

Cuthbertson High School
PTSO Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
August 2, 2021 (via video conference)

Attendees: LaDonna Baldwin, Dina Blazek, Sonya Carter, Rebekah Garrett, Jane Gettinger, Amy Githmark, Tracey Hammond, Asa Humphries, Whitney Koester, Allison Matthews, Liz Patel, Jeffrey Stout, Julie Swafford, Jenn Ward, Georgina Zayas-DeCouto

Call to Order: 6:34 p.m.

Approve Meeting Minutes from May: LaDonna Baldwin moved to approve; Amy Githmark seconded the motion. Minutes approved.

Administration and Staff Update:

- Principal Stout shared, since the Principals meeting is not until August 4, there are still unknowns regarding policies and procedures for Covid safety protocols.
- Masks are optional for staff and students as of now.
- Open house has been changed this year to a daytime event, 1:30—3:00pm, across three days.
- He will look into how many unique families there are this year.

- Assistant Principal Zayas-DeCouto encouraged all Juniors to register for the PSAT.

- Amy Githmark thanked the PTSO and the Cuthbertson community for their support and expressed her hopes for a school year that is back to normal.

Student Council President's Report

- Asa Humphries reported the student council is working on an outline for the 2021—2022 school year, the first big event being Homecoming on October 1.
- He expressed that while there are challenges in light of the past two years, this also presents opportunities to introduce new ideas and explore different methods.
- Principal Stout communicated his appreciation of the student council being proactive in welcoming students into the building and appreciates the student council's leadership in meeting students' needs.

President's Report:

- LaDonna Baldwin shared her appreciation for the cohesive group making up this year's PTSO board, with gratitude for the expertise of returning members, and the ideas and views the new members will bring.

Treasurer's Report:

- Jane Gettinger reported highlights from the year end and monthly financial reports.
- With the cash balance available, the 2020—2021 PTSO was able to gift the school a donation of \$13,000 for an enlargement to the Senior Patio.
- She also shared a projected draft of the 2021—2022 budget.

Committee Updates:

Senior Events

- 380 packages have been sold (out of 501 senior families.)
- 76% of families have purchased a package. (Typically 83—87% purchase.)
- The deadline to purchase a package is September 24.
- Trish has set up PayPal with Jane Gettinger.
- Events for the first three months include:
 - August 27—First Friday kick off: Repecci's Italian Ices on the Senior Patio
 - 11:20am (set up) until 1:50pm.
 - Event will be promoted via Facebook, Instagram, and through the school.
 - Seniors will be encouraged to wear their Senior t-shirts.
 - Ices offered to all seniors, regardless of whether a package has been purchased.
 - September 24—Senior Breakfast
 - Possible options: Chick-fil-a, Poppyseed Bagels, McDonald's, Panera
 - There will be alternatives for those with dietary restrictions: gluten-free, vegetarian, vegan, etc.
 - October 1—Homecoming; distribute thunder sticks or other spirit item
 - October 29—Senior Breakfast/ Halloween theme

Hospitality

- The committee is working on recognizing birthdays from July and August.
- If they are able to hold Honor Roll breakfasts again, they will begin planning. Principal Stout will follow up and let them know.
- Same for the breakfasts for the Order of the Chevalier.
- The committee is planning on a kick-off event in August during the staff work days. Possibly a grab-and-go breakfast and/or lunch.

Spirit Wear

- Help will be needed for sales of spirit wear on all three days of the open houses.
- Principal Stout said at this time, the store can be open during the school week to purchase or pick up spirit wear items.
- There will be a new design of a "Rise as One" white hoodie.
- Other possible new items include a new jogger, new pajama pants, and a new long sleeve t-shirt.
- The idea was broached of sales being ordered through the vendor website directly instead of the PTSO carrying inventory. More information on the costs and benefits will be gathered and shared at the September meeting.

Membership

- Help is needed for Membership. Liz will advertise on the PTSO web site.

Invest

- Many families are joining already.
- Invest and Membership will continue to be promoted via the newsletter, facebook, and instagram.
- Allison will forward all new email addresses to add to the volunteer database.

Volunteers

- The list of volunteers has been updated for the 2021—2022 school year.
- Tracey will send out a Sign Up Genius for the open houses.

Scholarship

- The application process will remain the same for the upcoming school year.
- Application information will be sent out in February/ March 2022.
- Five \$1,000 scholarships are already in the budget.

New/Old Business

- There are five completed “pads” of the enlarged Senior patio; tables are on the way.
- There will be signage stating it was gifted from the PTSO families.
- Updates will be shared to inform the school community.

Next meeting:

Monday, September 13 at 6:30 p.m.

Adjourn: 7:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Julie Swafford
CHS PTSO Secretary