



AAHS Parent Student Faculty Association (PSFA)

Minutes of the Meeting held on November 14th, 2023

1. Welcome

We will not be having a treasurer's report, as our treasurer stepped down. We thank you Gwen for all that you have done for us!

2. Principal's Report (Mr. Mucciarone)

Moving on to events:

- Student Counsel: They held a movie night as a fundraiser that was very successful.
- Juniors and Sophomores: PSFT
- Senior Class: Senior class auction
- Sophomores and Freshman: The Halloween Dance was a great success and we had good attendance.
- Midterms are today and run through Wednesday, November 15th.
- Thursday morning starts the second marking period
- National Honor Society-induction will be held soon.
- Key club inducts November 30th
- NJSLA Testing will be held for English
- A TCNJ rep will be here for Juniors to go through the college admission process-the process come with your student and your questions
- **On behalf of the Science Department:**

We would like to thank the PSFA for approving a grant to allow us to replace five gel electrophoresis units.

- The Electrophoresis units are used to separate molecules by size and charge. They are used in the following labs:
 - a. Cleavage of Lambda DNA with Eco Restriction Enzymes (9th grade)
 - b. Nucleic Acid Testing for COVID-19 (12th grade)
 - c. The Biology Teachers in the (9th grade) Using Gel Electrophoresis to Separate Unknown Molecules
 - d. Technical Skills: Making Gels &; Running Gel Electrophoresis (12th grade)
- Thank you for funding that!

On behalf of the PSFA, we are very happy to fund things like that, especially when they are embedded into our curriculum.

College Night in the 11th Grade, was very informative last year. It is strongly recommended for you to go with your student this year. In May, the PSFA has a college counselor, who will be talking about the college process. This will be virtual. More information will be forthcoming.

3. Teacher Representative's Report (Mr. Benson)

Mr. Benson's Report:

- Thank you PSFA from the Freshman and Sophomore Classes and all the parents who donated decorations, food and their time for the Halloween Dance. Students had a great time and it was a very successful fundraiser.
- **The Freshman and the Sophomores are working on two other fundraisers:**
 - **Holiday wreaths and poinsettias:** The sale is starting this week and will run to November 14th through the 27th. The orders can be picked up at school on December 7th and 8th.
 - **They are also selling gift cards.** The order forms were sent home with 9th and 10th graders, but the fundraisers are open to all grade levels. If you want a hard copy of the form, get through the Freshman and Sophomore Officers or through the PSFA Facebook Page.

- **From the Wellness Club:** Last year, the school organized a very successful Wellness Day. That was when we had various mental health and wellness businesses from around the area come in and they presented workshops for students. Students also had the opportunity to choose from various workshops to attend and in the afternoon, they rotated through other workshops.
 - We are starting the planning and preparation for the 2024 Wellness Day—asking if anyone knows of any local businesses that might be willing to volunteer for the Wellness Day. An email went out asking for volunteers. If interested, please sign up through a Google Form Sign Up.
- **Key Club-** There will be a membership party on Thursday, November 30th from 3-4:30pm. If the 25 dollars of dues were paid, members are encouraged to RSVP and attend the party. Students are encouraged to RSVP anyway so that there can be a head count taken.
- **Quiz Bowl Competition**—The Jersey Shore Introductory Tournament will be located at Manasquan HS on November 18th.
- **NHS Induction Ceremony-** Will be held November 21st at 6:30 but inductees please come by 6pm.
- **Pulse Club-**The morning announcements have started again with an entire new crew
- **Voices of Allied-**Literary Magazine will release their first issue sometime before winter break.
- **Pulse Music Crew**—They are planning a winter concert with a tentative date in January.

4. **Student Representative's Report (Mackenzie Goldfeder):**

- **Senior Auction:** The Senior Auction was a success on October 27th. We raised around \$1,315.00.
- **Snack Sales:** We are continuing with snack sales every Tuesday and Thursday after school and this has been going very well. As of right now, there are a good amount of snacks, but we always encourage people to bring in snacks to make sure we have a good continuous supply.

- **Mr. AAHS:** This is planned for December 15th. Right now, we are planning on activities and deciding on who the judges are going to be. They just got their full list of candidates.
- **Senior Sweatshirt Designs:** This is being planned now –The panel of people will submit designs. They are still waiting on a lot of people to vote.
- **Planning of the Winter Formal:** It will be early February, rather than January, for better scheduling reasons and so that there is more time to plan. This will be starting soon.
- **Senior and Freshman Event:** They will meet on Dec 1st to unite both classes so that we can get to know freshman to make sure we have good relationships with them.

Questions Asked:

- **How many contenders are there for Mr. AAHS?** Right now, we are at 22. The target was 24.
- **Do you encourage parents to come watch this?** Absolutely!
- **How are you doing for senior funds because you use those funds for many things?** Once they subsidize the cost for the trip, they will need more fundraisers for the future, however the fundraisers that are taking place now are definitely helping.
- **About the snacks—what is preferred?** They have chips, popcorn, packages of cookies, but ideally it will be things that last for a long time or can be preserved for a while.

5. PSFA Business:

- **Introduce new Board members**
 - **Treasurer:** There is no treasurer for now, as Gwen Marlatt Vela had to step down for personal reasons. Donna Smith, who is on the call, is a CPA, and has agreed to be the new Treasurer. Her daughter is a freshman. At our next meeting, she will be presenting the treasurer report.
 - **Recorder of Minutes:** Mary Guba has agreed to take minutes with Gauri. She has taken a role as a Board Member as well. Board members get involved with voting on grants and things pertaining to the school.

- **Upcoming Events (Faculty Holiday Lunch, NHS Presentation):**
- **Faculty Holiday Lunch:** This will be on December 21st. Will be asking for parent volunteers to assist throughout this day for the teachers. We will be putting out a communication about volunteering shortly.
- **National Honor Society:** Ms. Fitzsimmons will be outlining the criteria and expectations for the Honor Society. She will give a presentation during that meeting.

6. Fundraising Update (Giving Tuesday, MacBook Pro Raffle, Paver Project):

- **Giving Tuesdays:** PSFA is participating in this international day of giving. We can't wait to bring our community together to support grants for our students. We are looking to raise \$5,000 by Tuesday November 28, 2023. The donations will be used to provide essential equipment for classrooms, grants for student wellness initiatives, external keynote speakers, teacher appreciation, classroom trips and many more initiatives that enrich the student experience at AAHS.
- **Macbook raffle:** This is still going on. So far, they have sold 40 tickets. The total number of tickets that they wish to sell is 100 tickets. Please encourage friends and family members to buy tickets. Anyone can purchase tickets, so please get the message out to family and friends.
- **Paver Project:** Pavers in front of the school are going to be removed and replaced with same sized engraved pavers which we will be selling. We are looking for a stonemason to install them during spring break when nobody is here.
- **Driver's Ed Update:**
 - The current session is coming to the end and communication will come out in the Spring for the next available training. Students can take the knowledge test before they are 16-you don't have to wait. This will involve some freshmen!

Questions:

Is there any information on Prom or Graduation Day?

- Graduation will be the last day of school in the evening, which is June 19th. When we get snow days, we start losing Fridays of 4 day weekends or the last day can be pushed back. Just keep in mind that There is always the possibility that graduation can slide.

College information session for Juniors?

- This will be held on December 7th, Thursday night at 6:30. It is just for Juniors, it will be a full house being that most everyone attends. The best advice is to keep your grades up

and participate in events that you are interested in. Going out and seeing different schools of different types helps. Also, thinking about what education you are looking for - some programs you need to get ready to apply by the end of Junior year. So now is the start for the Juniors. He will tell you how they look at things inside the admission offices. Make sure that you go to the colleges when kids are there.

When and where are the minutes available?

The minutes are located on our website as soon as possible. Our website is in the process of being revamped and those activities will be in the minutes. They will always be on the website.

Our next meeting will be on December 12th. Our coordinator will give information on the Giving Tuesdays at that meeting. Check our Facebook page for updates and look out for emails!

7. Question and Answer Session

8. Adjournment

Thank you for joining us!

If you have any PSFA-related questions, please feel free to contact us at

aaahs.psfa@gmail.com