Very happy with the results.

Thursday 10/29 – Chipotle: we profited \$203. We have made budget on dining out for the year. Hope to do some more restaurant nights but taking a break due to the 50/50 raffle.

e. 50/50 Raffle – Jill Spodek: History of the raffle, two years ago we started to do the 50/50 at BTS night. The drawing was done that night and was always received well. We had the money in the budget and didn’t have the chance this year due to no BTS Night. This is why it has been changed to a raffle this year and we put \$500 in the budget for it. PTO Board members have been delivering tickets. We have raised \$1600-1700 so far for the winner. Drawing is December 11th. If you want a ticket, please let any Board member know and we will make it happen and get the tickets to you. Money goes to senior scholarships and for future classes senior scholarships.

f. Spirit Wear – Vicki Lefelar: Fall sale we profited \$2541, selling 392 items. 8th grade orientation / holiday sale is a smaller offering and starts today, 11/18 and ends on 12/6. The budget spreadsheet

does not reflect this yet. We do a combined effort in the Spring with the Marketing students. The sales we make in December will be added to the Fall budget. This is not a huge money maker for us, but we want to make the clothes available to every student, the markup is not big.

g. WSPA – Teresa Kelly

Student Support Services is excited to offer the following Parent Workshops during the month of November. These workshops are provided by the *Planning and Adult Life Program in partnership with ARC of NJ*.

Tuesday, November 10th (7-8pm)

Planning For Transition: Why It is Vital For Your Student's Future

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/4517517055>

The transition planning process includes evaluating the student's skills, abilities, strengths, challenges, and preferences to envision their life after leaving school. Planning involves setting goals for the student to strive toward and identifying the need for support. Carrying out the transition plan can begin and should be a part of the student's Individualized Educational Plan (IEP). Students and families must be actively involved in the transition planning process as early as possible and keep it moving forward. This presentation discusses the importance of planning, the steps necessary to plan, and provides hands-on tools to put a plan in place.

Thursday, November 12th (10-11am and 7-8pm)

SSI and Medicaid: How To Apply And Why You Need To Do So

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/4517517055>

There are many different ways to initiate the Medicaid eligibility process and so it is important to make sure you have all of the necessary information. This workshop will help parents and caregivers understand how to access health care services for their loved one with I/DD from the current health care system.

Wednesday, November 18, 2020 (7-8pm)

Speak UP! Stand OUT! Success in the Self-Advocacy Movement

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83181463413?pwd=V1lwYTJPR2RaQVdlb2trYlFyYzlwUT09>

Meeting ID: 831 8146 3413 Passcode: 155981

This workshop will explain the meaning of Self-Advocacy and its important role in the community. You will learn; who are self-advocates, what they stand for, how they stay strong, and the importance of voting.

Thursday, November 19th (7-8pm)

College Options For Students With I/DD

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/4517517055>

This workshop will provide information about the different opportunities that college may offer your student with intellectual and developmental disabilities. We will suggest steps to add to your student's IEP that can help orient him or her on the differences between high school and college and assessing support offered to students with I/DD.

h. Old Business

No old business to discuss

i. New Business

Will add new restaurant fundraisers

We want the kids to see the restaurant fundraiser communications. Mr. Palczewski will ensure the #valleyisone Instagram social media will post it.

Morning announcements – TV production is doing Weekly News on Thursdays posted on You Tube. The Pledge of Allegiance is being done each morning.

Accent on Leather – Deb Califf tried to get in touch with the owner. Valley receives a small amount from Accent on Leather with the selling of the varsity jackets.

Adjournment

Motion was made by Val McGrath and Teresa Kelly to adjourn the meeting. Meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.