



## **YORKTOWN PTSA MEETING AGENDA**

**Monday, December 9, 2024**

**Meeting: 7:30pm**

1. Attendance: Maurine Fanguy, Rena Cutlip-Mason, Teresa Cordova, Cristina Marcus, Gladys, Melissa, Sherri Haideri, Julie Pandya, Frances, Nina DeGisi, Claudia, Angela Cocker, Jenny, J Snow, Jill G., Liz Crescioli, Claire, Eileen, Kevin Clark, Julissa, Mardi Mucino, Shana Rothman, Tammy Rosen, Amy Stitzel, Hillary Wilson, April Massey, Tia Alfred, Eileen Topp, Nikki, Cloe, Johnson, Alison Teres, P Wilson, Kristin, Nicole Hobbs, Erin Baynham, SB, WBG, Krista Boyd, Songyee, Michelle Thompson, X, James Hart, Tony Choi, Teresa, Rives Hotra, Kathleen Dunn, K. Leigh Taylor, Nikki, Barbara Vargas, Tammy Rosen, Maureen Bouda
2. Welcome (Maurine Fanguy, PTSA President) and introductions of PTA Board
3. Approval of October Minutes (Rena Cutlip-Mason, Secretary)
  - Minutes approved after motion from Julie Pandya and second from Cristina Marcus
4. Principal's Update (Dr. Clark, Principal)
  - Lisa Troiano was selected as Teacher of the year. Mary Ann Mahan was selected as support staff of the year. Laura Porter was selected as assistant principal of the year. The staff was selected from 75 nominated teachers and 15 nominated support staff.
  - Upcoming music performances
    - i. December 11, 2024 - band performance
    - ii. December 17, 2024 - chorus ensemble performance
  - Winter sports have started.

- i. Started a girls flag football team that will compete against other Arlington schools. The team is still accepting athletes.
- o Last Thursday there was a rising 9th grade presentation at Patriot Hall.
- o Course registration will start after winter break. Counselors will start presentation in January to discuss options for coursework.
- o Questions
  - i. Differentiation
    1. Administration prioritizes observing newer teachers. Assistant principals conduct 2 and the principal does one observation. Additionally, there is a walk-through where the administration provides feedback via email in an unannounced setting.
    2. Gifted instruction in HS is around rigorous course offerings and selections. However, all teachers will differentiate in the classroom based on the needs of the children.
    3. With retakes, there is remediation and is an example of how there is remediation with additional work for students struggling. There is also help in Patriot period where students can meet with teachers for help.
    4. Collaborative teams do a good job of monitoring their data to use that information to inform reteaching and groupings
- 5. Guest Speaker will be rescheduled. Due to a family emergency, Mr. Cameronne Taillon was not able to attend today.
- 6. Internal VP Update (Jill Gaspar)
  - o Looking good on volunteer positions. Most positions have been filled.
  - o Do still need volunteers to assist with Spring Fling. Reach out to [jill's email] if you are interested or want to volunteer
- 7. External VP Update (Josh MacFarland)
  - o ACTL
    - i. Cell Phone Policy

1. There is a mental health advisory board for the school board that feels strongly about the bell to bell cell phone policy. They are seeking a grant for the pouches.
    - a. Regarding the grant - there was no answer about whether it was a one year grant or a multi-year grant.
  2. Principals feel strongly about the bell to bell policy.
  3. There was a discussion about maybe having the shoe holders instead of the pouches for the rest of this year.
- ii. English Language Arts
1. Requesting 5 literacy coaches. It is important because we have 154 new teachers and they will need a lot of support to provide feedback and improve.
  2. Teachers have stated that they would like this support.
  3. Coaches will be pushed into the schools where there is a struggle on SOLs primarily.
- iii. Science Committee
1. In 4th grade they don't teach science, but the science department would like to see science in the 4th grade. Would also like 3 school interventionists.
- iv. Advance Academics
1. Recommending intensified literacy course in 6th grade and intensified World Geography course in 8th grade.
  2. Concern was raised about inclusion of co-teaching with children with disabilities to ensure access to the intensified courses for them.
8. Treasurer's Report (Julie Pandya, Treasurer)
- Thank you for your generous support of the PTSA. Exceeding the fundraising goal with the lean budget. Fundraised \$37,000 so far this year.
  - Started giving out teacher grants for the fall.

- i. Would like with continued fundraising to get the teacher grant budget to \$16000, which would be equal to last year.
- o Spent \$8428 thus far this year, which includes teacher grants and a teacher appreciation event.

## 9. President's Update

- o Nominating Committee for 2025-26 school year
  - i. We will be launching the nominating committee in January. Seeking volunteers to help encourage volunteers for the PTSA board. Will be seeking a diverse committee to recruit a diverse board.
- o Technology Update and Roll-Out
  - i. The cost of current technology and the knowledge needed to maintain is high. There is a need to be fiscally responsible and create a platform that can be more easily maintained. For this reason we are transitioning to Google site because it is free. We are also transitioning to Google for Nonprofits, moving to [yorktownptsa.org](http://yorktownptsa.org).
  - ii. We are also transitioning to GiveBacks for fundraising because it is an approved entity for membership and fundraising by the Virginia PTA and the CCPTA.
  - iii. Spiritwear will be moved to GiveBacks as well so that all money to the PTA will go through that website.
  - iv. We will maintain Mail Chimp for communications.
- o Cell Phone Policy
  - i. Dr. Clark update:
    1. Vote this Thursday by the school board.
    2. Any new policy will start in January after the winter break.
    3. The pouches is a separate questions because it is a budget question.
  - ii. YHS PTSA did not provide a position and just provided the results of the survey.

- Fundraising policy follow-up from the October 2024 meeting
  - i. Mr. Stockton provided an updated, Chief of Staff to the Superintendent.
  - ii. There is an exception to sell food-based products at school 30 times a year.
  - iii. Dr. Clark is working with staff to see how that will work for Yorktown clubs.

10. Adjournment at 8:17pm after motion from Cristina Marcus and second from Jill Gaspar