

STCE PTO Minutes

February 23, 2021

Mary Gerkin called meeting to order at 6:30pm

In Attendance: Mary Gerkin, Katie Robak, Megan Grohe, Mr. Jim Richter, Lisa Dandre, Luke Hall, Mr. Nolan Possley, Bonnie Marinucci, Amy Sheridan-Dufresne, Yvette Stahl, Stephaine Fullhart, Barb Fetter, Kris Petrick, Kris Galante, Molly Risberg and Valerie Kelly, Alison Murnane, Chrissy Webbe, Laura Wojdyla, and Janit Ramos.

January 2020 Minutes were approved

School Reports

Student Council, Luke Hall:

St Baldrick's Fundraiser to fight childhood cancer will be online this year. Virtual Shave on March 19th can also donate online. Elections for officers will be next month.

Teacher Liaison, Mr. Nolan Possley:

Several Staff Members-

Thank you for the chocolate bars in our mailboxes, Valentine's Game, and prizes, which was a fun idea, and a lot participated. Small gestures like this make the staff feel supported by our parents! Thank you for your generosity!

Drama Department - Teresa Bundy

Recorded their winter show, The Jungle Book, and will be sending out a link for students and the community to watch hopefully within the next week. Auditions were held for the spring musical last week and they have begun rehearsals.

Saints ISO - Donna Wisely

ISO got in a quick basketball skills season this winter. 5 team members participated in the final event this past Thursday at the Northeast Dupage Recreation Association in Addison, and are waiting on the final results. Due to COVID restrictions, the annual BIG GAME will not take place this year, BUT the team is looking forward to an extra special event next year!

Business Ed - Keith Glavan

INCubator / ACCEerator (Entrepreneurship)

INCubator and ACCEerator are our entrepreneurship courses offered at East. Each student entrepreneurial team is paired with a mentor from the community to coach and guide them through the student's unique business startup endeavors, and other community coaches and advisors are also called onto be part of the education team for these students.

INCubator students recently completed their midpoint pitches and are eligible to receive between \$100-\$200 to move their ideas forward in preparation for the Final Pitch Night where they'll compete for more substantial funding. Last week Chelsea Compagna, a third-year student in the program, recorded a podcast with Dr. Pearson where he interviewed her about her entrepreneurship journey over the past three years. Chelsea is the founder of ThermoStick, a temperature-sensing stir stick that visually indicates when a hot beverage is safe to drink. So good luck to Chelsea on her future success.

SkillsUSA (Career Club)

Students are busy preparing their resumes and other materials in anticipation of the State Conference. Next week they will take their qualifying exams and continue preparation. This year's state conference is all remote, with some competitions taking a project submission approach and others being carried out through live video conference.

VEI - Nolan Possley

Firms competed in national business competitions in January and several teams advanced to the second round including Mr. Glavans First Period Marketing, Finance, Human Resources teams, and My Third Period Human Resources and Accounting Departments all submitted their video recorded entries yesterday. Firms are also preparing for their simulated sales contract with businesses within the community

DECA (Business Club) - Shannon Stone

13 students competed at DECA state earlier this month. Students competed in events like Sports and Entertainment Marketing, Restaurant Management, Financial Analysis, and Business Services to name a few. Students participated by completing an online test in their business cluster area and then presented a solution to a case study in their event. At the moment, their case study solutions are being evaluated by judges and we will find out who might advance to the National Competition by March 5. Students did a great job by being professional and extremely flexible in this virtual adventure.

Auto Club - Thomas Straker

Auto Club has continued to stay active throughout the year. You have helped sponsor the club for various projects and Engine Competitions in the past, so to update you, competitions remain canceled at this time. There have been small team meetings each week for hands-on work, and they got the whole club together for a "distanced" service project yesterday. They packed "day supplies" for the Salvation Army. These are hygiene and self-care items that they can distribute to folks who are in need. Feel free to contact Tom Straker or co-advisor Martha Johnson for more information

Math Department - Sandy Ledvora

The math team has been competing in our regular North Suburban Math League and competed in the DuKane Conference math meet. There are 2 meets left and all interested students are invited to compete. There is a weekly announcement in the Orange and Black with additional information.

Junior Class Representative/Math Teacher - Cathy Dremel

Brainstorming some sort of Prom type of activity. She doesn't have details yet, but is very excited at the possibility of having some sort of celebration.

Principal's Report, Mr. Jim Richter:

Winter sports are underway and we have clubs that are meeting in-person.

Class of 2021 Celebration Committee has had 4 meetings thus far to jointly plan 5 events for Seniors this Spring.

Student Focus Groups - "Learning in a Pandemic" have been occurring. 7 meetings so far with 3 more scheduled. About 100 students expressed interest in participating.

Activities/Athletics Future Saints Night 3/24 from 7-9 pm. It will have a similar format as our virtual FSN in January

Treasurer Report, Katie Robak: PTO and Post Prom budgets were presented. The balance in the PTO checkbook is \$8043.50 and the Post Prom checkbook balance is \$5970.73.

Committee Reports

Grounds Beautification, Crissy Webbe and Valerie Kelly: Fresh seasonal greens arranged in 4 planters will stay until Spring planting. Committee planted two planters and two volunteer families planted the remaining two pots.

Post Prom, Katie Robak: Committee has met several times to detail plans for multi stations for groups of 40 using different spaces at East. Prom will take place Saturday May 1st, while Post Prom is planned for Sunday May 16th. Held on separate days so as not to duplicate the Prom setting. Both events will be Seniors only. Will be purchasing additional prizes next month and confirming dates with vendors. Tickets will be virtual.

Student Activities, Mary Gerkin: None

Greater Education Foundation: Planning on a Spring outdoor event at Pollyanna Brewery. More info on date and time to follow. Mary Gerkin volunteered to organize a basket valued at \$300 on behalf of PTO for the auction. Need ideas for the basket theme!

District PTO Representative, Alison Murnane: None

Senior Awards, Amy Sheridan-Dufresne: The scholarship application for senior awards is now posted online and is available in the Guidance Office. Also announced in Orange and Black. Students must submit their essay and application by April 5th. Volunteers have signed up.

Staff Appreciation, Aracely Curtis, Crissy Webbe and Valerie Kelly: We met in January to brainstorm what we could do for our staff given all the COVID protocols and limitations. We decided to create a bulletin board for the staff wishing them a Happy Valentine's Day and gave each staff member a Hershey bar. We also created riddles for them to solve with the possibility of winning a gift card. We worked with Lisa to get this approved and she supported us by putting up the bulletin board, putting candy bars in mailboxes, and also dispersing gift cards to the winners. We created a google document that she shared with the whole staff and monitored the guesses as they came in and let teachers know if they won. Families donated 20 \$10 gift cards to Kimmer's, Kilwin's, All Chocolate Kitchen, Graham's. They also donated 280 Hershey Bars. This was greatly received by the staff. We got many emails thanking us for this and that they had fun participating. Planning on a "Race to Spring" theme for March.

Senior Signs, Megan Grohe, Katie Hollman, and Bonnie Marinucci: Bill and Barb Fetter have generously volunteered to sponsor senior signs for The Class of 2021. Ordered 675 signs from Celtic Custom to be delivered in early May. More info to come on volunteer sign up.

President's Report, Mary Gerkin: PTO Grants were reviewed and decided. VEI -\$500, INC/ACCEL-\$500, HOPE Hustle-\$300, Play Away Audio Books-\$600, Word Wall subscription-\$100. Total of grants awarded was \$2,000.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45pm

Respectfully submitted by Megan Grohe STCE PTO Secretary 2020-2021

Next Meeting 6:30pm on March 23, 2021 Via ZOOM