

## MIAMI PALMETTO SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL PTSA General Meeting

January 13, 2022

### Minutes

- I. Call to Order: 7:04 any discussion, questions, corrections about the minutes? Approved and accepted into the record.
- II. Principal's Report
  - a. Guidelines for Quarantine – A few changes to student quarantining. If you are called and advised of exposure it is up to the parent if the student will quarantine or not regardless of vaccination status. If placed in quarantine for students it is 10 days. Will advise of any changes to the protocol. Upon return from break had 17 teachers out and now have 9 out and by next week should be slowing down. During quarantine students need to contact teacher and go on their portal to participate on the zoom link and to get assignments. Parents should also contact the school and advise of quarantine status. If teacher quarantined at home they will continue to teach at home on zoom. Hiring 9-10 subs a day and sometimes must place several classes in the gym but whenever possible trying to get coverage in classrooms. If awaiting results you can wait and call school until the student receives the results. If positive, then quarantine begins, if negative once student feels better they can return to school. Question from parent – will all juniors have to take the SAT on March 2<sup>nd</sup>? No, that is only for some students and those students will be advised.
  - b. Construction updates – auditorium still not completed, costs are more than originally thought for refurbishment and new budget being approved should be completed by May. Fencing should be completed. Band room and pavilion area should also be ready by the end of May. The entire project should be completed by the end of the school year. Outdoor basketball courts not completed yet, they had to be redone in part and that is still being worked on and the gas tanks near the courts will be removed. Parents are concerned about lack of soap in bathrooms. Ms. Dobbs will address this tomorrow with her staff.
- III. Admin Reports
  - a. Activities - Ms. Valero – graduation dates, school to receive form to advise on dates that work best. The form takes a few months to process so we will likely know venue and date end of February. As soon as we know, we will let everyone know.
    - i. Virtual activities office can be found on the school web page and you can get important information [www.palmettopanthers.org](http://www.palmettopanthers.org) there is a video filled with information for seniors with information such as cap and gown information. We recommend they get caps and gowns as soon as possible and look themselves up on the senior clearance form. This means they are not on an administrative list that would prevent them from attending senior events including graduation. Students can appeal. Tomorrow you can purchase cap and gown during lunch in person, if cannot do it online.
    - ii. Sophomore class is having a fundraising event beginning now and there is a video on the virtual activities for additional information.
    - iii. Getting ready to plan senior picnic March 15 at the zoo. Senior grab bash still has to be approved and prom is being planned at UM ballroom. Feb 22-25 senior activities week.
    - iv. Drama will have 1<sup>st</sup> musical in open air theater Sponge Bob Square Pants. Mr. Panther 2022 will take place on March 11<sup>th</sup>.
    - v. Trying to put together a college tour for the junior class. It has to be approved but it is being planned.
    - vi. Junior ring ceremony will be on Jan. 19<sup>th</sup> more information to follow. Will take place in the gym each student will get 4 tickets.
  - b. CAP – thank you to the pta. MDC blitz has been cancelled but will do it in February 14 & 15 to get a chance to sign up for Miami Dade. Freshman Sophomore Parent Night will be in February.
    - i. Paul Mitchell coming to school to talk about becoming cosmetologist
    - ii. Seniors finishing college applications
    - iii. Encourage kids to visit me during lunch and before school as of 6:30am
    - iv. Sign up for SCOIR student must sign up first and can invite the parent if parents wish to be involved, there is also an app that may be more user friendly. SCOIR is a great tool to help in the college decision process. They should start using it the earlier the better. Start reading the essay prompts and start doing it over the summer. It is a long process.

#### IV. President's Report

- a. Field Update – unfortunately we did not receive the grant from the NFL but have decided to move forward with company we started with in 2018 and they have been very patient and we have decided to proceed with trying to do a major fundraiser and do it in phases. We will present more information later on and take a vote.
- b. The Silver Knight banners were sent to the printer Tatiana Hernandez a parent and graphic designer designed the banners and they have been sent to print. Congratulations to all the nominees.

#### V. Treasurer Report- Maritza

- a. Budget Review – checking account beginning balance \$61,806.47 and ending balance \$61,352.61
- b. Money market account beginning balance \$62,001.95 and ending balance \$78,513.52
- c. Money spent since last meeting on membership banner printing, FL PTA dues and special projects
- d. Total expenses to date \$10,093.78
- e. Gross revenues \$62,161.09
- f. Net revenue \$52,067.31

#### VI. VP/Chair Reports & Any Upcoming Events

- a. 1<sup>st</sup> VP Report- Lynn
  - i. Holiday Lunch THANK YOU! Had a great team that pitched in to give our teachers a wonderful event on behalf of PTSA. Next main event early May is Teacher Appreciation will have 3 mid-size events and something for the end of the year. If any parent has a business of would like to contribute to the events in any way, please feel free to contact Lynn.
- b. 2<sup>nd</sup> VP Report- Shannon
  - i. Be Strong Intl Jan 26<sup>th</sup> at 7pm will host a lecture on Improving Emotional Health and will see how that does in order to move forward with more programs.
- c. 3<sup>rd</sup> VP Report- FUNdraising!- Elyssa
  - i. Sponsors - close to 50K, did a sponsor tour at the school and it was a great opportunity to tour the school and meet other parents and community members.
  - ii. Banners – fence almost filled with banners because people have been so generous with their donations.
  - iii. PAW'd will likely bring it back, looking for volunteers to help with this.
  - iv. Looking to do more restaurant fundraising events.
  - v. PAWS for Panthers we helped over 21 kids over the holidays and made a lot of wishes come true. Thank you to everyone who donated and helped make these kids' holidays special.
  - vi. Question about grant denied to the band - This was not a grant request that PTSA has received this year and there are rules in place about things we can and cannot sponsor.
- d. Membership- Nicole – we need 77 more people to reach 1,000 members this year.
- e. Communications- Katie – [katielabbott@comcast.net](mailto:katielabbott@comcast.net) sign up for the newsletter to get weekly updated information about everything happening at school. Have something you want to post? If you have pictures or news you want to share please forward that as well. We want to include everyone.
- f. Athletics- Jenn (Field and fundraising) – Met with someone who will help with fundraising but it's premature right now. We should create renderings of the fields. Cost will be between 2-5K to create these in order to take to potential donors. We need correct fundraising tools in order to approach potential donors. It is not only for football, but for all the student body and it would be great to have it match our new school. If anyone interested in being in a committee to fundraise for field please contact Jen.
- g. Special Projects- Dionne – our largest line item for giving back to the school, we budget about 20K per year. Ms. Dobbs just received a new list from the arts department. Most of the special projects have been funded. Any teacher can submit a special request and we sit with a small committee to see how we can fund it. The one for the arts department for 17K has just been approved. There are some district rules as to what we can or cannot fund. We received something this week that is being reviewed. Usually, we do not receive too many more from this point on in the year.

- h. Legislative Report- Nancy – school board determining how to select the next superintendent. PTA is stressing that there should be more parental and community involvement in the process. Op Ed will appear in Miami Herald and signed by 13 past presidents. The district will be advocating decrease in assessments. FSA being phased out to new revised standards, a move towards progress monitoring where they are assessed by the state for progress in fall, mid-year and end of year. FL PTA feels this is not a reduction but an increase in testing which would start next year. All other bills in process are ideological in nature; school board should be partisan, PTA disagrees and does not want school board to be partisan, content of classes should be restricted with respect to history and civics, cameras should be placed in classrooms so teachers can be monitored. Children at charter schools take same tests as children in public schools, but students who go to private schools that use state vouchers do not. Meeting coming up on Jan 18<sup>th</sup> regarding selection of superintendent. Showed the list of 16 applicants for Superintendent position that applied in the window of time allotted by the school board.
- i. Advocacy Report- Angelina – superintendent is being chosen, it does matter to make your voice heard, the superintendent plays a huge role in the community and in the education of our students.
- j. Student Reports- Allie, Angelina, and Matt – Allie will make a post about Covid protocols for the students, PTSA ESCA post that will be available monthly for students. Calendar for 2022-2023 school year has been released. There will be a fall recess for Thanksgiving for the entire week.
- k. Questions, Comments, Suggestions - none

## VII. New Business

- a. Annual Love Our Panthers Cocktail event- March or April TBD if will be in-person or virtual again. Decision will be made in coming weeks so please keep your eye out for more information.
- b. Membership Vote on Field Proposal spending – currently there is no money for the field, the district has agreed to match funds we raise up to 500K, we need a rendering to present to potential donors. Do you approve PTSA spending a maximum of 5K for the renderings needed to raise funds for the field project? We have 7K currently in the budget in the line item for campaign of excellence so there is money in the budget. Unanimously approved by everyone who voted. We will keep you updated.
- c. Announcements lacrosse tryouts, Sophomore- Freshmen Parent Night, workshop Improve Your Emotional Health for parents and students via zoom, Sharing Wear purchase MPSH school spirit wear and support our school, Amazon Smile a way to donate to our school while you shop.

## VIII. Dates:

Jan 17: No School (MLK Holiday)  
 Jan 21: No School (Teacher Planning Day)  
 Jan 19: Junior Ring Ceremony  
 Jan 24-26: Boys Varsity LAX Tryouts, 3-5PM, School Athletic Field  
 Jan 24-28: Girls LAX Tryouts, 3:30-5:30PM, School Athletic Field

Feb 22: Algebra I and FSA ELA retakes begin

March 11: Mr. Panther  
 Mar 21-27: No School (Spring Break)

April 30 Prom  
 May 2: AP Exams Begin  
 May 2-6: Teacher Appreciation Week

Feb 2: Teen Talk Roundtable, 2:20-3:30PM, Media Center  
 (1st Wed of every month)  
 Feb 8: Freshman/Sophomore Parent Night, 6:30PM (Virtual)  
 Feb 10: **PTSA General Mtg**  
 Feb 21: No School (President's Day)

## IX. Adjournment: 8:26pm

**Next General Meeting**  
**Thursday, 10, 2022 @ 7pm**