



North Atlanta High School



An International Baccalaureate World School

North Atlanta High School PTSA General Meeting

Thursday, August 20, 2015

6:30pm in the Auditorium

In attendance: Sign-in sheet attached

Call to Order – 6:35pm

I. Welcome & Introduction –Frankie & Dawnitra

II. PTSA Board Introductions

- All board members were introduced. David Bittner and Allison Hayes were absent. As of today, we have just over 300 members. Thanked everyone for their support and encouraged all to use the partner cards – Kroger & Publix.

III. Mr. Douglass – Administration

- Dr. Mitchell - 11th Grade Assistant Principal, Testing Coordinator, Title 1
- Yvette Williams - 10th Grade Assistant Principal, Science & Special Ed
- Mr. Whitman – Assistant Principal
- Ms. Kimberly Lucas - Parent Liaison paid with Title 1 money, here to work with parents and encourage involvement, Room 4106, hours 8:00am-4:00pm. Encouraged everyone to please utilize the sign-in book for Volunteers in the front office and to fill out a Volunteer Release Form. Please turn in your Free & Reduced Lunch forms or go online and fill it out. It's vital for us to continue to receive our Title 1 funds. Her email is kimlucas@atlanta.k12.ga.us
- Ms. Bush – College Advisement, recent GA graduate here to help with college applications, letters of recommendation and essays. Upcoming College Fair next Friday, August 28th will be for juniors and seniors only and will be held during their 1st and 2nd periods. No parents allowed unless you are there to volunteer. Students must submit an essay by tomorrow in order to be granted admittance to the event. Reach her at NAHCollege.org. Handouts attached include: List of scholarship websites, "20 Questions to Ask College Representative", List of colleges attending the NA College Fair and the College Fair Conduct Agreement. [General Meeting - August 20th - Ms. Bush - College Advisement Handouts.pdf](#)
- Mr. Douglass
 - i. Retention Rates - shared information on the numbers of students coming from Sutton and other Middle Schools to North Atlanta [General Meeting - August 20th - Mr. Douglas - Retention.pdf](#). We are getting fewer students from other APS schools and we are getting more students from private schools and keeping more students than ever from Sutton. Even so, we need to be better about building relationships with Sutton to continue to increase our retention rate with rising 9th graders. The next step is to create a committee to work on increasing awareness about North Atlanta programs and develop better and stronger relationships between North Atlanta and Sutton. We have exceeded the



North Atlanta High School



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projections put out by the district so we won't be losing any teachers. Currently we have 1,696 (340 came from outside APS) students and Sutton has 1,205.

- ii. New North Atlanta APP – we want to get better at communicating and with this APP we will make vast improvements. You can find the afternoon announcements every day. Mr. Douglass will be posting a monthly update/letter and the first should go out the middle of next month.
- iii. School News – started the year will all teachers except for two new ones – Arabic teacher who has taken exam and now certified as well as a PE teacher who will start the 31st and also help with football.
- iv. Math & Science Resource Center –test scores have been low and we are working to let parents know what's going on in these two subjects. Will start with Math and Science and eventually do the same for all subjects. Working to get teachers to better communicate with parents what's happening in class so they can better support students and in turn develop better dialog and relationships between teachers and parents.
- v. Diversity Committee – working to get our students to mix more. Not forcing them into relationships and connections but fostering an environment where they feel comfortable amongst each other and connected because of where they go to school.
- vi. Master Grading Plan – (Dr. Mitchell) students must show if standards have been met.
 1. Student Learning Objectives (SLO) – the test all students are now taking for the next two weeks in all classes. It measures growth in the class. We start the year with a pre test and end the year with a post test.
 2. Every 9th - 11th grader will take the Computer Adaptive Test on reading and math. This is a predictive test, which means the test continues as you answer correctly, so some students may take a long time to complete the test. Encourage your students to take it seriously. It measures year over year progress. A Robo call will go out with the start date.

IV. NAHS Foundation – Jeff Sweeney

- The two primary fundraisers of the Foundation include the Annual Fund, which will kick-off October 1st and Red Hot Jazz, which is scheduled for March 12, 2016. The Foundation's Annual Report will be out in September and you will be able to access it via the website (NAHSfoundation.org) and it will be posted in the Warrior Weekly. Last year's donations totaled \$89,000 with 100% participation from each of the NA Boards (PTSA, Sports & Arts Booster Clubs). This year they will be looking for the same support and even more from our families. With that added support, they will be better able to secure donations from community businesses. Corporate donors look for a high percentage of participation from parents before they consider donating. It's their goal to work with everyone on where to best spend the money. Last year's donations went to:
 - i. \$14,000 on text books
 - ii. \$50,000 for 18 different teacher grants
 - iii. Parchment Transcript Service
 - iv. Non-Core Department Chair



North Atlanta High School



An International Baccalaureate World School

- v. Supplement Weight Room debt
- vi. FBLA, Jazz Band, Robotics and many more

So far this year they have received requests from 4 teachers for grants. A "War Chest" is being built for the building of a stadium and other facilities. This is a big undertaking and currently working with APS to lay the groundwork before they go out to the community looking for corporate donations.

V. Sports Booster – Scott Staley & Scotty East

- They work on a modest budget and support all sports, which covers 30 different sports. Their website is northatlantawarriors.org. The money for all sports is funneled through them. This year's fundraiser includes the Stadium Chairs. They supported a great event last Friday night, Football & Food Trucks, which was a huge success.

VI. Mr. Regan – new Athletic Director was introduced

VII. Local School Council (LSC) – Chip Fife

- Members include – Millie Dunn (Chair), Chip Fife (Vice-Chair), Lisa Jern (Secretary), Mike Everly (Last Years Chair), Ms. Eleanor Brookins (Teacher) and Joleen Neel
- The meetings are held the first Thursday of every month and everyone is invited to attend.
- There are many changes coming, mainly in the form of a new council called the Local School Governance Council (LSGC). After this year, the LSC will go away and be replaced by the LSGC. This new council will have more authority to say what happens at our school. There will be an informational meeting in October to learn more about this change. Elections for the new LSGC will be held in January and the new council will have training over the summer and in the spring.
- LSC worked with the Foundation to secure the math texts books for half of the students in 9th grade taking Algebra 1. Next year they will purchase textbooks for Geometry and the following year Algebra 2. This is the first time in five years these classes have had textbooks. Later in the year there are plans to do a follow-up survey to see if the textbooks are helping to make a difference in the classroom.

VIII. 2015-2016 PTSA Budget Approval

- The proposed budget was presented by Dawnitra Quigley (attached and distributed along with the evening's agenda). Questions from the floor included:
 - Q. What do the bank charges include?
 - A. Monthly dues for our various accounts.
 - Q. In what areas of the budget are there increases or decreases over last year?
 - A. Teacher Appreciation is down - \$13,000 last year and \$8,800 this year. We found out from our Teacher Survey they want Food! School Donations, also called School Beautification, is down from about \$5,500 last year to \$1,000 this year.
- A motion was made from the floor to approve the budget followed by a second from Scott Staley, all approved and none opposed. Budget passed.



North Atlanta High School



An International Baccalaureate World School

IX. C2Education Presentation

- C2Education is a Business Partner of the PTSA and attached is a link to their presentation.
[C2Education - Presentation - NEW SAT .pptC2Education.png](#)

X. Adjourn – 7:59pm

Sarah Shoup – NAHS PSTA Secretary

Next Meetings:

- September 17th 9:30am – General Meeting – The Subjects: Dept. Chairs/Academy Leaders
- September 30th 12:00pm – NAPPS Meeting - E. Rivers – Special Needs Programs
- October 15th 6:30pm – General Meeting – APS, Academics, Standard Tests
- October 21st 7:00-9:30pm – NAPPS Meeting – North Atlanta – Documentary “Beyond Measure” followed by Panel Discussion
- November 18th 12:00pm – NAPPS Meeting - Sutton – Sports in the North Atlanta Cluster
- November 19th 9:30am – General Meeting – Community Service/Students Voices
- December TBD – Holiday Concert (we sponsor)
- January 7th 9:30am – General Meeting – Return of College Freshman
- January 27th 12:00pm – NAPPS Meeting - Warren T. Jackson Main – Speaker TBD
- February TBD – Diversity Program (we sponsor)
- February 24th 12:00pm – NAPPS Meeting - Sarah Smith Main – Speaker TBD
- March 17th 6:30pm – General Meeting – Student’s Kick Back: Mr. Douglass
- March 23rd 7:00-9:00pm – NAPPS Meeting - Bolton Academy – Atlanta Public Schools Board of Education
- April 21st 9:30am – General Meeting – 2016 Seniors
- April 27th 12:00pm – NAPPS Meeting - North Atlanta – North Atlanta Stellar Seniors & Panel of Experts on the College Admissions Process
- May 3rd 6:30pm – General Meeting – Graduation Information