



# North Atlanta High School



An International Baccalaureate World School

## **North Atlanta High School PTSA General Body Meeting**

*Thursday, August 18, 2016*

*6:30pm in the Theater*

**In attendance:** *Executive Board Members:* Laura Denning, Susan Sheffield, Elizabeth Miraldi, Heather Martin, Kim Sumlin, Lisa Reynolds, Rita Golden, Helena Marin, Angela Smith, Principal Douglass

And PTSA Members and non-members (sign-in sheet is attached)

- I. Color Guard ROTC presenting the flag & Pledge of Allegiance- @ 6:36pm**
  - a. Laura Denning and Susan Sheffield called the meeting to order and encouraged non-members to pay dues.
  
- II. Introduction of Executive Board Members**
  
- III. Treasurer's Review of procedures- Heather Martin**
  - a. Heather Martin reviewed the budget (hand-out attached). Explained the increase of \$5,000.00 allocated for the College & Career Center and its on-going expenses, college fair and career fair.
  - b. Heather asked for questions from the audience regarding the budget. There were some questions pertaining to the upcoming College Fair that were redirected to Sarah Shoup.
  - c. Call to make a motion to approve the budget. Motion to approve made by Sarah Shoup and seconded by Stacy Cimowsky. All hands raised for vote to approve and none opposed. Budget for the 2016-2017 Schoolyear was approved.
  
- IV. Principal Douglass report**
  - a. Reviewed upcoming dates and encouraged people to attend the coffee talks and meetings. Encouraged membership in PTSA.

- b. Discussed his vision for the year and expressed he plans to go from “good to great”. He believes in transparency, in making improvements over last year, in making sure that all teachers’ gradebooks are up to date on Infinite Campus.
- c. Reported that there are currently 1,817 students registered. The increase in enrollment has allowed us to gain teachers where needed- chemistry, physics and special ed.
- d. Principal Douglass touched on the difference between the IB Component Program and the IB Diploma Program and promises more information to come.
- e. Principal Douglass commented on the SEL (Social Emotional Learning) Program. Goal is to increase students’ emotional learning, understanding of diversity and culture, obtain skills to deal with emotions and feelings in order to become stable adults.
- f. Reported that of the 470 incoming freshman zoned from Sutton, we enrolled 440. Biggest enrollment percentage to date.
- g. Discussed IB Exams; APS will no longer pay for all exams. This year, they gave money to each school to be used at each school’s discretion. The money given is not nearly enough to cover the cost of the exams to be taken from NAHS students. An IB exam costs \$860 per student. NAHS chose to use the money given to obtain at Spanish Parent Liaison and aid for free & reduced lunch students.
- h. Principal Douglass asked for questions to be held until the end of the meeting. Also, promoted the upcoming Principal Coffee Talk to be held on 9/23.

## **V. NAHS Foundation Report by Lisa Dwyer**

- a. Explained that the Foundation is supplemental support in addition to the PTSA. A handout (attached) was given to show the differences between the two. Explained the the Foundation has more flexibility, has a 15 member Board made up of alumni, parents, teachers, principal, community members and faculty.

Explained that the Foundation helps to fund things like textbooks, parchment, College & Career Center, athletics, and PR. The Foundation has been in existence for 10 years. She asked for people to donate to the Foundation in addition to joining the PTSA.

More information can be found at [www.nahsfoundation.org](http://www.nahsfoundation.org)

- b. Two main Fundraisers throughout the year are the Annual Fund (led by Chair, Tracy Hankin) and the Red Hot Jazz event scheduled for 3/11/17. Julie Reif is the Chair for Red Hot Jazz.

## **VI. Sports Booster Report- by Kim Staley**

- a. Kim reported that she was representing the co-chairs, Scott Staley & Douglas Henderson. Beth Mayfield is Chair of Membership.
- b. What does Sports Boosters do?
  - i. It's the bank for all sports teams
  - ii. Covers commonly used equipment & areas like weight room, busses
  - iii. Promotes school spirit and provides sports scholarships

## **VII. College & Career Center Report- Ms. Bush**

- a. Discussed the upcoming College Fair to be held on 8/26 in Gym. 2 sessions will be held and it's open to juniors and seniors. Top students from other APS highschoools are invited to a 3rd session later in the day.
- b. Discussed the Career Fair to be held in Feburary, 2017. NAHS will partner with the Urban League.
- c. Mandatory Senior Certification Night is to be held on 9.15 at 6pm.

## **VIII. GO TEAM Report by Mike Everly**

- a. Explained the transition from local school council to GoTeams. GoTeams are part of the APS decision to become based on the Charter School Model-- explaining that we are not a "charter school". Rather, we now are more decentralized, have gained more local control of our individual school's needs & decision making, and can customize solutions to fit our unique needs.

Explained that GoTeams model governance vs. guidance, and have greater autonomy and effectiveness with input and decision-making about principal performance, budget, materials, school-wide strategic improvement plan. GoTeams are not involved with day-to-day operations. More details can be found at [www.goteamaps.com](http://www.goteamaps.com).

- b. GoTeams are made up of 3 parents, 2 community members, 3 instructors, 1 swing seat, 1 principal and 1 student.
- c. GoTeam meetings will be held every 2nd Thursday of the month in the Media Center. Meeting times will be announced and public can attend. All meetings are conducted according to GA Open Meeting law.

## **IX. Upcoming PTSA Events and Announcements- Laura Denning**

- a. Northstar Talent Show 9/24
- b. Website updates are almost complete- thanks to Rebecca Peckham.
- c. Called for questions- (none).

**X. Meeting Adjourned at 7:17pm. - Laura Denning**

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**Angela Smith**  
**NAHS PTSA Secretary**