PHSPC

Thursday, November 7th, 2019

PHS Student Center

7:00PM **Call to Order**, Laura Katter, PHSPC President

Welcome and discussion regarding this year’s theme of community. Parents’ club is focused on building community in various ways amongst parents, students, teachers/administrators and our school. This includes trying to schedule parents’ club meetings at new times to include parents who might not other wise be available to attend daytime meetings. Also looking at including a variety of new topics and discussions. Thank you for being here this evening.

* Teacher Notes, the tradition of writing thank you notes to PHS teachers during parents’ club meetings was started last year by past PHSPC President, Mary Alice McNeil. Please feel free to write a thank you note to a specific teacher, notes cards have been placed on all the tables. These notes have been very well received from the teachers. Last year 100 notes were distributed throughout the year and we hope to write 100 or more this year as well.
* Scrip raises a lot of money for our schools, our PHS Rep is Rieko Haggerty, if you need anything please contact her.
* Community Updates, we try to have a balance of news from community groups, parents’ club initiatives/projects, PHS Administration and special topics.

**Community Updates:**

**ASB** President, Jace Porter

Lots of events happening on PHS campus this month:

Rally, Junior Court and Senior Court, November 16th Homecoming Dance rescheduled, Fire drive this week for families impacted by Northern California wild fires, October 28th was the big assembly day on campus (consent presentation for all 9th & 12th, safe driving for 10th grade and diversity activity for 11th grade), Green Club participating in Climate Challenge, Impossible Burger First Served on Campus 1st (Vegetarian burger), Debate Club attending more events, Planning Diversity Day, Dance Show Theme Was Nostalgia, Winter Sports Tryouts this week, and Grades are available. Nov. 15th.

**Giving Campaign**, Allison Elvekrog

* Great news, $2.5M was reached today
* Target this year is $2.8M with a stretch goal of $3M
* Thank you to Sarah Pearson, Melanie Marcus, Nicki Gilbert, Cory Smegal and Amy Settlemier, who have worked tirelessly with the Giving Campaign outreach both via email and text and phone.
* High School giving is only at 35% so far and is significantly down this year. Trying to understand why that is.
* GC responsible for 7% of overall district budget and Parcel Tax with measures G & H make up another 30% of the budget. These two things help make up for the lack of state funding for public schools.
* More work to be done, volunteers are welcome if you would like to help. The one to one campaign is most successful. Parent in the meeting chimed in to say the text they received today prompted them to make their donation.
* There will be an adults only party for each school with the grade with the highest participation, a new event this year to help drive increased participation. Right now the 11th grade class has the highest overall participation at 41%. 10th grade is at 36%; grade 9 at 38% and grade 12 is at 26%.
* The PHS parents’ club is two board members away from hitting 100% participation in the GC.
* Until the state provides a higher level of funding we will be working hard each year with this campaign, which is vital to the schools.

**Scouting of America**, Morgan Fjord, Program Coordinator and District Executive

* Parents Clubs Charter all venturing clubs
* Morgan is responsible for all the programming from K-12 up to age 20
* Update on programs, all programs open to boys and girls as of Feb 20th, 2019
* Annual Food Drive to support the Alameda Food Bank, on November 16th, next Saturday. Please place food outside before 9:00AM and the scouts will go door to door to pick up every donation. Last year 4,000 pounds of food and $3,000.00 were donated.
* $5K goal on virtual food drive, if you would like to donate there is a link on the website https://www.piedmontbsa.org.
* Earth Day April 22, 2020 is the 50th anniversary and BSA is working with Piedmont Connect and the Climate Challenge and there will be an event and a service project.
* Please save the date for a community-wide service project Saturday the 25th of April. BSA working with the city to look at possible projects, stay tuned.
* Teacher Appreciation Week Scouts and students would love to offer their support in helping with a project after school in support of the teachers.
* Career Day collaboration with PHS and Scouts scheduled for March 27th, looking for speakers in a variety of fields. Sign ups can be done via the BSA website.

**Piedmont Climate Challenge**, Samantha Miller, Ambassador for PCC

* Trying to raise awareness that Piedmont is participating in a nationwide effort that PCC is trying to localize to reduce greenhouse gasses and the carbon impact household to household within our community.
* The goal is to reduce greenhouse gasses by 1M Pounds in Piedmont within the next six months. Goal per household is 5K pounds per year.
* Neighborhood Groups and Teams help make this a fun and interesting project. To learn more or to participate visit [www.piedmontclimatechallenge.org](http://www.piedmontclimatechallenge.org)
* Samantha would love to meet with the PHS Green Team to share more information with them

**Administration/District Reports**

PHS Principal, Adam Littlefield

* Thank you for passing Measures G & H and the tremendous work on the Giving Campaign. This will make a great school and school district even better.
* Recently informed that based on test scores for 3rd-8th grade and 11th grade that Piedmont is number one in Northern California as a unified school district and number three in the entire state.
* Excited on the progress of the new building and it will be a fantastic resource for our community.
* There are a number of school wide committees that have been working hard since January of this year in preparation for this new facility. For example, the Steering committee is working on developing the vision and mission for steam programs. These committees are comprised of parents, students, teachers and community members. Other groups include but are not limited to Curriculum Instruction, Facilities and Funding and Marketing.
* Innovation event on November 19th, with Stanford and looking at design thinking and how do we use the space in the new building.
* Challenge Success Survey, Challenge Success is an organization associated with Stanford. Students and parents participated in this survey in the spring of 2019. At the next parent coffee on November 21, 2019, some of the results will be shared and we will look at how we can take the information and use it to help improve the school and support our students.
* Successful sports season with several teams still in the hunt for the playoffs.
* Thank you to parents who have made donations to the coaches stipend fund which is how the school funds coaches. If you have not yet made a donation and your child participated in a Fall sport it’s not too late to make a donation and would be appreciated.
* The staff has been working hard in a variety of ways through professional development this year. 10 teachers recently participated in an assessment training and professional development in San Francisco. The focus was on how to design better assessments to understand what students are learning and what we are able to do with that. This is all part of a much larger professional development called professional learning communities. Professional learning communities are looking at having teachers working together understanding and creating a viable curriculum and then making sure we are assessing it to ensure students are learning what we want them to learn.
* New Courses This Year: honors physics course, physics, digital design, digital photography, AP art history, ethnic studies. In the process of identifying new courses for next year
* Happy to report all positions have been filled. Believes that the passing of measure H will help attract and retain teachers and staff.
* Local Control & Accountability Plan, work in progress to look at student data, Performance data, absenteeism, current climate (types of experience students are having in school) helps create a three year plan. High school uses it to create specific plans for PHS that are aligned to those like an accreditation plan.

Vice Principal Update, Irma Munoz

* November 12th Parent Education Night/Worskshop @ NPR 7PM How to Meme Responsibly
* November 18th Parent Education Night Exploring Identity PHS Library
* College & Career Center hosting Community College Event on the 20th from 6PM-7PM
* Homecoming Dance Rescheduled for Saturday, November 16th
* PHS has been working for the past two years on addressing Social Justice

School Board Update, Sarah Pearson

* School Board and City Counsel Partnered for a Book Drive. All the books for preschoolers-8th donated to East Bay Community Book Project.
* Friends of PHS Library is newly formed and books are now being collected for PHS library as well.
* Challenge Success Data and Student Stress, looking at ways to address that.
* Special Board Workshop on Monday December 9th at 3:30, AP and Honors and looking more broadly at student stress and how we can address that.
* Happy that both measures G & H passed. Please thank your neighbors.
* Cory Smegal update regarding Full and Fair Funding, CSBA has filed for us to put this measure on the ballot, over 1M signatures needed. Hoping that if we get enough signatures the legislatures will either put it on the ballot or the Governor will. Targeting November 2020 ballot. There is the potential for a competing bill with Prop 13 split role bill, schools and communities first. Proposal to modify prop 13 for commercial properties.
* State bond for school construction on the March Ballot. If it passes Piedmont could receive $4M-$6M which could be used for additional construction projects.

**7:45 Vaping/Diversion, Officer Nicole Casalnuovo**

* Background information regarding Nicole, not new to Piedmont but new Juvenile Officer, has worked in Piedmont since 2015. Brings 15 years of law enforcement and military experience to her role. Acting watch commander, regularly fills in as the Sargent and field training officer, CIT trained and certified for any kind of crisis situation. Prop 64 certified which is the marijuana initiatives, SRO certified, parent and student education duties. Top priority is to be a resource in the community.
* California Healthy Kids Survey 2017-2018
  + Tobacco use, Piedmont Falls into National Average 25% of students have either tried or are using tobacco. 4 out of 5 students first tried tobacco with a flavored product/vaping. It’s a big deal and the Surgeon General whom she has met is calling it an epidemic.
  + Kids have started using as young as 12 years old in 7th grade
  + Perception towards E-Cigarettes are very different from tobacco cigarettes. Kids believe vaping is safe and that it’s just smoking water vapor but in actuality it’s filled with harmful chemicals including aerosol.
  + As per the California Healthy Kids Survey from 2017-2018 only 56% of older students surveyed in 2017/2018 thought there were risks associated with vaping comparatively to 90% for tobacco cigarettes.
* Nicole is here to assist the schools in a secondary role, starts with a conversation which depending on the outcome could move to a detention. Thus far there have not been a lot of second time offenders.
* Example of a citation situation could be kids at a party with underage drinking which could lead to a citation or the parents being called to bring the child home. There’s a gap in terms of the behavior and consequence and gap in terms of how to address the root problem. Why is this happening in our community? Do the kids understand the dangers? Education regarding the situation can be a beneficial diversion option.
* Diversion options (definition of diversion: intervention approaches to redirect youth away from formal processing in the juvenile justice system, while holding them accountable for their action) Nicole’s ideal approach is education. She is meeting with PUSD to discuss options to provide education around vaping, tabaco and alcohol use and dangers etc.
* Position funded with tobacco grant. Her role includes investigating stores that are selling tobacco, vape materials and alcohol in the surrounding areas.
* Partnering with local law enforcement agencies (Oakland, Berkeley, Emeryville and Hayward). Recently went on a sting operation with an 18 and 19 year olds to stores that were within walking distance to Piedmont and found 4 out of 10 locations sold to the kids. This has led to retailer education forums where training is provided to ensure that all employees are properly trained and aware of the laws along with citations to the individuals who sold to the minors. Nicole found many of the employee’s were not aware of the change in tobacco laws from a minimum age of 18 to now 21, which means more educational outreach.
* She is building a relationship with the employees of the new Valero station in Piedmont and working closely with them. Parents were concerned that they were selling vaping materials, as there were advertisements when the shop first opened. The marketing materials have been removed. It was suggested that in partnership with the city council it’s possible to look at making the sale of vaping products illegal in Piedmont.
* East Bay Youth Alliance has access to juvenile justice system with access to resources to help parents and students who need help because of addiction. Nicole is willing to be a resource and open to an anonymous conversation
* What can you do?
  + Become Educated about vaping and vaping products as a parent
  + A good resource is drug free.org
  + Engage your children in a conversation about vaping
  + Ask children open ended questions
  + Convey Expectations
  + Be a good role model

**8:15PM Parent’s Club Reports/Announcements**

* Parent Club Survey, Laura Katter
  + 122 people participated; the goal was to try to get feedback on how we can better serve our communities.
  + School Bulletin is preferred form of communication
  + Community parent events were of interest especially if proceeds benefit the teachers. Possible upcoming event in the spring.
  + People want to know what is happening at the school.
  + Interest in a parents’ club news letter (will consider in the future)
  + People are open to alternative forums and parent coffeees
  + Alternative meeting times, looking at evening meeting in the spring
  + Using survey for future planning
* Membership
  + Raffle two weeks ago
  + $29,000 raised which is higher than last year and year prior.
  + 2% increase in membership this year
  + Thank You To Suzanne Heske & Jen Colton they have done a great job
* Exciting news $32,000.00 check received back from initial scrip investment from PEF. Going to make a proposal to the board on what to do with the money and what the priorities are.
* Website
  + Thank you to Cass for all of her work updating website
* Diversity & Tolerance
  + Thank you to Sally for all of her work. Encouraged parents to attend the two upcoming events that Vice Principal Irma Munoz mentioned earlier.
  + Looking at how do we make sure the parents know about all the great work that is being done at the school and supporting it at home. In terms of the event tied to Memes, most parents don’t necessarily understand a lot about memes and that line between funny and hate often times gets blurred.
  + Parent workshop on diversity will be led by students and is very impactful
* Holiday staff appreciation lunch on December 9th and staff gifts. Should be in a good position to donate the same amounts as last year or better if more people donate.