

# March General Meeting

Minutes 03/06/24

In-Person: Career Center

- I. Meeting Call to Order - 6:40pm
- II. Welcome
- III. Spotlights:
  - A. Student- Theater Arts Students - Theater leadership team talks about how all the behind the scenes things happen to make a production come to life, working on some new challenges for upcoming musical (projection); came 2nd in State competition and placed in Districts, Cappies upcoming at end of year.
  - B. Teacher- Mr. Selner, Science Teacher for 9th, 11th & 12th since August 2023, not just a great and beloved teacher but a SLHS Grad, very active in the SLHS community and at school events
  - C. Volunteer- Larry Howell, current Audit Committee Chair, and participates in many other committees, currently serving on a Families Focus Group set up by Superintendent Ried
- IV. Approve Previous Meeting Minutes (February 7 2024)
  - A. Motion made; seconded
  - B. APPROVED**
- V. Treasurer's Report
  - A. Update through February provided
- VI. Committee Updates
  - A. Pantry - Abbe Pascal was not in attendance, but provided slide updates for President Vicky Stacy to share; Simple Gesture coming up on April 6th
  - B. All-Night Grad Party - Lorna Kadunce, Webers Dog Wash fundraiser coming up March 18th-30th, Ticket sales ongoing, prices will increase going forward, lawn signs last chance to order will be in May, prom flowers fundraiser coming up
  - C. Hospitality - Vicky Stacy presenting on behalf of Ashleigh Dorfman, Valentine's Day event was a hit!

- D. Scholarships/Mini-Grants - Sarah Hobson, new online application now instead of paper, found on PTA Website, submissions due May 2nd, we already have a review committee but if anyone is interested reach out to Scholarships Committee
- E. Fundraising - Nandini Rao, spoke about recent D4D at Noodles & Co, have an upcoming fundraiser for International Cookbook and Senior photo sessions
- F. Nominations Committee - Vicky Stacy presented open positions for next year and soliciting people who want to be nominated or who know people
- G. FCPS Families Committee - Larry Howell who was part of the committee (put together by Superintendent) is waiting on follow up meeting and meeting minutes. Hopefully more updates in April

VII. Guest Speaker - Monica Rogers, Substance Abuse Prevention Specialist for SLHS Pyramid

- A. presents about the dangers of vaping (referred to as the next generation of addicts); currently a big issue in schools, and just as dangerous as smoking (tho advertised as "safer"); discussed current vaping brands and devices which can be hidden in everyday objects so you might not notice; signs of vaping in kids; nicotine can be as addictive as heroin or cocaine (tho not as dangerous in the short term); some pens (cart/cartridge) it contains THC (marijuana); chemicals found in vaping liquid; we don't know the long term affects yet; shared info on resources in the community and within FCPS for vaping and other substance abuse help
- B. Q&A - question around what FCPS is doing (vaping detectors etc); how we are educating our student population (via Health/PE classes, seminars in 11th, 12th grade, some early intervention/education in elementary schools); how referrals/escalations work for substance abuse program; there is an opioid session on March 18th at Lake Braddock for students/parents 6th-12th grade

VIII. Principal's Report - Kim Retzer

- A. Family survey went out, please respond; recap on attendance summary email and request for feedback, issue with attendance auto-call system being addressed; student recognition - art (gold key winner!), Dan & Claudia Zanes came and did a performance for MLK Jr/Black History Month; International Night went well; Girls Track took 1st in State including new State records; Boys Basketball playing in State Final; performing arts assessment time so those are ongoing; Rising 9th grade activities fair on pause - new date TBD; Academic Advising done, working on staffing now; there is an ongoing conflict between a small group of students being addressed by administration; Parent project ongoing, session in Arabic last week, Spanish/English upcoming; reminders about pick up/drop off on flagpole side and general issues with parents not following the guidelines and creating some dangerous situations for pedestrians.

IX. Meeting Adjournment - 8:45pm