

March 16, 2021@ 6:00 pm

Executive Board Members in attendance: Marge Richards and Ian McGrath **Co-Presidents;** Donna Coppola **Vice President;** Ellen Dobbyn-Blackmore and Angie Martinez **Secretaries;** Tamara Johnson **Treasurer;** Elizabeth Kirk, Renee Alevras, Debra Sito, David Chang, Louise Mulvihill, Nan Richardson, Alex and Cas Stachelberg, **CTE Parents**
Glenda Hoffman **Senior Parent;** Naima Freitas, Michelle Eliseo, Carraid O'Brian, Sophie Staub, **Freshman Parents**

Welcome and *Meeting called to order by* Ian McGrath

Ian McGrath welcomed all parents reminding to sign in to the meeting and view the minutes.

Approval of Minutes

The February Minutes written by Angie Martinez and Ellen Dobbyn-Blackmore were posted into the chat by Ian McGrath. Ellen Dobbyn-Blackmore moved to approve the Minutes. Approved

Treasurer's Report:

Tamara Johnson Reported • As of February 28, 2021 we have \$39,867.81 In our Chase Checking Account, \$7,729.32 in the PayPal Account. Making our total PTA funds \$47,597.14. • Revenue for the Month of February 2021: \$64.03 Amazon Smile Donations; \$124.10 Parent Donations. • No Expenses for the month of February 2021.

SLT Committee Report

Marge Richards reported Anne Frioli from BOP, they are working with the Red Hook Neighborhood School, which will transition to a Middle school in fall of 2022. The school will relocate near the waterfront. Discussions of creating a curriculum for merging 9th graders that will go to Harbor. A committee will be formed for further discussion. There has been contacts from other states inquiring how to create a school like New York Harbor school. A possible committee will be form on the construction of a Harbor school. As updates are developed, we will be notified.

New Business and Committee Reports:

Openings to join our PTA Community for 2021/2022: Ian M mentioned the ending the year is near. The PTA executive board will need new members if anyone is interested please let us know. No experience is necessary. We all help each other out.

Update on Parent-to-Parent Chat Group: Nan R. stated the first group was small, but a beginning of a conversation to continue in reference to a wider concern in special education in the schools this year and how much ground that Shas been lost. We just learned that certain Regents will be mandatory at the end of the school year. Some concern is how should the students prepare for those tests. There will be another meeting April 5, 2021 to continue the conversation.

Vote to approve the funding of the Marine Policy Podcasting Equipment: Debra Sito explained the podcasting equipment the students should have to work on projects, especially since some students are remote or blended. The equipment will be reused. **VOTE IS YES**

Vote on Cookbook expenses: Expenses for printing the cookbook and setup. **VOTE IS YES**

Events/Fundraising: Marge R. mentioned possibility for some Senior events the PTA can assist with. Waiting on the senior committee to follow up. Working out the logistics for a Virtual Race. Working on an Event with the John J Harvey group, a floating fireboat museum. We would like to hold an event with them. Additional info will follow. Maureen wanted to remind to use the ShopwithScripts.com which will give a kick-back to our school. It is easy to use. Flyers will be sent out Link is on our PTA Web page. AHOD is also a way to donate to the school as well as our school's Amazon Smiles. On behalf of the creation of the cookbook, advertisement can be purchased as follows: a full-page is \$250.00, half-page is \$150.00, for a quarter page \$80.00, and a business card.

Communication: Ian McGrath reported the big project that's been worked in this year is the Virtual Tour of the school. The video is just about ready, it needs additional videos from the CTE's. Trying to keep up the social media updates.

Sustainability: Naima Freitas mentioned the grant they applied for did not come thru but will apply for other grants that are out there. Jeff C will meet with the committee to discuss further plans for the garden. Nan R. added we are waiting on an updated from the Department of School Facilities on the water bottle stations. We need to stay on top of this.

SEA: Nan Richardson reported News will be coming soon from Gee Gee Lee is the Chief of Staff for Margret Chin Cee, she has been helping along with the push for the new building. We will gather all letters of endorsements from the councilmembers which will put Harbor School in a good stand. Please continue to reach out to your councilman. Votes will be in soon. An update will follow.

SENIOR REP: Glenda Hoffman was not present.

FRESHMAN REP: Caraid O'Brien mentioned Ronnie's meetings on Thursdays at 10am have been great. The met with Frank Swall and he shared some work from students over the year. They will meet another teacher Paul Garcia who will be the freshman's teacher next year. They are looking forward to it.

Principal's Report: Jeff Chetirko, Principal, Diana Halluska, Aneal Helms Assistant Principal

Jeff Chetirko greeted all present. In-person will begin again. Only the student that opted in is September and have consent forms signed will be allowed back on the Island. At this time the is not switching to blended available. Parent Teacher Conference coming up. An Email reminder sent. Teachers will be reaching out to those students most in need. You can always reach out to the teachers via email to get any updates or a conference time. The Superintendent will visit the school. Plans for SAT on April 13th, and PSAT on April 15th. This will take place on the Island. Plans are also on for the Senior Picture April 9th. May will be award ceremonies, June with Prom and Graduation on June 24th.

Diana Halluska reported the 9th grade will meet with the College Councilor Jessica Cuavas. Recognition with Harbor Up Reward info to follow. CTE introduction cycle will begin upon return from Spring Break. Aneal Helms mentioned two info sessions for students that are eligible for National Honor Society and National

Technical Society. For students that qualify will receive an application and will be due April 6th. A Virtual Induction Ceremony will take place after reviewing the applications.

SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER: Christina Ramirez (Social worker at Harbor) and Clara Owen (co-teacher English) on Wellness Initiative

Christina Ramirez announced a grant thru the department of education which was approved for a Wellness Program. Two goals have been set for this year. One of the goals are to create a Harbor Wellness Council comprised with 3 admins, 2 guidance team leaders, 6 teachers, 1 support staff, 4 parents (1 per grade), 3-4 rotating students. Another goal is to create a cohort of student wellness leaders. Those students will go thru training, and then be able to connect with their peers and discuss mental health and things on wellness. Spring time will be the focus on mental health and the impact it has had.

Clara Owen mentioned that a goal is to make the Wellness program sustainable at Harbor. Some of the activities that have been going on are Brain Power, Restorative Justice and Bring change 2 Mind. Additional info will be sent out to the students. They are currently creating a calendar of events for May: Harbor's Mental Health Awareness Month. We should encourage our students to join wellness programs, and initiatives. Feel free to email Clara : cowen@newyorkharborschool.org Christina: cramirez@newyorkharborschool.org

Parent Coordinator's Report: Ronni Ettinger

Out for this Meeting.

CTE Reps:

AQUACULTURE: Elizabeth Kirk reported Roy sent out Hydroponics Kits to homes. She showed her projects growth.

MARINE BIO: Nan Richardson reported a request for funding to the city council for technology for the school, for over \$200,000 for the whole school. A \$175,000 for a Aquaponics Lab for Aquaculture waiting to hear. Nothing really changes from last month. They are still looking into the idea of an assistance for Bio. They are working on creating a team for the Marine Bio trip for next year.

MARINE POLICY: Debra Sito reported an agreement with University New Haven has been signed. It will add support for the students, and mentors. They are all excited. Rob spoke at an advocacy meeting for the Waterfront at the Gywanas . Compost kits and Hydroponic kits have been given out to the Marine Policy students.

MARINE SYSTEMS TECHNOLOGY: David Chang reported for March and the rest of the year, Clark is looking for a budget for the ppe for the Class of 2021/2022 which is approx. \$150 per student. They are also looking for a new welding machine that can be \$3,000.

OCEAN ENGINEERING: Nothing reported

PROFESSIONAL DIVING/SCUBA: Alex Stachelberg updated the Seniors are working on completing their preparation on the financial Management Unit, and they are beginning to move on the OSHA 10 and boating certificate pending funding. The Juniors are wrapping up dive physics and dive planning with their first Ediving lesson . The Sophomores completed on the Fish ID's and Species ID's and will move in to studing the impact on the environment has an impact. Some supplies requests are for a safety kayak and the fleet of wet suit booties. The Primary focus is to get the 515 Building.

VESSEL OPS: Via Email from Arron: Vessel Ops students will receive there full lot credentials they would normal receive in the program. Students earned NYS Boating course, OSHA industry 10hrs, Financial Management, and Red Cross First aid CPR, they have also pioneered the first students to the Yamaha University Program. Training will lead to level one, and level two thru the program.

A FEW COMMENTS:

Nan R reported the RFP to the teachers will go out again. Asking teachers to request a small grant from the PTA.

Elizabeth Kirk expressed to hold a March Madness Brackets. Info will follow.

See you at the Next General PTA Meeting April 20th, 2021