



BHS PTO Membership Meeting

November 21, 2024

Call meeting to order: Anita called the meeting to order 7:06pm

Attendance: This meeting was held over Zoom. Officers in attendance were Anita, Elan, Jen Koehler and Jennifer Meyers-Heeter. Chairs present: Emily and Laurie. Other members online were Katia, C. Lang, Angela Johnson, Lori Rocker, Jessica, Avil, Tuawana.

Approval of Minutes:

Anita made a motion (**Motion #12**) to approve the October meeting minutes. Elan seconded. No discussion. All approved. Minutes will be uploaded to the website.

Treasurer's report (Jennifer): Budget:

Jennifer presented the budget that was emailed to members. She reiterated that there is still time to join and become a member, and that the PTO will be awarding two scholarships per grade. Two grants were approved this month. One, requested by the librarian, to pay for an author (Neal Schusterman) to visit the school and talk to students and sign copies of his latest book. In addition, there was additional money granted for some books to be purchased. The total amount awarded for this grant was \$1K. The second grant that was awarded was for a Kahoot subscription for Ms. Provenzano.

Guest Speaker: Officer Kristina Sheldon. Officer Sheldon has been in the SRO program for 12 years, and at BHS for 11 of those years. She gave some background about SROs: to become an SRO you must have been PO on patrol, then you can apply for SRO. She will stay as an SRO until she decides to leave. PWCS has one SRO in every HS, and the goal is to have one in every MS, but currently there is a staffing shortage and some middle schools share. Elementary schools have off duty, retired officers who report to street officers if there are issues.

Officer Sheldon investigates all issues at BHS. She is 100% committed to the kids at BHS and treats them like her own. If any incidents happen outside of BHS, often the officer handling the case will contact her and give her the case # for follow-up. She works closely with Mr. Buzzi, head of security at BHS, and the rest of the security team (Ms. Grey and Mr. Milborn). Mr. Buzzi oversees general security of BHS, inside and out, and handles all drills.

Schools have a special knock box outside school and every SRO has access as well as local fire and police, so in case of emergency or lockdown, emergency personnel can get into the building.

Visitors to the school have their IDs scanned to alert staff and security for potential threats.

Students can report concerns on the Say Something App. They are taught during advisory how to use the app. Security, SRO, Head of Counseling, admins and the Principal have access to all notifications. Students can submit things anonymously. The

app is monitored 24/7. Risk management will work with the SRO or counselor. Officer Sheldon has access to the app on her personal, work phone, and email. Notes are thoroughly taken on each incident.

Officer Sheldon has an open-door policy. She wants the kids to feel safe. High school is a tough time for some kids and her priority is their safety. She also helps run the Explorer program within the county. This is a program for those thinking about a law enforcement career. It is open to 9-12 grade students, and currently can take 40 students. There is always a waitlist. This year they are graduating 14 seniors.

Mental health is a big concern at BHS. Issues with home life, vaping, alcohol, peer pressures and influences, classroom challenges, grades, and bullying are all things going on with our students. Kristina sees herself as another counselor at the school. She is also CIT (crisis intervention team) trained which requires 40 hours of training. Covid held kids back a lot, and the current freshman/sophomores lost a lot of middle school maturing time.

Officer Sheldon (per Mr. Buzzi) wanted to inform parents of a few rules about BHS to reiterate to their kids. Outside food is allowed to be brought in by PARENTS ONLY. NO DOORDASH should be accepted at ANY DOOR. This is a huge security issue. Students order food to be delivered to certain doors, and that is a big security risk. No one knows who is behind that door. This is a big NO-NO! Also, BHS is not an open campus. Students may not just leave and go to Starbucks or Tony's. They must be signed out by a parent and signed back in. Many students head over to Giant for lunch, and this is also a NO-NO. If kids are late, students should not be opening doors for anyone during school hours. Once the first bell rings, all students must come in through the front door, even those out the modules.

A member asked about vaping at the high school. Officer Sheldon said that vaping is a misdemeanor. Nicotine vapes results in after school detention, or subsequent suspension. THC (marijuana) gets a writeup and 3-5 day suspension, second time is charged with possession.

We thanked Officer Sheldon for joining us and providing us with this great information. We thanked her for all she does for BHS.

Committee Reports:

Membership (Laurie Burke): Laurie stated we had a few more memberships added. She restated that our current levels are Bronze \$20, Silver \$55, and Gold \$75. She reminded our membership that scholarships are available for members' students. The Nothing Bundt Cake winner will be announced next week.

Hospitality (Emily Shin): Today we delivered 220 pies to our BHS Staff. 150 pumpkin and 70 apple. Emily thanked all those that volunteered to help transport and hand out the pies. The staff was very appreciative and look forward to this tradition.

Fundraising (vacant): Elan requested members ask their employers for any leftover donation dollars to give to PTO. Also, don't forget to ask your employer to match donations. We can provide the necessary information to HR if needed.

Senior Grad Party: (Jennifer Meyers-Heeter): Jennifer reminded us that this is our 17th year hosting a grad party. The team is working hard to raise \$50K (with the goal to leave \$10k to the class of 2026). Lawn signs are still available for purchase. Our next two fundraisers for the holidays are leather gift tags/ornaments and we have three holiday wrapping events at DVCC. In January, we will start soliciting for SHOUT-OUTS (picture and messages for graduation slide show), VIP Raffle where two winners will receive 5 seats at graduation, family photo shoot by local photographer, Sign Gypsies stake your yard, decorated cookies and much more. Anita commented that this party is truly amazing.

Communications (Sarah Cho): No report.

Scholarships (Xanthe Larson): No report

New Business:

Holiday Cookie Exchange: the PTO would like to do one more appreciation for our teachers next month. A signup genius for donations (cookies and/or money) will be sent out to provide the teachers with a holiday treat.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:04pm