# Athens PTSA Meeting
# April 25, 2023

**Attendees:** Jill Rbaihat, Mason Dancausse, Donna Dancausse, Desmond Cornell, Erin Blankert, Stephen Mares, Blythe Clifford, Ann Sides, Mel Holt, Marie Dexter (scribe)

Quorum was not met for this meeting. However, all in attendance approved the items below.

The meeting was called to order by Kristine Pareira, President at 6:33pm

## Review and approval of March minutes (All)

Minutes approved.

## Treasurer's Report (Ann Sides)

Report as of March 31

- Cash balance: $11,108.95
- 8 new members
- Harris Teeter check for $329 for Dec - Feb
- Paid for TOY banquet $228 – four tickets
- Processed 3 classroom grants for $400
- Everything on income above what we thought
- Senior Breakfast is Thursday, so we should start seeing those receipts soon. Ann reports one has come in already.

**Vote on Budget Amendments:**

- Per request of grounds chair, David Barkau, we added $100 to grounds
- A donor gave $75 to the Hospitality budget.
- A donor gave $680 for Backpack Buddies
- We were -$600 under budget in classroom grants. This money will be reallocated to other line items, such as grounds.

Motion to approve the budget amendments: 1st Blythe; 2nd Desmond
**Budget amendments approved.**

## PTSA Programs

**Classroom Supply Grants (Jill Rbaihat)**

13 applicants all but 1 have been turned in. Increase in budget this year turned out well.

**Athens Achievers (Jill Rbaihat)**

Closes on May 5. Currently have 29 nominations. Jill expects more before May 5.

**Senior Scholarships (Marie Dexter)**

- Currently only 2 students have applied.
- Deadline extended to noon, May 5.

Thoughts for next year:

- Open the application period earlier (start of 3rd semester) but keep the deadline the same.
- Although this scholarship is promoted in PTA newsletter, Principal's note, and in the list of available scholarships that Athens provides, students don't know about this scholarship. Brainstorm ways to get this information out to more students.

**ACTION:** Mason will put on the announcements for the rest of the week.

**Hospitality Events (Blythe Clifford)**

For Honors Recognition ceremonies, we had treats and water. The freshman class took more than we expected, so we had to buy some items for Junior/Senior day. Blythe spent less than $100, and we had leftovers.

Teacher Appreciation Week is going to 2nd week of May. Blythe let the church know. We should get something from them next week – a sign up to recruit volunteers.

End of year luncheon is the last big thing.

**NEED HOSPITALITY CHAIR FOR NEXT YEAR**

Blythe is still looking for chair for next year. Hospitality committee will have a meeting for end of year stuff.

**Backpack Buddies (Blythe)**

We are doing 16 bags now.  We got a $250 donation.  Blythe recently spent $400. That should last us about 3 weeks. Ann reports that she still has $300 left.

Whatever food we have left at the end of the year (that will expire before the start of the next school year), Blythe gives to Student Services.

## PTSA Membership Information (Ann)

As of end of March

- 112 parents, (we budgeted 150)
- 102 faulty (we budgeted 70)
- 73 students (we budgeted 65)

287 total members

Membership fees are going to increase for National and State PTA next year.  We need to vote on membership fees in our May meeting.

Current Proposed Increase:

- Parent fee:  $15  → $20
- Staff fee $10 → $15
- Student fee $10 → $15

Membership dues are the bulk of our budget.

**NEXT MEETING:**  Need to vote on membership fees

**ACTION:**

- Ann is going to see how much membership fees are of our budget.
- Marie to reach out to Wake PTA to see what other high schools are charging.
- Next year at freshman orientation, have a slide show / presentation so parents understand what PTSA does / looks like in high school.
- Provide a way for folks to easily relink their Harris Teeter cards.

## STEM Academy (Marie)

- May 3: STEM Advisory Board meeting. Being moved up one week.
- May 17:  STEMposium, at 5:00pm w/food truck. Mini Career fair, then students present projects.
- May 31:  Celebrating seniors w/awards ceremony/breakfast. Sign up for donations soon.

## BAC Meeting Update (4/17/23) – Kristine

- Reviewed 2023-24 Superintendent's proposed budget
- Dr. Michael Warden believes we are headed into mild recession this year.
- WCPSS Fiscal year ends June 30
- State legislation is being proposed to remove “two bites from the apple” for charter schools
- Increase expected for cost of school meals
- WCPSS spends $40M in utilities each year. Currently, utilities company is asking the NC Utilities commission to approve an 11% increase.
- 4 areas of focus for this year: Employee Compensation, Instructional Support, Behavioral Health Support, Maintenance & Ops
- Budget documents are available online on www.wcpss.net

# Principal’s Report

May is really busy, so much going on. Honors reception is really special and really simple but great way to recognize kids.

This is Mr. Mares’ last meeting.

**ACTION:** Mr. Mares will invite Kristine & Jill to the next calendar meeting, where staff and others gather to plan out all events for the 2023-24 year.

Kristine ended the meeting at 7:53 pm.

**Next meeting is Tuesday, May 30 at 6:30pm in the media center.**