

Freedom High School PTO Meeting

March 15, 2022, 7:30pm via Zoom

Welcome and Call to Order: Wendy Simpson, PTO President, 7:35pm

Introduction of tonight's guests, Julie Bailey, The Foundation and Marie Bachman, BASD Technology Officer

Secretary's Report: Kathleen Sweeney

Available on PTO Webpage under Parent/Student section

Motion to approve January 2022 minutes: Nikki Testa, 2nd Carmela Swenor

Treasurer's Report: Jason Testa

Treasurer's Report available on PTO Webpage under Parent/Student section

\$5400 available funds in checking

\$500 available in PayPal

\$500 approved to go the FHS Pantry as a grant from PTO

To Deposit \$162 from Little Caesar's Fundraiser

Motion to approve Treasurer's Report: Laurie Sage, 2nd Nikki Testa

Principal's Report: Laurie Sage

March 30th-end of 3rd marking period

Moravian and ESU Scholarship announcements are coming soon

Mayor Reynolds spoke with FHS engineering students about a mock Southside community center. 15 FHS students to design a plot of land

Wrestling season ended with 2 students in state competition (Horvath & Caribinus)

Spring Sports have started. Good Luck to all of our teams!

Rising 9th graders from East Hills and Broughal will attend Freedom for the Day on April 5th.

They will tour the school, vo-tech, attend class and lunch. In addition they will also attend an all activities and sports fair while at FHS. FHS students have been asked to design and man booths for their organizations at the fair. Each new student will receive their Freedom Family shirt.

April 20-24 FHS TC will present *Curtains*. Tickets available online.

The FHS roof and new lighting in the auditorium will be completed over the next few weeks

The FHS Wellness Center will now house mental health workers for Tier 2 & 3 students.

The Library will be updated to add a classroom and immersive learning center (the 1st in the district)

2022 Prom will be May 13th at Steel Stacks. Back to normal and outside guests welcome with permission.

Question: Details of Graduation, Answer: Things back to normal timeline. June 7th at Stabler Arena. Students will receive 6 tickets and can request additional from Guidance.

Special Guest: Julie Baily, The Foundation

Watched video about The Foundation. Available on their website as well.

\$300,000 budget to give back to BASD. Up from \$170,000 last year.

Have 12 + scholarships available for seniors

Student Leadership grants available for HS Students tied to the mission of The Foundation

BEST Award nominations open. Open to all teachers and a reward of \$500. In its 21st year

The Foundation granted a grand piano to Liberty for its 100th Anniversary

The Foundation awarded \$100,000 to Freedom for the Wellness Center!

Question: Where does funding come from? Answer: Sponsor/partnership packages, individuals, community businesses by showcasing successes

BASD Nation: website

All BASD families, partners, community can join

Want to see community events on the website? Use social media handles or send to Taylor at The Foundation

Special Guest: Marie Bachman, BASD Chief Technology Officer

With BASD for 25 years, 5 years as CTO

Here to support creativity and teaching of our students

No direct interaction with students

Service 22 schools, 3 non-schools, classrooms, point of sale in cafeterias, stadiums, libraries, service desk and BASD websites

Remind students to sign off and shutdown Chromebooks daily. Machines get tired. Boot up next day.

Over the summer, please continue to charge Chromebooks.

Use collaboration and creativity and eventual career paths to determine software used

Ask what are teachers are teaching and what hardware and software is best suited

Able to access career level things to help when kids graduate to college or career

Team of students helped last summer with computers

Student advisory groups helped with 1:1 initiative before Covid

Question: Why are some educational sites not available to students like KHAN Academy?

Answer: 2 products monitor and filter data. Often false +. Students need to notify teacher so a report can be sent to investigate and open site. Must be a valid request from Teacher.

For families: Parent portals are available on the BASD site. Home Access Center for grades and details about assignments see Schoology.

On BASD site there is a section under Parents to tell you how to get in and reset passwords for these items

Check out Empower Website for parents

Decorated ChromeBooks are a no-no

ChromeBooks are expected to have a 4 year lifecycle.

PAC Report: Jessica Hancz

Covid: Masking now optional

Julie Bailey gave update on The Foundation

Grading Initiative will be piloted in Fall 2022 for 6th and 9th grade Social Studies classes.

Will provide factor grading and overall grade to better assess student progress and enhance targeted learning

Thursday is the next meeting on the BASD Budget

Proud Parents meeting this week also. Check for the email.

New/Old Business

Starting an AthLife food drive some time in April. Waiting on some details first

AthLife talking to track and field team today regarding homework, food and academic help

Meeting adjourned 8:54pm