

Arlington High School PTSA
1157 Route 55, LaGrangeville, NY 12540

AHS PTSA Minutes - 11/20/24

The meeting was held in the Library at AHS. Colleen Tkazyik called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

A quorum was present with 12 members in attendance.

Welcome and Introductions

Colleen welcomed everyone and all in attendance introduced themselves.

Approve September and October Minutes - Paula Morro Wrafter

Paula presented the September and October minutes. A motion was made by Lynn Eves to accept the minutes as presented, it was seconded by Don Solimene and all in attendance voted to approve the motion.

Vote on Bylaws - Paula Morro Wrafter

Paula presented the updated Bylaws to the membership for a second time. She explained that they had expired and her and Colleen did what they had to so we are in good standing with NYS PTA. Colleen shared that there are no changes to these Bylaws from the previous ones. Rachel Birsner made a motion to accept the Bylaws as presented, Don Solimene seconded and all present approved the motion.

Membership Report - Rachel Birsner

Rachel shared that we have 126 members which is more than we had last year. She thanked everyone for their help.

President's Report - Colleen Tkazyik

Colleen thanked Rachel for the great job she has done with membership. She thanked the administrators for their support of the Arts programs at AHS which are all wonderful. Don mentioned what a great job Admiral Players did with Twelfth Night last weekend especially considering the tight timeline

Treasurer's Report - Donna Bolner

Donna presented the October Treasurer's Report. She shared that we paid our PTSA Council Dues and received membership payments from Givebacks as well as one in person membership.

Our ending bank balances for the month were \$16,908.99 in checking and \$2,703.32 in savings. The treasurer's report will be filed for audit.

Donna also discussed options for which budget line to take money from to pay the upfront costs for the Harlem Wizards Fundraiser. After some discussion a motion was made by Paula Morro Wrafter to take the \$1200 from the Staff Appreciation budget line to pay the upfront costs. It was seconded by Rachel Birsner and approved by all in attendance.

Harlem Wizard's Update - Colleen Tkazyik and Lynn Eves

Colleen and Lynn shared that there will be 2 games at AHS on 2/2/25 and all District PTAs are involved. The Wizards will play teachers. We need 1 more coach and Don agreed to coach with Dr. Benante. They both hope it will be financially successful. Each PTA needs 8 volunteers to help over the 2 games. Ticket sales will open on 12/2/24 and we are hoping to push them as holiday gifts. The t-shirt design contest deadline has been extended to this Friday, 11/22. Ideally they would like to sell out both games. Our PTSA has 3 confirmed players, but still needs 1-2 more.

Executive Principal's Report - Don Solimene

Coffee, Cake, and Conversation has been light as he has had trouble getting parents to attend. He clarified that any parent can come to any of them regardless of which House staff is present to ask questions or share concerns. Parents can also email him or their child's House principal at any time with questions or concerns.

We have had a great fall sports season and are now gearing up for the winter sports season.

The Marching Band was recognized on Tuesday for being State Champions by the Board of Education.

Twelfth Night last weekend was wonderful.

Spirit of Giving is under way for families in need for Thanksgiving. After that they will begin it for the Christmas/Hannakuh season. There are about 50 families they will be helping.

House Principals' Reports

House of 2028 - Mr. Murphy shared that the House of 2028 had Rachel's Challenge yesterday and they were great listeners at the assembly. The banner that students can choose to sign to take the challenge is in their house office right now. Students had the option to be trained so they could participate in the Friends of Rachel Club.

Report cards came out on 11/15/24

22 9th graders were selected for Junior High All County in January. Winter concerta are also coming soon.

House of 2027 - Dr. Bolner shared that the House of 2027 also experienced Rachel's Challenge yesterday. She reminded everyone about the handprints in the hallway and now going up the stairs were part of the Friends of Rachel Club.

Guidance counselors are going into classrooms to discuss Schoolinks, the Sophomore Guidance Night highlights were shared with parents/guardians and students for those who could not attend, and report cards were released last Friday.

Students will start planning for junior year soon.

There is still time to purchase class rings.

House of 2026 - Dr. Carroll shared that the House of 2026 took 2 juniors to the Rotary Club lunch last week to be recognized.

There are many field trips coming up meant to extend student learning.

House of 2025 - Dr. Carroll stated that NHS Inductions are tomorrow night at 6:30 pm

Puff Bowl is 11/24, 8 am-12 pm

Seniors in the City - 12/6

Senior trip to Hershey has had a low response so far so they extended the sign up deadline until this Friday in hopes they can run the trip.

Small Schools' Retro Event on 1/8/25

The 100th Commencement is 6/27/25 at 7 pm. They are still working on the fireworks piece. He thanked Dr. Bolner for all her work on graduation and the fireworks.

Questions/Concerns

Paula wanted to thank the custodial staff for all they did last weekend in terms of The Admiral Players' performances especially when there was an issue with one the bathrooms.

Don shared that they got approval to refurbish 18 classrooms with new furniture and stated the custodians have been taking turns to come in for overtime to put it all together.

There was a question from Erica about the changes to graduation requirements. Don shared that current high school students will not be affected by any changes that the Board of Regents decides to make. There are a lot of things that still need to be determined and Arlington will use the Portrait of a Graduate framework that was developed last year along with State guidelines, and input from teachers, staff, and parents to determine what criteria Arlington wants to follow to meet graduation requirements.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:44 pm

Paula Morro Wrafter, Secretary

Date Approved:

As Presented

As Amended

