



YORKTOWN PTA MEETING AGENDA

Monday, September 9, 2019 7:30 – 9:00 p.m.

I. **Welcome & Introductions** – Meredith Purple, PTA President

Ms. Purple welcomed all to the meeting.

II. **Principal's Report** – Bridget Loft, Principal

Ms. Loft thanked all YHS parents for the wonderful breakfast for the staff upon returning from summer break. She also thanked all parents for coming out to orientation; it was a very successful evening with many new YHS families attending. She proceeded to discuss a few items:

- In the second week of school YHS had a “secure the school” incident. Ms. Loft explained that this happens when the school is made aware of a possible event **outside** of the school and the administration wants to be sure that the school is secured. In this situation, the school does not let anyone in or out, however, business goes on as usual. Ms. Loft explained what the situation involved and how YHS worked with the Arlington County Police Department to ensure that all was clear and within 20 minutes, the situation was resolved. Ms. Loft emphasized that this was different than a lock down and she indicated that YHS will be doing lock down drills later this month.
- YHS had its first fire drill for the year and all went well.
- Ms. Loft discussed the transition for new students to YHS this year. As for transfer students, Ms. Loft and Mr. Rooks will have lunch with them in the coming weeks to welcome them to YHS and ensure that all is going well.
- Ms. Loft and other school Administrators held the Beginning of the Year Class meeting with the Freshmen class in which they provided some basic information about the school to the students and they also discussed



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school policies and what key responsibilities are expected of the students. All other classes will have their meetings later this week.

- Ms. Loft listed a few key dates for parents to keep in mind:
 - School pictures will be on September 11th and 12th
 - The activities fair will be held on September 19th during lunch periods.
 - Back To School night is September 25th and begins at 7pm. Please come early if possible.

III. Approval of May 2019 Meeting Minutes — Meredith Purple

The minutes were approved by voice vote.

IV. YHS PTA 101 — Meredith Purple

Ms. Purple gave some basic information about the operation and activities of the PTA. Yorktown's PTA has a one fundraiser – a no-frills fundraiser which raises funds mostly to cover grants for classrooms/teachers. The PTA meets one Monday per month (usually the second Monday of the month with a couple of exceptions). The PTA also holds a variety of events throughout the year; overall, the PTA is here to help parents get connected and help facilitate communications between parents and the school.

V. Financial Reporting – Jenn Vogel, PTA Treasurer

a. Audit of 2018-2019 Budget

Ms. Vogel provided the audit of the 2018-2019 budget for anyone wishing to review it. She reported that no issues were found and that once the audit was voted upon, the Yorktown PTA will be sending it to the Virginia PTA.



A motion was made and seconded to approve the audit, and the vote passed with 29 votes to approve, none opposed, and 2 abstentions.

b. Vote on Proposed 2019-2020 Budget

Ms. Vogel provided copies of the 2019-2020 budget for PTA members to see what the proposed budget in comparison to last year's budget. Ms. Vogel discussed the main differences:

- This year there is an increase to the amount of the no-frills fundraiser; this increase was based upon the actual amount brought in last year.
- Two one-time grants were added into the budget. These are for the Hand to Heart and the United Sound programs.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the 2019-2020 Budget, and the vote passed with 31 votes; none opposed; and one abstention.

c. Treasurer's Report

Ms. Vogel provided the end-of-year financial statements from the 2018-2019 school year. As mentioned above, the PTA ended the year with extra funds in the budget. So, the goal for this year's budget is to spend whatever funds are brought in throughout the school year on various PTA sponsored activities.

VI. Key PTA Objectives for 2018-2019 School Year – Meredith Purple

Ms. Purple stated her goals for the PTA this year:

a. The PTA is an activity we all engage in together.

The PTA provides an opportunity to make community connections and it is an organization made up of all parents who should feel free to contribute in any way that works for them. The PTA will welcome having members pitch in and help with any activities that they would like to see done.



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b. Make it fun.

Ms. Purple emphasized that many of the activities sponsored by the PTA are to make the school year more fun for all – students, parents, and staff. The PTA is committed to making involvement fun.

c. Graduation Night Event 2021 Working Group

Ms. Purple explained the details of the current graduation night activity, the Boat Party. It roughly costs \$25,000 and maybe half of the graduating class attends. The PTA feels as though it may be worthwhile looking into and evaluating alternatives to the Boat Party. The Boat Party will proceed as usual for the graduating class of 2020; however, the PTA would like to ask for volunteers to form a working group to evaluate the Boat Party and other options.

Some discussion ensued with parents involved in previous Boat Parties explaining some of the history. Ms. Purple explained what she hoped would be some of the goals of the working group. She asked that any parents interested in participating in this working group to please let her know. The PTA is looking for parents with students in a wide variety of grades.

d. Website improvements

Ms. Purple explained that the PTA encountered some issues with the back side of website this summer, however, the PTA Board is in the process of reviewing the website and its hosting service to resolve these issues. In addition, the PTA is ensuring that the appropriate people know passwords and other operational information about the website. Also, the PTA will be reviewing how payment is received.

VII. Officer Reports

Marianne Lavelle introduced herself as the Communications VP. In this role, she sends out all PTA communications and the weekly PTA newsletter; if anyone has information for the newsletter, Ms. Lavelle requested that all information be provided to her by the Friday prior to the Monday newsletter.



VIII. Committee/Chair Reports

a. Membership Chair - Debbie Pearson

Ms. Pearson reported that as of 4 PM today, 191 members have joined the PTA and we have received \$10,062 for the no-frills fundraiser. Ms. Pearson encouraged all parents to sign-up and join the PTA.

b. Volunteers Chair - Jamie Pilot

Ms. Pilot reported that the PTA still needs two volunteers to run the Grocery Receipts Program and the No-Frills Fundraiser. Both positions are fairly low key, so, we encourage anyone interested in participating in the PTA to volunteer.

We have one Hospitality Chair, but, this individual could use a co-chair so, we requested a volunteer for this as well.

The PTA is also looking for a Boat Party Co-chair and Treasurer. There are also other Boat Party positions with which we can use help. Please let Paula Cohen know after the meeting if you are interested.

Finally, if there's a different area in which you are interested, let Ms. Purple know and she can put you on a committee as a co-chair or rising chair.

c. Grants - Jennifer Gold and Meg Sharp

Ms. Gold reported that the application for classroom grants opened this afternoon. The deadline for submitting fall grants is September 27th. The PTA wants to provide grants that offer the greatest opportunities for learning. The Grants Committee has a group of 10 parents to review applications. Decisions will be made in October. Ms. Sharp suggested publishing the various grants that are awarded so that parents can see where their contributions for the No-Frills Fundraiser go.

d. Family Network Event - Royce Sherlock

Ms. Sherlock announced an upcoming event, "Little-Known Secrets of Paying for College" to be presented by The College Funding Coach. This event will be held on October 22nd; more information to follow. There may be another informational session from Ann Dolin on SAT/ACT preparation



later this year. In the past, the PTA has hosted events on vaping and anxiety, we may host other events along these lines later this year as well.

e. Boat Party – Paula Cohen

Ms. Cohen reported that she has pulled together job descriptions and timelines of what needs to be done. Work for the Boat Party begins now and goes throughout the year. This involves budgeting and managing financials; fundraising – contacting businesses within community to raise money; decorations; security; check-in; transportation; recruiting volunteers and other roles. Ms. Cohen is looking for volunteers to help with this effort. In order to recruit the various Boat Party Committee chairs, she will first contact parents that have participated in this before; in addition, she will ask Ms. Lavelle to ask for volunteers through the weekly newsletter. There will be regular meetings starting this fall. The Boat Party needs many volunteers at all different levels of involvement, so, please consider volunteering!

IX. Announcements – Meredith Purple

a. Reflections

The PTA Reflections Contest is now open – the deadline to turn in submissions is October 24th.

b. Grocery Cards

Ms. Purple asked that parents please register their grocery cards if they haven't yet done so. Yorktown's PTA mainly works with Harris Teeter and Amazon Smile.

c. Spirit Wear

The PTA sells a variety of spirit wear. Parents can purchase these items online or at Back to School Night.

X. New Business/Questions – Meredith Purple

Ms. Purple asked if there was any new business. No new business was presented.

XI. Adjourn – Meredith Purple

Ms. Purple adjourned the meeting.