

Yorktown High School PTA
Monday, October 16, 2017
7:30 to 8:30 pm

Welcome and Introduction - Kathy Mimberg, YHS PTA President

- Mrs. Mimberg called the meeting to order, mentioning that YHS Principal, Mrs. Bridget Loft will be going to the Varsity Field Hockey to wish the team good luck in the game and will present later in the meeting.
- Michele Rinn, PTA Treasurer, discussed the audit report. Brig Pari made a motion to approve the audit report. The audit was approved by voice vote.
- Mrs. Mimberg said that the PTA has typically funded grants to CCPTA, the printing of YHS Sentry Newspaper, and the Minority Leadership Fund for rental of buses for college visits. Rather than have a yearly request for these funds, she recommended that the PTA fund these programs as a budget item.
- Mrs. Rinn discussed the YHS PTA budget. Please see attached.

Principal's Report

- Mrs. Loft discussed homecoming week at YHS including themed days such as PJ day, and concert t-shirt day and the homecoming parade, BBQ, and football game on Friday and the homecoming dance on Saturday. There is also a pep rally on Friday and classes will be on shorter schedule. Mrs. Loft noted that Wednesday will be an early release day.
- Mrs. Loft said the end of first quarter is coming up on November 6th. November 7th is a grade planning day and there is no school for students. Winter sports tryouts start on November 7th. Makeup day for school pictures is the 8th. November 10th is Veteran's Day and a day off for students and teachers.

Approval of September 11, 2017 Meeting Minutes

- The minutes from September 11 were approved by voice vote.

Committee Reports

Membership: Rachel Moore, Chair

- YHS PTA has 700 members so far up from 655. Something new this year is that the YHS PTA asked YHS teachers and staff to join the PTA and we have 10 teachers join. The YHS PTA is grateful for their support.

Grocery: Jennifer Gold, Chair

- Mrs. Gold reported that YHS has 147 families who have registered their grocery card for the Harris Teeter, Together in Education program so far. In 2016, 249 families registered so please get family, friends and neighbors to support the program. For the Giant A+ School Rewards program, 140 YHS families have signed up and again, and please encourage signups. Also, please remember to link your purchases to AmazonSmile to benefit the YHS PTA.

Teacher Grants: Kathy Mimberg reported for Maggie Debelius, Co-Chair

- Mrs. Mimberg reported the YHS PTA is moving to the teacher grants online to improve speed with decisions and payment of grants. The deadline for the first grant is October 20th. We anticipate that we would have one more round of grants. The PTA encourages teachers to apply early so the money can be used for current students.

Advisory Council on Instruction (ACI): Christine Van Kirk, Co-Chair

- Martha Kopca, Co-Chair also attended. Mrs. Van Kirk recommended that parents check out Engage with APS which has lots of information on APS boundaries, seats for students etc. <https://www.apsva.us/engage/>. APS is also seeking parent input for the 2018 - 2024 Strategic Plan Process. Please contact ACI co-chairs with feedback or take the online survey found on the APS Engage web page.

Boat Party: Brig Pari, Co-Chair

- Ms. Pari reported that the boat party has a great new boat. Looking for parents to help with subcommittees and please contact boatparty@yhspta.org if you can help out.

Reflections Contest: Mary Cantwell, Co-Chair

- The box to collect submissions is in the main office along with extra forms. The due date Oct 20th. Email the chairs if you have questions. The deadline to submit entries to the county is November 16th. The Arlington County ceremony is January 9th at WLHS. The co-chairs will be in touch with winners.

YHS Dance Team:

- Two members of the YHS Dance Team encouraged everyone to buy fall sports program which helps funds the Dance Team.

YHS Theater: Sharon Paz, parent representative

- Ms. Paz, encouraged everyone to come see YHS Theater and to also come to two fundraisers. The theater department is selling tickets to two shows to raise funds, one is the Capitol Steps at YHS and the other is the Pajama Game at Arena Stage. Check the YHS PTA email for more details.

Parent Seminars: Victoria Monroe

- Ms. Monroe, said the "Saving for College Seminar is November 15th starting at 7:00 pm. Victoria would also like to survey YHS families to get input on topics of interest to parents for future Family Seminars for the 2018 - 19 school year.

YHS Social:

- Inga Middleton volunteered to coordinate YHS Social as a way for parents to get to know one another. Ideas including going out to eat, and walking around the track.

Updates:

Internal Modifications Plan: Carol McCoskrie and Mrs. Loft

- Lots of good discussion and input from YHS staff on how best to use the space. The last meeting is on November 6th.
- Expanded space is needed for special education testing, meetings, and planning. One example of possible space for IEPs is the back of the library.

- Another idea under discussion included expanded locker room with 650 more lockers for boys and girls.
- Space is also needed to complete the 2100 AP tests and SOLS given in the spring of 2017.
- Proposed ideas for the new spaces will be discussed at the November PTA meeting.

Challenging Racism Workshop: Jocelyn Harrison, Internal VP, YHS PTA

- The Challenging Racism workshop was held last week. There was an overwhelming response and had in fact the workshop had to turn some people away. There are 47 people in class. And there are 4 classes throughout the county.

Parent Communications: Mrs. Loft

- Mrs. Loft said that APS is discussing the best way to communicate with parents and will be talking with other schools and learning what they do.

