

**Athens Drive Magnet High School
PTSA Meeting Minutes
January 26, 2021**

**Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, school closures have prevented the PTSA from meeting in person. This meeting was conducted virtually, using the Google Meet platform.*

Meeting was called to order at 6:38pm by President Jill Rbaihat

November 17, 2020, PTSA Meeting Minutes, Secretary Julie Dean

- The last meeting's minutes were provided for review.
 - A motion to approve the amendments was made by Blythe Clifford.
 - The motion was seconded by John Hollingsworth.
 - The minutes were approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report, Treasurer Staci Mantz

- Current report was made available on the PTSA website for review.
- We awarded \$1,300 in classroom grants, leaving \$2,200.
- Some budget items were reclassified for clarity and include a new line item for Donor Designated Donations.
- The Senior Breakfast line item was removed – these donations will now appear under Class Donations: Class of 2021 line item.
- Monies from Painless Fundraisers - i.e. Harris Teeter, et al. - are expected to be posted in January.
 - A motion to approve the amendments was made by Stephen Mares.
 - The motion was seconded by Blythe Clifford.
 - The budget amendments were approved unanimously.

Committee Reports, VP Lysa Fulbright

- Athens Achievers – There were 83 nominees (8 were nominated twice) in December and 75 recipients. The next nominations request is late February.
- Classroom Grants – Few teachers applied for grants in the Fall. With funds remaining, we will reopen the grant application process in February.
- Reflections Art Program – Three ADHS students won county-level ribbons: one first place, which will go onto state competition, and two honorable mention. State results will be available in March.
- Senior Scholarships, Chairperson Jonell Williams – Preparation for Senior Scholarships is underway. Students who wish to apply must be a member of the PTSA and can join through February 26. The scholarship application will be available beginning March 15 and the deadline is April 16. Mr. Mares said the school will provide student transcripts. Judges for application review have been recruited.
- Garden and Grounds Committee - A grounds cleanup day is tentatively scheduled for April 17.

Principal's Report, Principal Steve Mares

- We have passed half the year in remote learning.
- Fifty-four students graduated mid-year.
- Good start to the second semester, with a smooth transition and more students securing needed technology.
- 80-85% of students took their state final exams. Social distancing protocols were in place and the testing environment worked very well. Scores were a little lower than previous semesters.

- Many students and teachers lament no longer having Wednesdays to catch up on assignments and administrative work. Students sent Mr. Mares a petition wanting the Asynchronous Wednesdays back. This is a county decision, but we are advocating from an administrator standpoint.
- Athletic events continue to move forward. Our Cross Country team performed well at the state level, with one runner placing 8th and one placing 23rd in the state. We have a swimming conference this week, and outdoor sports are underway. We are hearing comments about equity issues on the number of fans who can attend events. Wake County is making the decisions on who can attend as well as the number of fans allowed at all school events.
- Once we go back to classroom learning, we will see 40-45% of students remain in virtual learning. That has changed significantly, with about 150 switching from classroom to virtual.
- We are planning senior activities to celebrate them later this spring.

Open floor questions for Principal Mares

Q. What was senior graduation like?

A. Our goal was to make this a meaningful experience. Each graduate could bring up to four family members. They walked across the stage to *Pomp and Circumstance* to receive their diploma. There was a slide for each student, celebrating their time and activities at ADHS.

Q. When does the Wake County School Board meet again?

A. February 2. The board will review data at each meeting and make further determinations on if and when to reopen schools.

Q. President Biden is considering putting teachers in the first responder category for the COVID-19 vaccine. What are the plans in NC?

A. Teachers in NC are in Category 3 - Frontline Essential Workers. Some teachers have traveled to other counties which have given vaccines to teachers.

Liaison Announcements

- Band – Winter/Spring Marching Band abbreviated spring session begins February 2, with practice held outdoors. The band has new PPE which includes bell covers and masks with slits for instruments.
- Jag Club – Many compliments for Travis Seese, Athletic Director, as sports gear-up for the second semester. Spectator limits are 25 indoors and 100 outdoors – subject to change. Immediate family can sign up for tickets. [Paws and bricks campaign](#) is underway.

The next PTSA meeting will be held Tuesday, February 23 at 6:30pm

The meeting was adjourned at 7:23pm