**PTG Meeting Jan 7, 2020**

Meeting held in the JHS library @ 9:40 am

**In Attendance:** See sheet attached

**BOE Board Members In Attendance:** Ingrid Wright, Julie Starrett

**Nov. 12 2019 minutes reviewed and approved by:** Tara Vaccaro and seconded by Pam Vegna

**Lynette Simmons, PTG President**

**President’s Report:**

There are many state laws shortly being voted on about compulsory vaccinations. The PTG is apolitical

And takes no stance, however our members would be well advised to educate themselves about future changes. We have provided a sheet on links to proposed bills.

Shows mugs – only members can purchase, they are well insulated and attractive.

Next month Carol Kessler will be heading up the nominating committee. There are many open positions – treasurer, committees membership. Please consider volunteering.

President thanked Pam Bell for her efforts with the cookie bake.

**PTG Treasurer:**

Gen Cimino presented the budget for the year. Copies were disseminated to the attendees. We began with $31K, have expenses of $14K and anticipate an income of $11.5K. We got a good amount of money from the Literary Lunch. The PTG is looking into depositing funds into a higher interest yielding account for next year.

**Parent Group Announcements:**

**SEPTO:**

Hosting a college night at the High School for students with IEPs at 7pm on 1/29/20.

**Literary Lunch:**

Next meeting Monday Jan 13th at 10:30. Donations needed. Unopened, unused holiday gifts will be accepted.

**Membership:**

Dianne mentioned that there was an error in the original message about the French club meeting, it is this evening.

**Dr. Bolen, Principal**

College night for juniors is this Thursday, 1/9/20.

Teacher course recommendations are out. Please keep in mind that they are merely recommendations. Please keep balance in mind for your child’s schedule. Please don’t over schedule them. Try to help them distress. There is a planning sheet on the guidance website per grade with a flow chart. A student may not get a class they request due to a scheduling conflict.

Challenge days are coming up the last week of January. It has been a tremendous success in the past. Students get to know each other on a different level, learn empathy and get a lot out of the day in general.

**Mr. Bongino,- Athletic Director**

Discussed junior high sports. New York State is a modified athletics state. Mr. Bongino sits on a state committee which is trying for the junior high sports to mirror the high school method more closely. They are piloting different sports to try to combine grades, much like JV and Varsity. This is being done because many schools (not ours) have less students participating in athletics. We are the fourth smallest school in Nassau County and are classified as a C school, Conference 1. In the spring they are considering having wrestling, baseball and softball as mixed ability teams. A minimum of 28 participants are needed for two teams at the junior high level.

The state released the start dates for Varsity Football as 8/24/20, and all others as 8/31/20. We can technically begin the other sports on 8/24, but our conference has agreed to begin on 8/31/20. Junior High sports begin on 9/8/20.

**Ms Libertini, STEM Director**

Exciting things are happening. The bond passed so they are planning space for four science classrooms and a marine center. They have gone to four or five sites to see what other districts are doing, and are working with Columbia and NYU as well as involving teachers from our school.

They are making changes to math schedule with new, different pathways. They’re getting feedback from students and teachers so students can choose their own pathway. Ex: if student wants molecular biology, they would take AP Bio, and if they wanted engineering they would do AP Physics. AP Physics 2 is also offered. It’s not recommended to double up on multiple sciences.

There has been a change to math scheduling. Additional support class will no longer be offered back to back with the math class. This will help to ease scheduling and forces reinforcement of math class content. These changes are in response to Next Generation Standard and new testing requirements.

Robotics – a course will be provided to give skill sets required which are necessary to participate in club. Flyers will be going home.

A molecular genomics course is being offered through a National Science Foundation grant. The precursor to the class is Honors Chemistry. ASR4 will no longer be offered. Next year an option exists for independent research.

Science research – mentorship meeting last October for grade 10 through 12. The subject of the meeting was how to obtain a mentor. The process of applying begins in January for institutional experience. Research is most successful with a mentor in the area of research you’re in. Long Island takes home all of the major awards. 7pm on Jan 21st is the science research intro meeting. It’s targeted for 8th grade honors students.

A question was asked – will we be hiring a new STEM person dedicated to the new space? No. They will be bringing teachers to successful robotics programs to model them here. Teachers will make connections with teachers from other districts. Our robotics class is run independently of the club, unlike in other districts. We are not currently running the class so the club is driving the program.

Ms. Lambertini is trying to partner with Walt Whitman H.S. as they have a fully functioning coral reef.

Meeting adjourned 11:30am