



**YORKTOWN PTA MEETING AGENDA**  
**Monday, March 9, 2019 7:30 – 8:30 p.m.**

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

Ms. Purple welcomed all to the meeting.

**II. Guest Speaker** – Stephanie Meadows, YHS Teacher

Ms. Meadows introduced herself as one of the Health teachers and as the coordinator for Senior Experience. She also runs the Choose Health program at Yorktown which addresses a wide variety of issues such as mental health, substance abuse, healthy relationships, and other health related topics. Ms. Meadows organizes a Choose Health week once per season and during these weeks, students are encouraged to think about the healthy choices they can make. It can be related to healthy eating, exercising, substance abuse, mindfulness, etc. The next Choose Health week will be in April.

Last spring Arlington Research Foundation offered a STEM grant for teachers. Ms. Meadows had an idea about creating an app in order to compile all information that we have in Arlington and beyond to allow for easy access to resources about making healthy choices. The app was developed for Android phones and can be downloaded from Google Play by searching for Teen Health Stephanie Meadows. Since it is not available yet on iOS, the Choose Health website can also be found at [www.healthyarlingtonteens.com](http://www.healthyarlingtonteens.com). Once in the app or on the website, parents and students can find links to vast amounts of resources covering issues such as mental health, suicide prevention, substance abuse, choosing healthy relationships, general teen health services, and links to the Arlington County Police Department. Ms. Meadows encouraged parents to download the app or visit the website as a starting point to have conversations with their teens about these issues.

Ms. Meadows also discussed another program she coordinates at Yorktown which is the Senior Experience. Seniors participate in this during their last



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three weeks of their senior year. Basically, seniors find a short internship in an industry of their choosing and work with a mentor to gain some experience in their field of interest. This program has existed at Yorktown for 20 years and currently, approximately 90% of the class participates in the program. Seniors must submit an application for approval of their internship; the application deadline this year is due March 27<sup>th</sup>. Students participate in a wide variety of activities: anything from staying in DC metropolitan area, to going to other parts of the country or traveling abroad. Given this year's situation with the coronavirus, we may need some students that want to travel abroad or work in a healthcare facility have a second plan just in case.

Students can find more information on the YHS website in the left-hand column of links under "Seniors"; information is also available at the YHS Leadership Center in room 223.

In closing, Ms. Meadows also announced that on May 16<sup>th</sup>, the Arlington Department of Human Services is holding a consent summit at Wakefield High School. This is open to students and members of the community and will focus on healthy relationships.

**III. Approval of February Meeting Minutes – Meredith Purple**

The minutes were approved by voice vote.

**IV. Principal's Report – Kevin Clark, Principal**

Dr. Clark first discussed the current situation with the coronavirus. APS is working closely with public health, CDC guidelines, and others right now to ensure the safety of our students and their families. Currently, there are no recommendations to close any schools and the County is encouraging continuing with best practices of washing hands, being careful with coughing, wiping down surfaces, etc. Dr. Clark met with the YHS custodians on Tuesday and prioritized cleaning surfaces with which students most often come in contact. YHS has addressed school closures in case we have one; the school is ensuring that teachers have a canvas site prepared for distance



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learning. The school is considering how the free/reduced price lunches will be provided to families in need. YHS held two meetings last week with team members to the protocols in the event the schools need to close for a period.

Dr. Clark provided other updates of happenings at YHS: there will be an early release on Wednesday, March 11<sup>th</sup>; the spring sports have started and are going well; the APSGo! Survey is live; March 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> will be the performances for the AP theater classes.

**V. Treasurer's Report** – Jenn Vogel, PTA Treasurer

Ms. Vogel reported that the PTA did receive approximately \$2,000 during the No-frills Fundraiser, however, the PTA is still short about \$4,000. To make up for the fundraising coming in below budget, we will plan to issue teacher grants based upon the funds that we currently have. The PTA can also address this shortfall in the budget by not bringing in a speaker this year; there is currently \$2,000 budgeted for speakers.

**VI. Nominating Committee** – Meredith Purple

Ms. Purple reported that the PTA members need to vote to approve Nominating Committee. Once the committee is approved, they will meet and hopefully have recommendations for the officers which will be presented at the April meeting. The final vote for approval of the PTA's '20-21 officers can then take place at the May meeting. If for any reason we cannot approve the officers at the May meeting, we will do so at a June meeting. The PTA members chosen for the Nominating Committee are Stacy Rosenthal, Lara Meadows, and Susan Newton.

There was a move to approve the members of the Nominating Committee; the move was seconded. The Nominating Committee was approved with a unanimous vote.

The committee will be looking to get a representation from a variety of parents. If you want to volunteer or have a recommendation for next year's



PTA Officers, please email one of the three committee members.

**VII. Officer/Chair Reports**

- Ms. Purple announced that one of the student journalists from the Yorktown Sentry would like to speak to a parent about the process for recruiting a new superintendent and to share their thoughts on how the process is going. If you would like to volunteer, let Ms. Purple know.
- The Boat Party survey is live and currently the PTA has received a response from approximately 300 parents and 50 students. The survey will be open through this week. Once the results are received, the Boat Party working group will come to an upcoming PTA meeting and present the results. This information will be provided to next year's PTA board for them to make future decisions on the Boat Party.
- Work has been underway in planning for this year's Boat Party. The theme is "Disco Inferno". So far approximately 65 tickets have been sold and the Boat Party Committee will be working with the senior class to hold some Boat Party sales during a few lunch periods.
- The Family Network will be holding an event with a focus on mental health in late April or early May.
- The Grant application process for spring has closed. The Grants Committee received 18 requests. The committee is meeting tomorrow to go over the requests and they will be working with Dr. Clark to determine which grant requests are appropriate to be approved by the PTA.

**VIII. Announcements**

- March 21 -- Spring Fling Dance – tickets will be sold the week before. The PTA is looking for parent volunteers to help.
- April 20—Next PTA meeting.

**IX. Adjourn – Meredith Purple**

Ms. Purple adjourned the meeting.