

**Minutes of the James Madison High School PTSA
Monday, January 11, 2021**

The meeting was called to order over Zoom at 7:04 pm.

In attendance: Timothy Buckley, Greg Hood, John Kenny, Tammy Peters, Abby Shannon, Andrea Kramer, Angela Gutenson, Becky Kong, Beth Eachus, Braden Holt, Chris Lande, Christine Nell, Dara Dirth, Debra Steppel, Donna O'Harren, Elizabeth Terry-Humen, Emily Korff, Heather Ireland, Heba Singer, Jeanine Greer, Jennifer O'Beirne, Katie Cubba, Kelly Stratman, Kevin Chadwick, Leslie Conroy, Leslie Norman, Louis Sichenze, Mara Gecan, Maribel Langas Miller, Mary Ann Rashid, Michael Kowal, Mona Rewari, Naomi Hutchins, Ravi Myneni, Rebecca Johnson, Rita Monner, Robyn Nguyen, Sandy Pompelli, Sarah Espanol, Sarah Lundquist, Shelly Koshuta, Sonya Marsden, Stacey Leimbach, Talene Staab, Tarah Weaver

I. Call to Order and Welcome – Chris Lande

Chris thanked everyone for attending and wished a happy new year to all. Good news was recently announced by Dr. Brabrand: FCPS staff may begin receiving COVID vaccine as soon as next weekend. Chris reminded viewers that only members of the PTSA may vote on PTSA matters.

II. Approval of December PTSA Meeting Minutes – Sarah Lundquist

Chris noted that the December 2020 PTSA minutes had been posted on the JMHS website for review. Chris asked for any feedback; no comments or changes were suggested. Tarah Weaver made a motion to approve the minutes as written; Beth Eachus seconded. The minutes were approved as written.

III. Principal Report – Principal Greg Hood

Mr. Hood gave the following updates:

Return to School: FCPS is focusing on mitigation strategies like mask wearing and social distancing. If those are in place, it could help reduce the number of cases in schools and could be used instead of health metrics to determine when students can return. Locally the positive case numbers are going up, so a new timeline is being developed. Educators are in vaccination group 1b, which might help to move things along. When we can come back, we plan to bring 9th and 12th grades back first. Elementary students can be cohorted more easily than middle and high school, who change classes and locations frequently. Keep in mind that closures can be due to exposure, not necessarily just positive cases.

Why are athletics a go and not academics? They are governed by a different entity – VHSL – so they have different parameters. Mr. Kenny, Director of Student Activities, gave an update:

Positives: kids playing, smiles on faces

Negatives: it is challenging to try to track positive cases/exposure (there have been maybe 8-10 shutdowns here and there, but only 1-2 positive results)

There is a lot to keep track of with kids, coaches, mitigation strategies, traffic flow, etc. We feel we're pretty successful but things can always come up, not always in our control. Sometimes cancellations are because of another's school's exposure.

Spectators: The original plan was to use the 2 weeks over Winter Break with wrestling and basketball to see how having spectators might work. Then varsity level teams would restart the week of January 4. But more people in the building increases risk. We are trying to stream games so that family can watch. Home team can have 25 spectators for certain sports; other sports cannot have spectators. They are still working on a process to keep things safe.

Construction job is out for bid – a contractor is being selected this month. Construction updates will be provided at next month's PTSA meeting. Parking should be okay because we'll only have 50% of students present at a time. If we go to more than 50%, though, we might need to do a lottery and perhaps everyone won't get a spot.

How we handled the events of January 6: If it impacts the world as a whole, it needs to be acknowledged to the students. No matter what they teach, teachers were asked to please address what's going on to help students process it all. Social studies teachers could delve deeper.

There was a question regarding Mondays. The last 2 Mondays were asynchronous to let teachers plan. Since we aren't yet returning to school, Mondays for now will go back to normal...in February (because of days off January 18 and 25). The Return to School plan would likely keep Mondays for intervention/office hours.

Next week: MLK Day Monday, Inauguration Day Wednesday, Friday 2-hour early release. Tuesday will be a catch-up day so that the same number of classes can be held in the week.

IV. Student Services – Timothy Buckley

Mr. Buckley gave the following updates:

There is a lot of activity this week: Curriculum Nights, one per grade level, are being held, in addition to a College Planning Night, plus an AP panel next week and Electives Night last week.

All these events (except College Planning Night) are being recorded and put on the Academic Advising page, within a day or so of the event. Picking courses (rough draft) needs to be done online in StudentVue by January 29. Then counselors will meet with students during PE classes one at a time starting in February to discuss the choices made. By March 12 hopefully all course selections will be in; the timeline isn't very adjustable. There is a glitch in the system where students enter their choices – please hold off until further advised. Teachers are a great first resource but it's mostly up to the parents and counselors to ensure the chosen schedule will work on all levels. More than parents, now it's the students who put so much pressure on themselves to overload, but we want them to be happy and healthy.

V. Faculty Report – Tammy Peters

Mrs. Peters reminded parents to check in with their students and look at SIS as the quarter ends soon. Teachers are excited about getting their vaccinations.

VI. Student Government Report – Braden Holt

The SGA finished a successful winter spirit week, which went well. Most activities are done through the SGA Instagram account. The art department was involved. The SGA is working on many virtual engagement opportunities and can't wait to do in-person events soon! Braden thanked all the parents for recent donations. Beth Eachus added that the food drive was a huge boost for Food for Others and the Madison Pantry.

VII. President's Report – Christopher Lande

Chris noted that this might be a new year but we are currently looking at more of the same. There is a lot of change to stay on top of and many things are beyond our control. For example, we want spectators at games but there are forces we can't always change. The PTSA is doing well and is financially healthy. There will be some changes for planned events but we want to do what we can for the community with what we have.

VIII. Treasurer's Report – Tarah Weaver

Tarah presented the December budget. We had to pay Fairfax County and VA PTA dues, which caused a small reduction in funds. There has been a steady uptick in membership, especially when emails go out periodically. There were some expenses for Madison Pantry, which is great. We are hoping to start planning something for ANG.

IX. Committee Reports

Academic Boosters – Beth Eachus reported that several practice SAT and ACT tests will be held in January and February, including one of each with extended time. She also worked with Applerouth to offer an upcoming mock PSAT in February and March. Mr. Buckley noted that on Monday 4/19 sophomores will be offered an in-school PSAT 10.

Academic Awards – We might do a drive-through academic awards ceremony, but some schools are pushing to spring. We will definitely honor those students. If you are interested in helping or have any ideas, please reach out to Beth.

Athletic Boosters – Mr. Kenny addressed the next round of activities to come back – marching band, etc. They are in a holding pattern right now. Fall sports start in about a month. There are currently no concessions or food or sales at events.

Marching Band – Heather Ireland said they are waiting to hear what will happen next.

JMHS Pantry and Outreach – Beth Eachus thanked all who supported our annual Giving Tree winter clothing drive, and a huge thanks to JMHS teacher Ms. Slingerland, who devoted much time and energy to creating this list and sharing our students' stories. The impact of COVID this year left many Madison families in need, and this was the greatest number of requests for assistance we have ever had. The generosity and warmth the Madison community demonstrates towards our students is always appreciated!

Thanks also for the many generous donations that have been made to the Madison Pantry and Outreach efforts! Donations like these have made it possible to support our Madison families who need assistance since January 2018.

Finally, Beth wanted to give additional recognition to:

- the family of a Madison alum, who gave \$3500 so that we could give \$100 grocery gift cards to some of our most food insecure families;
- the Committee for Helping Others for providing bicycles to five of our Madison students in need;
- the SGA for restocking our Madison Pantry with some of the donations that they collected during their food drive;
- The Church of the Good Shepherd that gave \$2000 to our Food Pantry;
- the Render Family Foundation, who donated \$1000 to our Food Pantry; and
- the Conroy family, who provided clothes and grocery gift cards to students in need, as well as Shep Conroy, who donated \$250 of his earnings to the Food Pantry.

Parent Programs – Sonya Marsden had no updates.

X. New Business

The budget needed to be approved. Beth Eachus made a motion to approve the budget; Sonya Marsden seconded. The budget was approved as presented.

XI. Old Business

Naomi Hutchins gave an update on the “Home of a Warhawk” signs. They are coming in on Wednesday. There are two different versions: senior and non-senior. Please, everyone, buy one! It’s a great way to help these kids feel less isolated and part of something. Even alums could buy one!

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm.

PTSA Budget for 2020-2021						As of December 31, 2020	
			19-20 Budget	19-20 YTD Actuals	20-21 Budget	20-21 YTD Actuals	Comments
PTSA Revenues							
	Membership Dues - incl. Natl, State & Cnty	\$	12,000	10,555	8,000	8,638	
	less: dues paid to National, State, County		-2,600	-2,168	-1,800	-1,800	
	less: membership drive expense		-300		-300		
	Membership , net		9,100	8,387	5,900	6,838	
	Donations		10,000	15,500	7,500	10,725	
	Academic Booster Donations		3,000	3,047	2,000	2,472	
	Practice Exams		8,500	12,464	5,000	924	
	Miscellaneous - Amazon Smiles and Other		100		100		
	Total Revenues, net of direct expenses		30,700	39,398	20,500	20,960	
PTSA Support and Advancement Program Expenses							
	Academic Awards and Staff Development	\$	14,000	7,512	8,000	0	
	Triple I Awards and Ceremony		2,300	2,750	2,300	0	
	PTSA Senior Scholarships		4,000	4,000	4,000	0	
	Flight School Supplement		2,000		2,000		
	Parenting Programs		1,000	698	1,500	0	
	Teacher and Staff Appreciation		5,500	6,571	6,000	1,827	
	Faculty Recognition		2,000	560	1,000	0	
	Science Fair Dinner		500	366	500	0	
	Student Activity Grants/ Mentoring		2,000	2,000	2,000	0	
	Baccalaureate/Convocation		1,200	450	1,200	0	
	Directories		1,000	750	1,000	0	
	Special Projects		2,000	630	1,000	0	
	Special Education outreach		1,500	429	1,000	0	
	Minority Achievement		1,000	1,000	1,000	0	
	Ethics Day		500		500		
	Principal's Fund		2,500		2,000		
			43,000	27,717	35,000	1,827	
PTSA Administrative Expenses							
	Insurance	\$	350	343	350	343	
	Supplies & Postage		200	112	200	77	
	Website and On-line Accounting software		1,000	1,087	1,100	725	
	Tax preparation		750	750	750	750	
	e-commerce fees/bank fees		500		500		
			2,800	2,292	2,900	1,895	
	Total Expenses (not including Pantry)	\$	45,800	30,009	37,900	3,722	
Madison Pantry and Outreach Expenses							
			1,000	8,158	6,500	3,666	
	less: Madison Outreach Donations		-1,000	-22,860	-6,500	-5,476	
			0	-14,702	0	-1,810	
	Net Income		-15,100	24,092	-17,400	19,048	
	Beginning Cash Balance		37,110	37,110	61,202	61,202	
	Ending Cash Balance	\$	22,010	61,202	43,802	80,250	
All-Night Graduation - Summary - Cash Basis							
	Net Income (loss)						
	Beginning Cash Balance		15,701	15,701	10,671	10,671	
	ANG Income		25,000	11,515	25,000	652	
	ANG Expenses		27,000	16,545	27,000	0	
	Ending Cash Balance	\$	13,701	10,671	8,671	11,323	