

**Freedom High School PTO
May 7, 2019
Meeting Minutes**

Julie Sabatino, President, called the May 7, 2019 meeting of the Freedom High School Parent Teacher Organization (FHS PTO) to order at 7:02 p.m. The meeting was held in the library. Twelve people were in attendance at the meeting, including 2 staff members (Principal: Mr. LaPorta and Instruction Assistant Principal/Master Scheduler: Ms. Leeson), 5 executive board members, and 5 additional attendees.

Principal's Report: Mr. LaPorta

- Mr. LaPorta thanked the 2018-19 Board for their commitment, fundraising, and the opportunities provided for teachers and students.
- Commencement is June 6th. Speakers will be class president, student chosen speaker, and faculty chosen speaker. The theme will be announced at commencement.
- Mr. LaPorta addressed his recent parent link announcement and security concerns. There has been some negative energy in the building that came to a head last Tuesday. It started with a fight among a few male students regarding a comment made which led to another incident later in the week that resulted in a surgical scalpel being brought into the school and a confrontation in a bathroom.
- The students involved have been identified and will not be returning to Freedom High School. Rumors that continue are unfounded. There are no pressing concerns as all parties have been identified and the situation contained.
- The 'safe to say' app did exactly what it should have done, internal district and police procedures were followed, and just to play it safe there will be an increased police presence this week.
- Situations like this are communicated through building announcements and emails to teachers who communicate information to students.
- Emergency evacuation drills are done once a month and alternated with shelter in place, lock-in, and weather drills.
- Mr. LaPorta reviewed the calendar of events including Freddy announcements, band concert, prom, academic awards dinner and ceremony, band banquet, end of the year faculty meeting and teacher appreciation, no school Tuesday the 21st, all sports banquet, senior class breakfast, graduation rehearsal, and graduation.
- Seniors will be signing the national anthem and alma mater along with the choir at graduation.
- Keystone exams are this coming up Tuesday. Personalized letters were sent to all students with their exam schedule. Keystone scores contribute to school performance and teacher performance evaluations. Teachers who do not teach a keystone course are evaluated using other data sources.
- AP testing is underway.
- The week of August 5th will be Freshman home visits.

Treasurer's Report: Kathy Delaney

The beginning balance was 1,321.67, and after 8.00 in expenses, we ended the reporting period with \$1,313.67. Kathy enter the final receipts received and will submit a final report. A motion to accept the treasurer's report was made by Carmela Swenor and seconded by Mary Pat Gerra.

Recording Secretary:

The January 22, 2019 meeting minutes are available online and were emailed to the membership list. A motion to accept the meeting minutes was made by Melissa Sonnenblick and seconded Kathy Delaney.

Committee Reports:

Membership/Giant A+ Rewards: Linda Long

- Currently 280 PTO members.
- Giant rewards cards up to 483! Totals up to \$3,954.20.

Parent Advisory Committee (PAC): Melissa Sonnenblick

- No notes to report.
- Two new committee members needed for next year.

Old Business:

- May 20th is staff appreciation. Signup Genius has been emailed, but will be emailed out again.

New Business:

- Nominations for 2019-2010 are as follows:
 - President: Wendy Simpson
 - Vice President: Open
 - Secretary: Desiray Bristol
 - Treasurer: Mary Pat Gerra
 - Membership: Quanesha Rodriguez
- Nominations were accepted from the floor. None were forthcoming. Carmela Swenor is considering the Vice President position, but according to the by-laws, the board can work down a member as long as it is not the President. A voice vote for the above nominations was taken and all were in favor. Positions start July 1st

Open Discussion:

- Melissa brought information about BASD Proud Parents for use at next years meetings.

Next Meeting: TBA.

Adjournment: Julie adjourned the meeting at 7:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Cathie Grozier