



Bellaire PTO Meeting – May 27, 2021

Meeting Minutes (Meeting conducted via Zoom)

Call to Order: President David Faris called the meeting to order at 6:03 pm.

President's Report: David welcomed all attendees to the meeting. A QR code for donations for the end of year teacher appreciation lunch was displayed. The PTO plans to provide lunch and a gift card for all teachers. Total cost is approximately \$6,000.00. Any donations are greatly appreciated. Attendees were also asked to review the minutes from the 3/25/21 general meeting. The agenda for the current meeting was displayed and reviewed.

There was a motion to accept the 3/25/21 minutes as presented. The motion received a second and the meeting minutes were approved by vote.

Student Summer Grant Recipients: The 2021 student summer grant award recipients were introduced by Brian Smith, chair of the selection committee. Each recipient will receive a \$500.00 award. Students gave a brief presentation on the focus of their projects. Winners were: Amy He ("yesLearn"), Owen Zhang ("iEngage"), Catrina Coe ("FosterBox"), Morgan Lawler ("Dancing Kids"), Henry Pu (csef-China), and Maggie Lin ("e-hack for charity").

Elizabeth Chapman presented information on "Becoming a host family for an exchange student".

Ms. Chapman is a BHS English teacher and the study abroad coordinator. The benefits of serving as a host family include making lifelong friendships, an opportunity to practice a foreign language, and enjoying an intercultural exchange without leaving the country. She reviewed host family requirements. For more information, go to afsusa.org/hisd or email Ms. Chapman at echapman@houstonisd.org.

VP of Communications: Nisha Lobo thanked parents and staff for their support and participation in Zoom meetings this year. She mentioned the possibility of continuing online events next year as a way to keep family participation up.

VP of Membership: Cristina Vetrano also thanked all PTO members for their support. Updates to the membership / donation process will be coming, as well as fundraising projects to assist in needs for the new school.

VP School Relations: Rachel Berger announced that Mr. Bellaire has concluded and she thanked the parent volunteers for spearheading the effort. The parking space and perfect schedule auctions are closed. Funds from those auctions benefit the class of 2022. The PTO is hoping to be able to resume lunch sales at school in the coming year. Parents that are interested in volunteering for lunch sales should contact Rachel Berger. Also, we are still looking for two freshman class parents to serve as class liaisons. Contact Rachel Berger if you are interested in helping in that capacity.

Treasurer's Report: Keith Desrosiers presented the proposed budget for 2021-2022. Very briefly, the proposed income from Commitment to Learning (CTL) is \$48,900.00. Projected income from food sales is \$20,000.00. These are the main income sources for the PTO, with a total projected income of \$68,920.00. Proposed expenses include teacher grants/ luncheons (\$44,500.00), student support (\$19,000.00), and administrative support (\$5,375.00). All income will be spent to support the students and staff of BHS. The meeting was opened for discussion and questions. A motion was made to approve the 2021-2022 budget as presented. The motion received a second and the proposed budget was passed by vote.

Proposed Executive Board Slate: The 2021-2022 proposed executive board slate was presented by Kent Cantrell. There were no additional nominations from the floor. There was a motion to approve the slate as presented. The motion received a second and the slate was elected by vote. David Faris also thanked current PTO board members for their efforts and support.

Principal's Report: Mr. McDonough thanked everyone for attending the meeting and for the support of the PTO and all BHS families. He announced that administration is planning on welcoming all students back in in-person learning in the fall.

For seniors: Graduation is scheduled for 6/13/2021 at 8:00 pm at Delmar Stadium. Information on accessing guest tickets and parking passes was distributed. There have been some problems reported in accessing the tickets. They are working on this issue. The senior celebration is planned for 6/5/2021 on "pebble beach" (back parking lot). The event will include food, prizes, music, and games. Several give-aways are planned. Students must be present to win. Senior check-out procedures have also been posted on the school website and final exams begin on Tuesday.

Exams for grades 9-11 will take place 6/7 – 6/11. AP exams are also continuing. Thank you to Alan Scarrow for coordinating testing. Mr. Scarrow will also be managing laptop return and replacement this summer.

The building send-off on 5/15/21 was very well attended. Mr. McDonough believes between 2-3,000 people returned and alumnae were well-represented across the years. The panoramic pictures will be moved to the new building eventually. Of note, the panoramic picture for the class of 2021 will be taken on 6/10/21.

Hiring and planning continues for next year. Current plan is for a 7 period schedule with in-person learning. Adjustments may be made as district guidance and the overall COVID situation dictate. Governor Abbott announced that masks will no longer be required in schools after 6/4/21. The school and district will provide guidance next week.

There will not be a PSAT for 9th grade this year. Cardinal Camp for incoming freshman is planned for 8/20/21. There may be some type of orientation for the incoming sophomore class, as well. However, all students will need an adjustment time to learn the new building. Any school-based activities will largely depend on the state of the new building move-in.

Additional announcements: David Faris asked all attendees to sign in to the meeting via the link posted by Debbie Campbell in the chat feature. Also, website information and links have been posted in the chat by the student award recipients. Please check those out for more information on their projects and partner organizations. Finally, he thanked Mr. McDonough, Debbie Campbell, and the entire BHS team for providing a strong educational experience for all of our kids under highly unusual circumstances.

Meeting adjourned at 7:21 pm

Minutes submitted by Anne Kayl, Secretary