

AHMS PTA, MEMBERSHIP MEETING NOTES, 11/10/20

Google Meet: meet.google.com/vth-mnyu-sxg

ATTENDANCE: Julia Papellas, Melissa Riviere, Jennifer Bachan-Breiten, Jennifer Knott, Colleen Leonard, Colin Riviere, Lori Kareha, Mallory Knot, Julianna Papellas, Iris Davison.

Meeting called to order by Julia Papellas at 6:37pm.

SECRETARY REPORT: Colin Riviere Upcoming Calendar presented for review. Meeting agenda presented for review. October 2020 Meeting Minutes were accepted by Melissa Riviere, seconded by Julia Papellas. Jen Bachan-Breiten remarked that September's meeting minutes also need to be accepted, but they were accepted at October's meeting.

PRESIDENT'S REPORTS: Julia Papellas The PTA has taken a renewed look at our guidelines to insure we don't jeopardize our tax status:

Sunshine Funds (pertaining to "gifting"): 3 examples were presented to illustrate the do's and don't for future programs. The general guideline we must follow is that all programs must benefit all students and not be directed towards a specific group, student or family. Principal Leonard clarified that this is different from instances where a few may benefit from a given program, however the program is available to all students and thus qualifies.

IRS rules (pertaining to "Abington Angels"): Guidelines were read aloud, "...a public charity may not give funds to individuals or families unless that is what the charity was organized to do. PTAs are not organized for that purpose, so we may not give money (including gift cards) to individuals or families in our school communities, regardless of need." However, the PTA is allowed to promote programs for individual charity, as long as they are not run by the PTA.

Panera/Rosario's Fundraisers: Panera in Dickson City will donate 20% of sales from 4 to 8pm on Saturday 11/28 when the AHMS PTA flyer is presented either in hard copy or digital form. For delivery or pick up enter "PRFUND" as promo code. Rosario's will offer the same program for an entire week Monday 11/30 through Thursday 12/3. Mention "Middle School Flyer" when ordering and present the send-along flyer at pick up or delivery and they will donate 20% of the purchase to AHMS PTA. Gift Cards and Comet Cards don't apply.

"BUG" and "SOM" Awards. 32 Bringing Up the Grade and 72 Student of the Month awards are ready for the year. Recipients will receive a AH Comets magnet and a face mask that was designed by a AHMS student. Principal Leonard asked if the prize could be changed to a sweatshirt as that was a huge hit with students and is more of a prize than a face mask (which might not be necessary in the future) or a magnet (when they don't drive a car). Jen Knott indicated a sweatshirt is beyond our current budget for the program, but perhaps a \$5-\$6 t-shirt might be feasible. It was decided that the PTA will assess the upcoming fundraisers and see what changes can be made with additional funds. It was noted that the June breakfast is still in the budget, as that was a huge hit with students, family and staff.

New Sponsors & Donors: Platinum Donor (\$500+): Lamar Advertising Company. **Gold Sponsor (\$300-\$499):** Kriger Construction, Inc. **Gold Donor (\$300-\$499):** Group HIIT.

Additional Sponsors: Bonnie Baker, Melissa Galanakis, Mara Grad, Patrick & Robin Lavelle, Stephanie Marzolino, Patrick McGarry, Ginny & Joe O'Brien, Felicia Pallman, Mary Ellen & Robert Reese, Anne & Michael Whitbeck.

Reflections Report: No new updates or information to report.

VP'S REPORTS: Melissa Riviere

Comets Fitness Challenge: The four "Workin' It Out" videos from LUX were only available through October. Looking forward, we reached out to the online company **Group HIIT** who designs workouts for groups (friends, families, workmates) to do together. Their Middle School program is \$375, so we asked for assistance with the fee. Group HIIT generously donated access to the their entire on-line program through May of 2021 for all AHMS students. Easy registration is available on our website.

Veterans Day Billboard: With the annual school assembly & Veteran's Brunch cancelled this year, **Lamar Advertising** was contacted & they generously gifted the PTA space on their digital billboard along Northern Boulevard for a Veteran's Day appreciation message from the AHMS PTA.

TREASURER'S REPORTS: Jennifer Knott

Financial Reports: Beginning Balance 10/1/20: \$26,287.89 Ending Balance 10/31/20: \$26,336.58

Deposits: \$1,962.43 Withdrawals: \$1,913.74

2020-2021 Year to Date Profits—

Membership	\$1,403.91
Workin' It Out	\$27.25
PTA Donation	\$220.00
AA Donation	\$15.00
Apparel	\$643.01
PTA	\$350.00
MarketPlace	\$1,427.81
eScrip	\$595.75

The November 1, 2020 Audit Report was presented to the membership. Audit accepted by Julia Papellas, Melissa Riviere, Jennifer Bachan-Breiten, Jennifer Knott, Colleen Leonard, Colin Riviere, Lori Kareha.

Apparel Sale: The fall Comets Gear sale went better than expected. We collected \$11,464. Costs were \$8,970.17. For a profit of \$2,493.83. This is the highest profit we've made at an apparel sale.

Texas Roadhouse Gift Card Sale: TRH has been a little backwards due to Covid. The sale is open through December 1st. Flyers should be coming on Thursday and will go home next week. Principal Leonard approved passing them out at school, and posting to Infinite Campus. Gift Cards can be purchased on our website in the Club Store.

Membership Report: 70 members in September, 79 new members in October, and 8 new members in November. Total membership is currently at 157 members.

8th Grade Fundraiser—Friendship Bracelets: These bracelets are handmade by Jen & Mallory Knott and have been donated to the 8th Grade to raise funds for their end-of-year celebrations. They are available on our website in the Club Store.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT: Colleen Leonard Today is the end of the 1st quarter. New schedules are printed for the kids. Going forward they will be emailed directly to the students. Report cards will go home 11/18 to hybrid students. Report cards for virtual students will be posted on-line or can get mailed upon request. There will be an early dismissal on 11/25. No school during the holidays from 11/26 through 12/1. Parent/Teacher conferences will be held virtually from 1 to 8pm on 12/1, 12/2, and 12/3. Student photos will be the week of January 11th. Wednesday will likely be the day for virtual student photos, but this will be confirmed as the event gets closer. Sponsors are still being sought for the yearbook. Jen Knott asked how much the yearbooks sell for with the thought that the PTA purchases yearbooks for the 8th grade graduating class. Last year's price was \$25 a piece which is outside the 8th grade budget. A class t-shirt was suggested instead.

NEW BUSINESS: Julia Papellas **Circle Drive-In:** The PTA is still trying to get a night at the Circle Drive-In for all the AHMS students—a pandemic safe Family Fun Night. For months we have been unsuccessful in getting a date. If any PTA members have a contact or any leads for the Circle Drive-In, please contact Julia.

2020 AHMS PTA Bylaws: The Bylaws have been updated (revised per the updated PA PTA Model) and have been emailed to all our membership on Friday, Nov 6th. Please review, and a motion to accept the Bylaws will be raised during the Dec 8th General Membership meeting.

ABINGTON ANGELS REPORT: Jen Bachan-Breiten AA found a new home with the Abington Heights Civic League. It's a great fit, as the Civic League is already active in the schools donating hearing and eye tests and Christmas trees during the holidays. Not only is it a good fit but it might lead to expansion of the program into the elementary schools, through the nurses, and perhaps Our Lady of the Peace after that.

Clothing Store: Due to COVID-19, AA will not be able to hold the clothing store, but they will still provide a pantry.

Eagle Cleaners Fundraiser: Dec 5th is the date for the fundraiser at Eagle Cleaners. Drop off any items for dry cleaning as well as shoes for cobbling and all proceeds go to AA. The AHMS PTA will promote this event on the website.

Abington Angels Shoppers: It was asked if Principal Leonard could talk to the guidance counselors to see how many families will be participating this year. AA will be buying food once they get the number of families involved. Principal Leonard will do her best to get a count, but counselors are teaching classes this year due to COVID.

Funds Transfer: Jen Knott asked how the funds should be transferred to the Civic League, and Jen Bachan-Breiten indicated she will come over tomorrow and get the check from Jen Knott. The AHMS PTA requires a formal request for the funds from the AHCL.

NEXT VIRTUAL MEETING: Tuesday, December 8th, 6:30pm.

Motion to adjourn was made by Julia Papellas at 7:29pm. Motion seconded by Melissa Riviere.