

ERHS PTSA GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

December 12, 2023 @ 7PM EST

Virtual

- 1) **Call to Order** - *Vanessa van der Have*. ERHS PTSA President, called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM EST. The following PTSA officers were in attendance.
 - a) Vice President- Jenni Pompei
 - b) Recording Secretary- Crysta Henderson Watford
 - c) Membership Secretary- Cynthia Gray
 - d) Treasurer- Janet Renze
 - e) Communications Chair- Justine Desmarais
- 2) **State of the School** - *Dr. Portia Barnes, Principal*. Dr. Barnes shared the business intelligence reports for ERHS and walked through some of the key performance indicators. There are currently 2,526 students enrolled in ERHS. For 1Q2023, there was a decrease in failing grades for 10-12 grade students from PR. Absenteeism decreased from last year. (32% to 25%). ERHS has an EVP 72% pass rate. Dr. Barnes shared additional information regarding truancy, discipline, and the new attendance policy. Dr. Barnes shared school celebrations and highlights that have occurred at the high school. You can follow her on [Twitter](#) to stay updated on Dr. Barnes updates.
- 3) **Important Dates**, *Vanessa van der Have*. Vanessa reminded the general body of a few important dates.
 - a) The next **PTSA Meeting** will be held on January 16 at 7 PM via Zoom.
 - b) **Graduation/Grad Night** - May 30, 2024
- 4) **Admin Update(s)**, *Kimberly Ford and Helene Johnson*
 - a) Kimberly Ford, 12th Grade Administrator provided the Senior Class Updates. Ms. Ford urged all seniors to accrue service-learning hours. Seniors will not be eligible to graduate until all service-learning hours are met. Service-learning hours can be met [here](#).
 - b) Ms. Ford will meet with 137 students who are at risk of not graduating due to failing grades, service-learning hours, etc.

- c) May 30th is graduation.
- d) May 17th is prom at the College Park Marriott.
- e) Ms. Johnson provided the freshman class update including highlighting the Freshman Class Proclamation Ceremony. The guidance counselors are currently visiting students in their classrooms to discuss different study skills students may employ. They can also take advantage of tutors.

5) **PTSA Committee Updates**

- a) **Grad Night Committee**, *Contina Djaouga*. Contina provided an overview of Grad Night, an update on the committee's progress, and the tentative fundraising events planned for winter/spring. For additional information, please visit the [Grad Night page](#).
 - i) **Graduation Date**: Thursday, May 30, 2024
 - ii) **Questions**: Contact erhsgradnight2024@gmail.com
 - iii) **Get Involved**: [Grad Night Volunteer Interest Form](#)
- b) **Spirit Wear**, *Deanna Felder*. All Spiritwear purchases should have been delivered to those who participated in this fall's fundraising effort. An estimate of funds raised will be tallied and shared with the membership shortly.
- c) **Staff Appreciation**, *Krista Atteberry*. Krista and the team are currently raising funds for the Fall 2023 ERHS Teacher and Staff Appreciation Event. The fundraising event concludes on Friday, December 15, 2023. The team has raised \$1,775 towards the \$2,500 goal. If you haven't donated, please do so [today](#).
- d) **Crossing Guards in PGCPs**, *Jenni Pompi*. Jenni read a letter sent to PGCPs leaders regarding the lack of crossing guards on neighborhood streets surrounding county schools. Many PTSAs, PTOs, and PTAs signed the letter. More to come on this urgent topic.
- e) **UMD Young Terps Scholars Program**, *Anne Baum*. Is a 3-week summer program. 3 credits. Raising 10th graders through seniors. 3.0 GPA requirement. Courses are filled t a first come, first serve basis. Application opens on January 9th. And close on January 24th. Students can study in-person or virtual. Click [here](#) for a list of all

courses that are provided in the program. If you have additional questions, contact tys@umd.edu.

6) Keep up to date with all things ERHS PTSA -

- a) Our Google Groups, social media accounts, etc.
 - i) W: www.erhsptsa.org
 - ii) E: erhsptsaweb@gmail.com
 - iii) X: www.twitter.com/erhsptsamd
 - iv) IG: www.instagram.com/erhs_ptsa
 - v) FB: www.facebook.com/erhsptsamd

7) The meeting adjourned at 8:07 PM EST.