

Holmdel High School

PTSO General Meeting Agenda -- March 10, 2021 - 9:30 AM via Zoom

President's Report -- Barbara Singer

January minutes were approved/posted

Teacher Representative - Sheryl McBride / Laurence Cogger - report by Barbara Singer

French. Ms. Cogger reports:

The French Honor Society is organizing a food drive for a local soup kitchen.

The French 1 are reading the French version of "La Belle et la Bête" (books offered last year).

The French 2 class just presented their recipes with a video. They started reading a French classic (La Guerre des boutons). The French 3 students are watching the classic *Au revoir les enfants* and learning about World War 2 from a French perspective. The French 4 class reenacted on Meet a famous 16th century trial (Martin Guerre)

The French 5 are presenting their project about monuments (US and French speaking countries) on the UNESCO world heritage list.

Economics: Mr. Guastella reports:

Riley Russo, Kyra Santana, Alex Price, Vanessa Bellotti, Kathleen Antontakakis and Megha Gagne were selected to participate in the 2021 Fed Challenge based on their outstanding academic performance in Macroeconomics this past fall. They are working together and submitting an economic research paper that discusses the disproportionate economic impact Covid-19 has had on women and people of color in the United States. The hope is that the paper will be judged worthy of publication.

Spanish: Ms. Taylor reports:

The Spanish Honor Society is collecting non-perishables for a local nonprofit organization called Companeros de Comida which provides direct relief to families in need. The organization was created in the height of the pandemic and is run entirely by student volunteers. We are excited to share in the responsibility and honor of serving others!

Many of our seniors are busy preparing for the AP exam in May which is to be conducted in person, in the World Language Lab. We have already put in place safety precautions such as plexiglass, smaller group numbers for lab practice and for the exam days, so that all students who wish to participate can do so. This is a challenging exam during the most challenging of circumstances, yet our students and teachers continue to put in the necessary hard work and we are extremely proud of them!!!

Many of these seniors, for the first time in Holmdel history, will receive a seal of biliteracy. Over 20 seniors took and passed the challenging exam earlier this winter. A huge congratulations to these students and their teachers who have helped prepare them!

Curriculum Showcase: Interim Assistant Superintendent Jeffrey Charney, wants everyone to know that there is a Curriculum Showcase, today, March 10 at 7:00 pm. Parents must register for Zoom. Info is on the HHS website.

Research- Mr. Baronowsky would also like to remind everyone that he is eager to help students with their research needs while he is setting up the refurbished library.

Principal's Report - Brian Schillaci

Principal gave AD Matt Kukoda a glowing introduction; regarding how much he has done in his brief time here. He started July 1st. Matt reported that gymnastics and volleyball, originally Fall sports, had their normal seasonal start dates postponed (due to Covid); beginning March 1st.

For the first time in 7 years, Holmdel HS will host gymnastic meets that we previously outsourced elsewhere! Volleyball will run until the end of April.

Wrestling is starting as well as the Swim Teams on April 1st for Spring Season.

NJSIA has ruled that athletes do not have to choose between one of two spring sports this year; they can now do a fall sport (that is occurring in the Spring this year) as well as a Spring sport. A handful of students may be doing so as they lost their spring season last year.

Sports will be running then until the first week of June.

According to the State Executive order, 500 spectators are allowed for outdoor athletic events.

Two parents for each child for indoors sports.

HHS has implemented live streaming of athletics for 6 weeks now! Have over 1 million views.

A question was asked; HYAA is not allowing any spectators and why is that? Our AD could not provide an answer as HYAA is its own separate entity.

Principal Schillaci explained grades 10-12 are having lunch in the Commons and that all the kids are doing a good job with distancing and masking. Grade 9 lunches in the gym.

Guidance counselors are working on a video outlining procedures for scheduling classes for next year; there will be an online form for electives followed by individual counselor meetings in the next few days.

March 24th is a virtual day for all HHS as it is the PSAT and SAT test; Sophomores taking PSAT

And those registered Juniors will be taking SAT

Grades 9 and 12 and any non-test takers will be virtual - and it will be an early dismissal

Teachers will be proctoring the tests

If any students need extra time for these tests due to doing essays, they will have to arrange for their own transportation home

Assistant Principals' Reports - Jennifer Riggi & Jamie Brown

Ms. Riggi reported that due to Covid issues within the cast, the HHS musical is not able to be presented to the public. However, it is being recorded and will be pushed out to the community to be viewable the week after Spring Break. This is most unfortunate as the cast and crew have worked so hard on the production. Opening night was to be this weekend (March 12th)

Tonight (the night of this PTSO meeting) is the curriculum showcase. The registration link for this has been pushed out as of last week. It will be recorded. You must be registered.

Mr. Brown reports that the AP exams will be in person with paper and pencil. The Physics AP will be digital but also in person, whereas last year the APs were all digital.

Big news! There will be a Junior Prom and a Senior Prom this year!

Junior Prom - May 21st at Sterling Gardens

Senior Prom - June 4th at Battlegrounds in Freehold

After-prom information will be coming out and will be based on state guidelines. Miss Lazar is dealing with all that and trying to accommodate all the Covid concerns.

A question was asked regarding vaccinated students and non-vaccinated students; what effect will one have on the other? No difference in protocols.

Travel quarantine is in effect for traveling outside of NJ, NY, CT, PA, or Delaware. Those traveling outside of those states must quarantine for 7 days with a negative test on day 5.

OR quarantine 10 days with no test.

If you are vaccinated and travel outside of the allowed states, you still have to test negative before you return to school or else follow the quarantine rules.

Mr. Schillaci also wanted to give shout outs to his Vice Principals; citing all the work Ms. Riggi has done on the curriculum showcase and how Mr. Brown took over the lead role with the AP exams once the Director of Guidance position was eliminated.

Next marking period starts April 14th.

Question was asked where will graduation take place? Nothing definite, but quite possibly like last year, on the football field.

Project Graduation; the highly successful HHS traditional post graduation all night celebration that 95% of the seniors have historically taken part in, is being worked on given current Covid restrictions. Exactly where is unknown yet; Also dependent on insurance issues. This will tie into graduation planning.

OFFICERS' REPORTS

1st VP Membership - Alicia Baylock Membership is down this year. It's only \$10 a year; please join!

2nd VP Fundraising - Sarann Jennings Foley Prep was a successful fundraiser, bringing in \$1500 for mock SAT testing. Foley Prep said great things about our sophomore and junior kids.

Spring Fling is in the works for planning; please sponsor, make or get baskets to donate for the auction to Sarann. Any friends or groups who want to donate please do.

Treasurer's Report - Heather Behal 2020 referendum we were holding on to monies to see what was needed for scholarships and Project Graduation. Money raised by the grade levels and not used last year will roll over so we hear that prom will be very special and at a reduced cost.

Corresponding Secretary / Facebook - Darlene Kiss

Recording Secretaries - Colleen Quinn and Carolyn Frazier

Class Liaisons: PTSO Facebook posts Class fundraising events

Class of 2024 (9th) - Lisa Jordan Polivka/Ms Zezza/Ms Fox

Class of 2023 (10th) - Mary Rice/Chef Harkness

Class of 2022 (11th) - Vasilias Loucopoulos/Melissa Menges

Class of 2021 (12th) - Heather Behal/Jen Baker/Alana Lazar-Prom update

Class advisors may want to push their info by email that PTSO can distribute

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Project Graduation - Linda Fernand/Nicole Salzano - update by Barbara Singer as above

Bake Sales - Darlene Field and Ellen Tesler: not happening due to Covid/virtual school

HCAA - Heather Behal/Carolyn Frazier/Jill Kaiser: Carolyn Frazier spoke on how she is doing a \$21 for 21 evening; with all monies going to the scholarship campaign for seniors who have participated in the arts. Her flyer will be put in announcements. It will be May 7th at Ms. Frazier's home. Maximum of 20 people for a Paint & Sip evening.

The Film Festival, normally held in the gym, is looking to occur in either the parking lot; or football field. This is a showing of student made films.

HCAA will have movie night for Indian Hill and Satz at some point.

PTSO is looking for 2 alternates for the Nominating Committee for Scholarships. Please consider volunteering.

THE **NEXT PTSO MEETING** IS **April 7, 2020 at 7:00 pm** Zoom/live to be announced

MOTION TO ADJOURN MEETING was made & seconded at approximately 10:26am