November 12, 2019

PFA Meeting Minutes:

Claire Healey- Student Representative:

* Halloween at South was a blast this year many students dressed up in their costumes and we even had a costume contest block three and four the day of Halloween and the winners won candy prizes
* The dance team will be starting a new fundraiser on Tuesday selling treats for students after school and before athletic practices
* Next week North will be hosting the AP Scholar Award to the students who received a perfect score on their AP exams from last spring
* The Fall play “U” is next weekend November 21-23.
* Our Girls soccer team are North 2 Group 3 State Champions after their win against Crawford last week.
* The Gymnastics team won second at states meaning they are the second team in the entire state. Also, two of their seniors Katie and Emma Keogh won individual states awards. Katie coming in third and Emma coming in seventh all around.
* Girls XC were sectional champions and they will be adv acing to state group finals next Saturday, this is the girls cross country’s 6th sectional title in the past 9 years.
* The football team has advanced to round two of the playoffs with a win 24-7 over Hamilton last Friday. The next game is Friday, November 15.
* Field hockey is now North Champions and N2G3 sectional champions
* Looking back at the middle of October we had a pep rally outside on the turf where a bunch of the sports teams showed off some of their tricks and all of the grade levels played various games such as the tug-of-war which is always super fun to watch
* Some good news for seniors was when the administration added a bunch of new parking
* spaces so that more students have the opportunity to park here on campus.
* Something new in the classroom this year that has been added is something called AP classroom and it is for your AP classes and you can go on and take practice tests or middletwonw progress reports and it can help in whatever AP subject your child is taking.

Mrs. Deignan – Teacher Representative

* Thank you to the PFA for your grant offerings – teacher grants have been extended to December 1

Mr. Kirkpatrick - principal

* Thank you Mrs. Dennigan for coming as our teacher representative, each meeting will have a different teacher each meeting
* Thank you PFA for the Teacher grants
* Each year he works with the PFA for a school gift that benefits all and we are currently working on that now
* If anyone has attended 8th grade or freshmen orientation it can get quite crowded. We have to use the gymnasium to accommodate. Although the sound system is good our screen is not the best. We are currently looking into putting in a new screen for better viewing. There is a blow-up screen which is currently being used.
* We are trying to do a better job during the orientation at highlighting the vocational programs
* PSAT’s took place for Sophomore and Juniors. The freshmen had a meaningful morning on alcohol and drug awareness giving by Mr. Raspussen, Mr. Letson and also given by our civic leaders.
* Battle of classes is something that we are starting new this year. We are trying to promote school spirit. There will be activities going on throughout the school. Information will hopefully be via PowerSchool as remind is no longer available.
* Superintendent Forum always beneficial to hear the concerns of the student. Some of the concerns of the students was parking, attendance and ap classes. Dr. George give them an opportunity to voice their concerns and we work in the next month or two come up with some solutions.
* Learning design team is new this year is a committee made up of teachers and counselors. The goal of the building this year is strengthening relationships with students and staff in order to increase and improve student outcomes. Students who are cared and respected
* Hall of fame induction ceremony happened last month. It is the first in five years. Trying to make that a more regular every two or three years.
* Holiday Express will be coming to South on November 19 to perform for all of our LLD and autistic students. It will be a morning show and we will provide lunch for them.
* Our brew crew is back. It is our coffee, bagel and doughnut program. We are running this though Whitsons which is our service provider.
* We have a new strength and conditioning coach. His name is Zach Even-Esh. We are excited to have him join us and he will be attending a PFA Meeting hopefully in January to speak with the parents.
* Strategic planning workshop is tomorrow at HS South from 7-9 pm. There is another HS North in December.
* Grannies Attic is coming up, November 23 – “It’s a Tradition”

Claudia Healey- PFA President

* Teacher grants are being extended. They are being underutilized. If something arises later in the year, there is a small contingency fund just in case you have missed the deadline. You have to be a PFA member in order to participate.
* We are on Facebook, Instagram and twitter.

Paige Benigno – Treasurer & PIC Meeting Representative

* Fall is the time we make our money and the spring is the time we spend our money
* Membership is below our estimates, which is disappointing.
* Snack stand is expected to exceed our estimates

Kelly Iannone – Fundraising

* Our Super 50/50 which will be drawn at the Thanksgiving game is @ $4140. You can still purchase tickets.
* The first Modell fundraiser was a success $685 was made. A new coupon will be coming out tomorrow just in time for the holidays.
* 31 Senior signs sold – these are still available for purchase

Lisa Yasuk – Snack stand

* We had a playoff game which was freezing but good for hot chocolate sales.
* Thanksgiving is coming up and we need volunteers. If you are interested in volunteering, please reach out. People are needed to get us to half time 10am -12 pm.

Cristina Young – Staff Appreciation Coordinator

* Holidays are coming and the PFA support Middletown helps their own. There is a giving tree in the guidance office. You will find tags with ages and requests from children and parents of Middletown families that are in need. We spend some of our funds on that. Kids can grab tags too.
* There is a Thanksgiving food drive.

Michele Glynn – Membership

* 441 Families have joined the PFA to date.
* 77 Faculty members
* Its not too late to join, please grab a form on your way out if you haven’t joined today.
* Seniors can apply for scholarships however, you must be a member of the PFA to qualify.

Margueritte Portagallo – PIC Representative

* Please consider attending the Strategic planning workshop tomorrow at HS South from 7-9 pm. This forum is different then the last and will be more interactive and in smaller groups
* Be prepared to answer these three questions: Over the next 5 years how we can better serve the children, be more efficient and prepare for challenges.

College Panel Forum

* Parents with students at Brookdale, Stockton, New Haven, Pittsburgh, Manhattan College, Sacred Heart, Syracuse, Rowan, Minnesota & Penn State sat for open panel to discuss the process and many decisions you are faced when choosing the right college
* Parents suggested the need to narrow down your child’s choices some areas were climate, size, urban, campus, etc…
* Starting locally is a good start to see what best fits your child’s wants/needs.
* Don’t worry if your child is undecided about their major. Some schools have an undecided major and your child will have the opportunity to find what it is they really want to do.
* Find out what colleges are within your financial means. Don’t worry to about “keeping up with the Joneses’ “and understand that this is a very personal and a familial based decision. The number of schools you apply to should be based on your student and family.
* If you have a younger sibling have them tag along for the college touring processes.
* While touring many parents agreed open houses were the best way to tour. Keep to the front of the line, you will get the best info and be able to bend your guides ear.
* Don’t worry if your child has their heart set on a school and hates it once they tour it. Check out all virtual tours that are available. This can give you a good feel for the school.

Important Dates to Remember:

* 11/15/19 - End of Marking Period 1
* 11/21/19 – 11/23/19 – Fall Play “U”
* 11/27/19 – Early Dismissal
* 11/28/19 – 11/29/18 – Thanksgiving – School Closed
* 12/7/19 SAT Testing
* 12/10/19 – Winter Band Concert
* 12/17/19 – Winter Choir Concert
* 12/23/19 – Early Dismissal
* 12/24/19-1/1/19 – Winter Break