

WEHS PTSA General Membership Meeting, 7 pm, North HS Cafeteria, February 3, 2020

Board Members Attending: Gina O'Neil, Lorianne McNamara, Kristen Vinocour, Kristi Campbell, Lisa Lostumbo

Meeting Called to Order: Gina O'Neill, Co-President

Gina O'Neil, Co-President, introduced Kristen Vinocour as the new Recording Secretary for the board, and Margaret Terrill as the new treasurer for the school store. Beth Peers is also in the process of being trained as treasurer, and will serve as back-up/adviser to Margaret. Gina announced the NYS PTSA dues have been paid after difficulties with WePay. NYS PTA finally took a check one day before the deadline.

Lisa Lostumbo, PTSA Council Representative, reported the Williamsville PTSA Council is in need of volunteers for their Scholarship Committee. They are in the midst of revamping the process. It is not a time-consuming commitment. Committee members read and rate the applications, then interview the top few. Applicants' names are withheld from the committee until after they have been rated.

Mr. Pawlowski, Teacher Representative, reported that the school musical will take place this weekend, February 6-8. The cast had their luncheon today. Additionally, he and Lisa Malkowski have set up a website for East apparel orders through Laux. The clothing is geared towards staff and adults. The website should be available in two weeks.

Mrs. Charleson-Smith, Vice-Principal, reported Regents Week has ended. The school musical, Guys and Dolls, will be performed on February 6 and 7, 7 pm, and on February 8, 2 and 7 pm. Flavors of East is scheduled for February 11. The Transit/East Side by Side Concert is set for February 13, 7 pm, at WEHS. Mid-Winter Recess is February 18-21. The District Art Show will be held March 2 and 3.

Mrs. DeSantis, Vice-Principal, reported tickets for Guys and Dolls are available online for \$12. The Student Council Carnation and Card Sale will run February 14, no pre-sale or classroom deliveries. Cards will be sold for \$0.25, carnations for \$1. Cap and Gown and other graduation item orders were taken on February 3, and will continue February 4 with the Jostens representative from 10 – 1 pm in the Commons. Additionally, Mrs. DeSantis has asked for feedback regarding the weekly News Blasts.

Mr. Swatland, Principal, reported The Flavors of East will happen on February 11. Flavors of East is a Shared Decision Making Team initiative that celebrates East's cultural diversity through food. Last year, approximately 220 students participated with 22 food tables. This year, there will be 29 tables and nine restaurants will be participating, such as Maizal, Mulberry Restaurant, Lloyd's and Almaza Grill. The cost is \$2.00 per student. Ten \$10 gift cards will be given away to student attendees, and two \$25 Fresh Catch gift cards will be given out to adult volunteers. All monies will be donated to Journey's End. Mr. Swatland has invited the Superintendent to come. Mr. Swatland reported Congressman Higgins was in the building to recognize Freshman Vidya Shah for her App Contest win. Vidya created a prototype, Hover Over, that first responders could use to help save lives in wildfires. She won a \$250 Amazon card and will get to present her app to congress. Madison Wang was recognized as the fourth WEHS student to earn a perfect ACT score this year. Teacher Carrie Fey-Daly received the Reed Taylor Award for Excellence in Human Rights from the Board of Education. The district Strategic Planning Committee met and finalized Williamsville's three district initiatives: Communication, both a district-wide levels (60% of parents open their WITS mail) and teacher level; K-12 Instructional Practices; and Wellness, specifically anxiety, Linda Rouex will be coming in April to work with staff. Lastly, the administration will begin looking at staffing needs for 2020-21.

Kristy Campbell, Corresponding Secretary, reported the Wednesday WITS mails are going well. Gina O'Neil asked that the school store volunteer chair be added to the mailings.

Guest Speakers (Gina O'Neil): Looking for suggestions for the next general meeting. The Executive Board had discussed finding someone to talk on the effects of social media on children's' brain chemistry and their mental health. Lisa Lostumbo suggested Ronna Glickman, who speaks for free. Mr. Swatland suggested the speaker from last year's Tri High meeting and Kathy Gust, who has a presentation on teens and the apps/codes they use.

Lorianne McNamara, VP of Committees, reported the next Farmer's Market will happen in March. Gina O'Neil asked Lorianne to email the current committee chairs to determine who will be returning to their positions.

Post Prom (Kristy Campbell): Money coming in slowly. There is one last event. Due to low parent involvement, letters will be sent asking for monetary donations. Parents are volunteering for the actual event.

Meeting Adjourned.

Please join us for our next General Membership meeting, Monday, March 2, 7 pm, The Commons.