**Douglas S. Freeman High School PTSA**

**Board Meeting Minutes**

**October 1, 2018**

**DSF Leadership Center Conference Room**

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| P**resent:** |  |
| Mary Neary, President | Debbie Fagan, Treasurer |
| Tina Winn, Signal | Jose Alcaine, HCCPTA |
| Shelley Gouldin, Freeman Fund | Paula Holm, ANGP |
| Jodi Bishop, Membership | Renee Ferrell, Dir. Of School Counseling |
| Allison Twente – Baccalaureate | Kim McCall, ANGP |
| Jane Savoca - Communications/Webmaster | Jaime Bargo, Teacher Rep |
| John Marshall, Associate Principal | Catherine Taylor, Landscaping |

The meeting was called to order at 5:29 by Mary Neary.

* Call to Order
* Quorum certification
* Approval of Minutes:

Motion was made to approve the September 10 meeting minutes with the edits suggested by Paula Chambers, seconded, no discussion, and motion passed.

Motion was made to approve the September 27 BTSN minutes, seconded, no discussion, and motion passed.

* Presentation of HEF Grant for **She is DSF**

Gilma Steele introduced She is DSF, a mentoring program for 9th grade girls that will provide a positive support system for them as they transition from middle school to high school.

Chris Copland with the Henrico Education Foundation presented a check for an innovation grant to She is DSF in the amount of $2655.00.

* Principal’s Report - John Marshall, Assoc. Principal

Thanked the PTSA for the faculty lunch provided on the half day, as well as for our support of the Angel Fund and the Freeman Fund.

Shared a very positive report with regards to the faculty, students and parents in how well the tornado lock down was managed. Nominal damage to the campus was reported.

Back to School Night was a success and well attended, in spite of challenges from having to reschedule.

Homecoming Week is off to a good start and will wrap up this weekend with a pep rally and parade on Friday and the dance on Saturday.

PSAT is scheduled for Oct 10th. All 10th graders are taking it, many 11th graders are taking it, and for the first time about 1/2 of the 9th graders are also taking the test.

9th graders not taking the test will participate in programing focusing on transition and social skills.

11th graders will have guest speakers presenting on life after high school

Seniors will have Senior Convocation, featuring Dr. Cashwell as the speaker.

* Renee Ferrell, Director of Counseling

Presentation set for seniors to address all route possible for students after high school - the goal being every student enrolled, enlisted or employed.

Counselors are meeting one on one with all seniors to discuss plans post-graduation.

Class rank is available on Parchment and new this year - rank was not distributed on paper to students. Class rank is calculated in September of senior year; starting next year, rank will be calculated at the end of Junior year, which will expedite the process of readying transcripts for college applications.

Friday, 9/28, was the last day for drop/add.

Princeton Review Program was held on 9/24.

JMU, Mary Washington and Radford will be on campus on 10/3 at 6:30 to meet with students and parents. All Henrico schools are invited to attend.

George Mason and VCU will present a similar presentation on campus on 10/15.

College and career night will be on 10/29 at Hermitage High School. Juniors strongly advised to attend.

Mr. Inman has a therapy dog and will soon have two after school meetings per month for students who sign up for the opportunity to spend time with the dog.

College Funding presentation set for 10/16. Currently there are 80 signed up to attend.

The GRASP advisor is at DSF once a week to meet with students.

Renee said she will try to get these counseling events mentioned on morning announcements.

* Jaime Bargo, Teacher Representative

Class sponsors are lined up to cover for Mrs. Bargo while she is out on maternity leave.

Week 5 brings first tests and grades uploaded.

Freshman class elections were last week.

The teacher shadowing program has been successful; more teachers are requesting shadows.

* Officer’s Reports

Treasurer’s Report: Debbie Fagan

We are $3478.00 away from our budget goal.

The beginning balance has been updated to $20,113.00

Membership’s Report: Jodi Bishop

670 current members in PTSA

Last year at this time - membership was at 722

Mr. Mey has strongly encouraged teachers to join PTSA, which would help our numbers.

PTSA Board encouraged to reach out to others and encourage them to join and to register online.

Programs: Michelle Williams (reported by Mary Neary)

10/16 College Funding Coach Program; currently 80 people registered.

College Edge comes in January.

Considering funding a Drug Education program for next year.

Freeman Fund: Shelley Gouldin

Approximately $10,700 collected so far.

Board members asked to be sure they have joined PTSA and donated to Freeman Fund

Capital One will not be matching donations anymore.

ANGP: Paula Holm and Kim McCall

Senior parents interested in helping should be in touch with the committee

Big change - Juniors will be decorating for ANGP, headed up by Kate Thompson and Karen Phillips (Junior class parent reps)

Baccalaureate: Allison Twente

Still awaiting the date to be set.

Webmaster: Jane Savoca

May be possible to do an update to the website in January.

Consensus is that Membership Kit is not easy to use!

County Council: Jose Alcaine

Breakout meetings with council members to be held 10/16 at Hungary Springs Middle School

Landscaping: Catherine Taylor

Bulbs and pansies to be added to beds/planters this month

Reflections: Cheryl Dillard and Mindy Notley (reported by Mary Neary)

Posters are up and announcements are being made in the morning and in Mr. Mey’s message.

Signal: Tina Winn

Considering streamlining the newsletter to make it easier to use on phone.

Should Signal become an email?

Photos need to be excluded; they take up too much space.

Perhaps photos should be uploaded to website instead.

Issued quarterly instead of monthly?

Discussion about making Signal relevant in light of Mr. Mey’s extensive weekly message.

* New Business

DSF PTSA has been asked to contribute towards the Lonnie E. Gailes Scholarship Fund, a scholarship honoring a past principal of Byrd Middle School (now Quioccasin) which would be awarded to two seniors who attended Quioccasin Middle School.

Decided to place this idea on hold for now.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:48 pm by Mary Neary.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Catherine Taylor.