

Parent Association Minutes 2023-24 School Year

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September 12

AHA Parent Association Meeting: Sept. 12, 2023

In the AHA Parlor at 5:30

Attendees: Heidi, Becky, Amanda, Kristi, Annette, Sara

- **Opening Prayer: Annette**

- **BTS update/highlights from Heidi**
 1. Highlight new rigor around phones and uniforms; consequences.
 2. Review association charter; Heidi to serve as the administrative/faculty liaison.
 3. Annette: discuss next year's PA; need to fill own position; discuss recruiting opportunities.

AP scores:

Also looking at the correlation between the test score and the class grade, e.g. A's and B's score 3+ on the exam. Correspond to class grade.

PACC – college in the schools, 9 courses are PACC approved. (Similar to PSEO).

College prep curriculum is important.

Regular courses have a lot of assistance and are college prep

Most options/levels are in Math

Catapult learning. Teachers new to the building (1-3 years), coaching models. Making sure teachers are aware of how they are using their class time. Student engagement time in the classroom.

8 new faculty. 5 classroom teachers (2 math, band, PE, computer science). New counselor, new nurse, long term sub in English until Thanksgiving.

- **Treasurers Report: Becky**

1. What was our surplus at end of last year and who did we donate it to? Didn't donate anything. \$900 in the budget.

Need to find location for the Mom/son and Father/daughter dance.

Canterbury?

Downtown?

Golf Courses?

Annette working on location.

2. Need copy of last year's Mom/daughter brunch budget to pass along to the co-chairs this year. Answer: ~\$2450 spent

-\$66.70	Annette Poelvoorde- table decorations
-\$382.07	Kristi Koelfgen - Art supplies/decorations
-\$2,002.50	Taher - lunch

3.

- **Review plans for Freshman Parent Mixer on 9.22 in the court yard; this year it is a true mixer with a few opening remarks from Heidi and Annette; PA introductions**

1. Confirm time frame: 5:30-6:30 (so we can be there for opening of game) YES, 530-630 pm
2. Confirm space, set up and decoration needs (sandwich board) Becky has sign for Parent mixer or will reprint.
3. Confirm beverage and treats. Answer: do water and chips and some candy. Annette get from Target.
4. Confirm PA attendance: hoping the event works into all our schedules. YES, all can attend. Anyone available around 4:00 pm to help decorate.

5. Review fliers from Annette, Kristi and Amanda and any other ideas/needs

❖ Fliers we have for Parent Mixer are : [Volunteer opportunities](#), [One page calendar](#), [PA Committee roles](#), [website navigation](#)

6. Discuss how we want to approach volunteer signups: Kristi contact Tasya from lunchroom.
7. Drawing and prizes for signing up:
 - ❖ \$50 gift card for AHA store
 - ❖ 2 free tickets to AHA play of their choice
 - ❖ 2 free ticket to dance of their choice (mom/son or father/daughter)
 - ❖ 1 free ticket to Starfest
 - ❖ 2 \$25 vouchers for free lunches
 - [Sign in table](#): have name tags, wrist bands, dinner vouchers and point to sign up table for volunteering.
 - [Vouchers printed by Heidi](#)
 - [Wrist bands and dinner vouchers from Becky](#)
 - [Maintenance and tech by Heidi](#)
 - [Annette to layout map/tables of courtyard.](#)
8. [Confirm tech table for new website](#) Yes, Gretchen can be there
9. Discuss a few icebreakers to create conversations and introductions within the group. [Colored dots \(separate or together\)](#) yes. and then one other mixer.

Begin with the "Dot" on the nametag. We'll go ahead and put dots on some of the nametags ahead of time and if needed make name tags with requested colors if necessary. I am keeping with 4 colors, as I have 4 table areas that will be laid out in the courtyard. Kristi is getting a colored balloon to match our 4 colors and we'll tie to the vase on the table. I will have the nametags and markers.

- First ice breaker will be to go mingle and get to know people within your colored dot table.
- I will announce that the parents should move to a specified table depending on if they prefer baseball, football, hockey or soccer.
- Then in another 10-15 minutes I'll announce they should shift to a specified table based on their preference for English, Science, Math or the Arts.....and another option if needed could be a shift based on if they have 1 child at AHA, 2 children, or 3 + students.

To encourage discussion and help eliminate the awkwardness, I may suggest the following questions to keep the conversation alive as they shift.

- ❖ If you could hang out with any cartoon character, who would you choose and why? ...
- ❖ What would you like to be known/remembered for?
- ❖ What sport would you compete in if you were in the Olympics? ...
- ❖ If money and time were no object, what would you be doing right now?

10. Availability of sandwich boards for marketing/signage – Becky has this.

- **Review Upcoming events/needs**

1. Fall Open House: Thurs. Oct 5, 4:30-7:00 Amanda from 430-6 pm, Annette from 530-7 pm
2. Potentially adding a father /son event: trap shooting. Jamie and Darryl looking into it .

- **Review PA resource guide**

1. Additions to events: Adding Baccalaureate, Service day and Etiquette lunch
2. Any updates needed

PA EMAIL: parentassociation@ahastars.org

No teacher liaison being added.

Need to find replacement for PA positions.

- **Upcoming events/MISC before next meeting:**

1. Stars Connect/ Sign up Genius for Grandparent's day in Oct.

October 10

**AHA Parent Association Meeting: Oct. 10, 2023
In the AHA Parlor at 5:30**

- **Opening Prayer: Annette**

- **Highlights from Heidi**

- ❖ **Fall Open House highlights.**

- PA table seemed to be well received; was fairly busy the majority of the open house; consistent flow of parents stopping by.

- Had fliers from parent mixer setting out; the one page calendar was well received: even though they wouldn't be using this year; liked the idea of seeing on one page the monthly events and key school dates in one place.

- January open house to be confirmed.

- **Treasurers Report: Becky**

- ❖ **Are receipts turned in from Parent Mixer? Please get to Becky by EOW**

- Annette turned in 3 receipts to Becky during the meeting and Krisit had turned hers in already.

- **Communications Coordinator Report: Amanda**

- ❖ **Needs for TW Stars Connection: Blurb on link to Senior info on website.**

- Amanda and Sarah connected, and Sarah is putting in the next Connection. I asked Sarah to make some updates to Senior link dates (adding grad ad and Sr, quotes) and Sr. party chairs.

- **Recap on Freshman Parent Mixer 9.22 in the courtyard**

1. In courtyard well received
2. TTL 66 parents attended; 41 families.

- ❖ 78% attending only has 1 student in AHA

- ❖ Thoughts on sending an email from PA email thanking them for coming and seeking any feedback?

- Annette going to send "Thank You" through PA email address and also include opportunity/invite to join/become involved in PA; will pass by Heidi first.

- Also discussed buying some tablecloths that fit around tables (not disposable); alleviating the complexity of the disposables and tying them down.

- For both round high-top tables and rectangle tables.
 - Becky going to pull together the cost to review.

3. The ice breaker worked well and encouraged engagement.

4. Fliers: 1 page calendar, website navigation, PA roles, Volunteer opportunities

- ❖ Drawing and prizes for signing up: 8 winner
- ❖ \$50 gift voucher for AHA store
- ❖ 2 free tickets to AHA play of their choice.
- ❖ 2 free tickets to dance of their choice (mom/son or father/daughter)
- ❖ 1 free ticket to Starfest
- ❖ 2 sets of \$25 lunch vouchers in café.

The only drawback was the microphone/ability to hear; need to research school ability to have a wireless mic available. Discussed if at EOY we had \$ left in budget that PA look into buying a wireless mic/speaker. Annette communicated not expensive based on her history with purchasing one for prior school. Becky going to also ask around the school about the availability of a wireless mic.

The other opportunity discussed was to see if we could move the event closer to “Stars are out Tonight” event; feels more inclusive and part of the community engagement.

● **Review Upcoming events/needs**

1. Father /son event: trap shooting: Need to determine date it could work within calendar. Jamie and Daryl working to determine pricing.

Annette is following up with Heidi to get Bob a date that would work for the school calendar.

2. Grandparent’s Day: Kristi are we good with volunteers?

Sign up Genius is complete/volunteers filled!

- ❖ Any other needs for event?

3. Mom/Daughter Brunch

- ❖ Do we need to put in maintenance request for space?

Annette is working with Heidi to get request completed.

- ❖ Plan for 120 till reservations confirmed on 23rd.

Annette had communicated the \$ left from Brunch would go to the Wayside Recovery. Annette wants to revisit after brunch income/expenses rolled up. May need to keep some of that held back to cover next year Parent mixer raffle and/or other expenses. Had discussed at first meeting the ability to have a credit balance in account was helpful at beginning of year.

Becky was going to work with Gretchen to get a “Dietary Need” check box on registration, since this was a miss last year. Discussed with Charlene the co-chair the need to discuss a gluten free dietary need with Uriah.

Annette going to email on Tuesday Oct. 24th after registration closes, thanking guests for registering and asking for any dietary needs that weren't communicated via registration to be emailed to PA email.

Becky owns emailing those registrations "not paid for" on Oct. 24th and reminding them that payment is due before EOW (prior to event).

4. Do we know when Etiquette lunch is?

Heidi will let the group know when it will happen.

Mom/son- Father-daughter dances: Julia Reid and I are working on downtown and golf courses for venue.

Julia Reid and Annette are going to visit the Embassy Suites in Bloomington; our dates are available and \$ requirement seems to be in the ballpark of last year.

Annette following up with 2 downtown hotels that she's been in contact with.

❖ Julianne Braun: may need to replace as chair.

Julia Reid talked with Julianne and we are going to find a new chair and if need be Julia Reid will co-chair this year based on situation. Annette is going to work with Amanda to get this in the Stars Connection this month.

- Do we want to communicate the PA email address in the Connection?

Amanda working with Sarah to get this in the Connection this week

- **Senior Party Planning committee:** Kickoff at end of Oct.

- ❖ Becky, will you continue as the Party finance contact? **YES**

- ❖ Annette is setting up Monthly Restaurant nights for fund raising and planning a EverEve Dec. fundraiser as well.

November 7

AHA Parent Association Meeting: Nov. 7th, 2023

Parlor at 5:30

DECEMBER MEETING IS CANCELLED

Reconvene on Jan. 16th

- **Administrative Rep Update: Heidi Foley**

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- AHA received AP-Platinum award. (for grades 10-12 and based on # of AP exams students take)

- ✓ 15150 schools offer AP classes; approx. 4700 schools received an award.

- ✓ 6% of those 4700 awards were Platinum (or about 300 schools) and of those 1 of 3 were Catholic schools.

- TY with approx. 625 students, 117 students or 1/6 of the students have learning variations.

- ✓ Of these students 104 have a direct supported study hall where teachers are working with these students to match their needs with a detailed individualized plan.

- ✓ 9th grade English (w/reading emphasis) have 16 in program and have determined based on progress that 5 will leave this emphasis at end of tri 2.

- ✓ Teachers use PLC time to discuss these students and their progress and how they (as teachers) can utilize each other's successes to support students with variations to succeed.

- AHA Give Day: What are the priorities for the how the donations received will be used? No update there but communicated that for the Steak Fry the funds will go towards the repair of the gym floor.

- **Treasurer's Report: Becky**

- Are invoices/receipts turned in for the Mother-Daughter Brunch? YES

- Discuss revenue and how much we donate to Wayside Recovery Center vs. keep in bank for event expenses. Going to revisit in our next meeting; during audit there were some hiccups with the PA account. Becky is working with David. We will discuss the Wayside donation and agree on amount in next meeting.

- **Communications Coordinator Report: Amanda**

- Needs for TW Stars Connection

- Keep in Sr. link in SC continuously: asked Sarah to get Nov dates in link for Cap/Gown ordering. DONE

- Think we need to add a Volunteer needed to chair the service day snacks and etiquette lunch (once date confirmed) **No date yet for etiquette lunch; volunteer needs may be minimal based on spreading out the classes/days. May be able to use more staff who enjoy helping.**
- Will put Service Day snack volunteers in Connection after the holiday.
- Kristi reported that service credit/validation is going well this year.

Recap: Mother-Daughter Brunch:

- **Attendance:** 106
- **Service Organization:** Wayside Recovery; Donations were over the moon; Target link was very successful.
- **Food:** Sandwich Bar, Salads, Fruit, Beverage and dessert Bar: \$22/person: **Next year trying to bring down closer to \$18ish/per**
- **Misc.** Taher was very accommodating; service was exceptional.
- **Expenses:** \$2200 Food, \$244 craft, \$200 for a photographer
- **Revenue: TBD until PA account is verified**
- **Donation:**

· Charlene Rutt and Melissa Stricherz agreed to co-chair next year again and have asked to find 2 that can onboard to take over for 2025.

Upcoming events:

Do we have a date for the Etiquette lunch in spring? **No see above note**

Do we have a date for the January Open House? PA needed there? **Heidi followed up and said per Jesse It will be a different format, so PA is not needed for this event.**

Stars On Stage: Dec 1st: Are there any needs from PA for this event? **No need for PA**

Angelus coat check (6 parents needed) – Saturday February 3, 2024

- Sign Up genius needed after the holiday in January. **Krisit put it on her calendar.**

Mother/Son dance and Father/Daughter dance: April 5 & 6

Mother/Son (4 parents needed) –Friday April 5, 2024

Father/Daughter (4 parents needed) – Saturday, April 6 , 2024

- **Co-Chairs:** Request for new chairs in SC and will keep in there for a few weeks.
- Embassy Suites in Bloomington being booked: David Devine signing contract and Becky getting the deposit out. **Contract signed by David Devine and deposit sent**
- Julia booking photographer and the DJ from last year.
- Need help in soliciting co-chairs that can hopefully do it for a few years. **Put in Stars Connection this week and will keep it ongoing**

Father Son: Trap shooting: tentatively set for March

- Jamie working and discussing logistics/pricing.
- **Heidi passed on email from Bob, Annette followed up and they are trying to land on date.**

Staff appreciation:

- Susan Whitney-Brown, Staci Kasargod and Aimee Perron are killing it!
- They also reached out and want to know of any other feedback since they are new to this.
- **Annette to reach out to Suan, Staci and Aimee and see about receipt turn in; potentially determine a budget since we haven't had one for this from prior years.**

Open Topics:

- Criteria for receiving a Varsity letter
- **Heidi took notes; communicated it was determined by individual coaches and encouraged following up with AD.**
- Brainstorming how we go about the Staff award.
- **Start requesting earlier (after Spring Break); make less formal, ask for shout out vs. a survey. Heidi communicated that teachers are often talking about this**

throughout year; recognizing staff going the extra mile; Heidi taking note of these conversations.

SENIOR PARTY – Sunday June 2, 2024

- Dine –In/Dine Out: 1st event next Monday Nov. 13th at Culver's from 5:00-8:00 (Bloomington location) 10% of all sales go back to AHA Sr. party. This year Culvers requesting some volunteers.
- Evereve in Edina: event Thursday Dec. 7th, 10:00-8:00; 15% of proceeds go to Senior Party:
- No online code available; they don't credit any online sales; stopped doing the online piece a few years ago; fundraiser for store purchases only.
- Reminder: Sr. Party Planning committee is sending email to senior parents asking for donations towards the party deferment; January timeframe: sensitivity to timing of Auction event
- Annette and Shannon are setting up meeting to review Senior party and align on fundraising.

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