

CSHPTG meeting
Via zoom
February 9, 2021

In attendance:

PTG: Lynette Simmons, Dianne Breitstone, Tami Stark, Tara Vaccaro, Carol Kessler

Administration: Dr. James Bolen, Michael Bongino

Board of Education: Amelia Brogan, Ingrid Wright, Tara Belfi

Minutes approved by Tami Stark, seconded by Dianne Breitstone

President's announcements:

There is a link in the chat to the minutes from the last meeting. We were looking for an interim treasurer to take over from Genevieve and it does appear as if we have found someone. The official announcement will be made next month.

The PTG decorated the new gym for Valentines Day and it looks great.

The PTG recently donated money to the French department so they could buy some goodies for the sixth graders to leave with them after their discussion of enrolling in French class in the seventh grade.

Carol Kessler, Secretary announced that the PTG nomination period is open, forms are on the PTG website. People to populate the nomination committee also are needed.

SEPTO - "Planning for your IEP Meeting" to be held on Tuesday, Feb. 23 at 9am via Zoom

FOCUS - Yoga event, looking for more participants, is tomorrow with Kristen Monge virtually.

Dr. Bolen:

Sports have begun, including high risk sports. The high risk student athletes are tested weekly. This catches asymptomatic students. They go back 48 hours. They are unable to test during the week due to logistics with in person classroom time. The seasons this year are nine week seasons.

A parent commented that their child feels the plastic shields being used are now scratched and foggy and she can't see through them well. Dr. Bolen responded that we don't keep plastic shields permanently at desks as that may spread germs. The school wants each child to have their own shield for the day. New ones are being ordered that are more sturdy and scratch less. We usually get 6 to 10 weeks out of the current ones before they need to be retired. Some students in the classroom will go on Zoom to see the board.

The National Honor Society advisers are having a Zoom tonight at 7. There is a 20 hour per year commitment, but this year this is no longer a hard and fast rule. Opportunities are hard to find and may be cancelled. Attempts to engage in community service are now being counted also.

Dr. Bolen has been doing in person classroom observation to make sure the teachers are engaging the virtual students.

Will Regents be cancelled this year? The board of regents meets the first week of every month. This month they met but did not comment as to whether or not the regents is going forward. Perhaps they will make an announcement in March. Dr. Bolen feels they will not be held. Last year they waited until the last moment to announce the exams were cancelled. If there are no regents exams those days will become school days.

Dr. Bolen has a call at 1 PM today with the College Board about the AP exams. On Friday he has a call with the Nassau County principals to discuss what their schools will be doing. They've opened up three testing windows, the first two weeks in May which is not virtual, two weeks later will be the second testing window which is some on line and some paper and pencil, the third testing window is at the end of June which will be primarily online, but paper and pencil testing will be AP French, AP Spanish and Music Theory.

Any other exams will be online. Very difficult to get substitute teachers for proctoring now. There will be AP exams this year. Students have a choice taking AP virtually or in person at certain times. He'll find out more information today at 1pm.

Mr. Bongino:

A lot of changes to the athletic program are occurring daily. They are now scheduling Covid testing by team for high-risk sports. Testing will take place on Monday the 15th. Each team gets a time slot of 60 to 90 minutes, depending on how large the team is. The student-athletes have the option of testing on their own, not through the school. The school is trying to link the tests closely to each team's practice.

During games there will be a supervisor taking the temperature of all the players and officials when they enter the gym. The away team will have a designated area to sit in a socially distant manner, as will the officials. The games are live streamed. Locker rooms will not be used, the players will arrive ready to play. There are separate balls for the visiting team and the home team. Basketball will have four game balls, a new ball will be used each quarter. Once the game concludes everything will be cleaned. He has discussed the proper protocols with the custodians. Athletes will be escorted out after the game. Two buses will be used for away games due to safety protocols.

He is trying to minimize groupings and contact as much as possible. Masks are on during practice. In competition, by state guidelines, the masks do not have to be worn, however the school is strongly encouraging that masks stay on. The game won't be stopped if the mask comes off or slips below the player's nose. Mr. Bongino is strongly encouraging among the coaches frequent substitutions due to mask wearing. This is for all sports, not just high risk. No handshakes will occur at the end of the games, waving is being substituted. There are now seating charts on buses and benches. Must sit staggered. Wrestling mats are cleaned three times (beginning, middle and end of matches). All uniforms must be washed each time worn. Fall sports begin March 1. There will be date changes depending upon the weather. Boys golf and girls tennis may be postponed due to snow.

Junior high — modified sports begin March 22, and we will be playing all fall sports and all spring sports. Information about Family ID for Jr High will be coming out on Feb 22. High school spring sports season begins April 2, and junior high spring sports season begins May 3.

The only two other sports in a holding pattern is ice hockey and crew. Ice hockey has not yet begun due to the club league. When we receive a schedule from the Nassau county club hockey association hockey will start. Hopeful for a spring season for crew. That sport that is not covered under the county school athletic program either so he's awaiting notification of plans. There will be no travel with crew off Long Island, so he's looking to potentially have some regattas locally between neighboring school districts.

On March 8 intramurals will begin for spring sports. All sports will be played this year, but in a condensed manner. All state championships are canceled. At the Varsity level, most likely playing county and Long Island championships.

If Regents exams are cancelled, they will request an extension of the season to June 19 to the athletic counsel, contingent upon the district's approval.

Senior awards will go forward, not sure of the format. Yearbook team photos begin Wednesday for winter. Fall will also have their team photo taken but the spring teams will not be announced until after the yearbook deadline of April 20, so they will probably take the picture of the athletes who played on the varsity team for that sport last year. They will fill in with action shots of excluded student athletes.

A positive Covid test goes back 48 hours for contact tracing. This week they are testing on Monday instead of Saturday due to the February break.

Any college commitments this year? Yes, and those athletes will be highlighted in the spring.

When can spectators attend games? Never for winter sports, will be reevaluated for fall. Most will be two spectators per athlete for home games only, none for away games. Two schools in the county are allowing spectators, 53 are not.

Jr high sports — will Winter I session go forward? Intramurals for wrestling, basketball, and volleyball will occur. Winter II junior high sports are not being held because not enough schools are participating. Students can sign up for more than one intramural. There is no Covid testing for the junior high intramurals regardless of sport. Feb. 27 is a COVID testing date, and the girls volleyball team and the football team will also be tested as their season begins shortly afterwards. Crew and ice hockey may also need to test on that day.

Next PTG meeting is not on the calendar, but will be held at 9:30 on March 9th via Zoom. Please let PTG president know of any speakers you would like her to invite to a future meeting.

Meeting adj 10:28.

