

## James Madison High School PTSA April Meeting – 4/8/25

In attendance: Liz Calvert, Tim Buckley, Regan Morgan, Tana Keeffe, Kara Reynolds, Angela Sorrell, Gayle Schlueter

Call to Order: Regan Morgan 7:04 PM

Approval of minutes: Reagan made a motion. Angela Motion, Regan calls for motion to adopt. Motion to accept as written is passed and adopted

Principal's Report: Liz Calvert

In the home stretch. A lot of full weeks with five days of school in a row. Everyone is a little crispy now! Almost to Spring Break – when back it is a sprint!

Art show is this Thursday. We also have National School Board recognition.

Armed Services testing but has a very good career battery component to it. Hoping to use it as a career battery test for planning post high school options. An interest and aptitude test.

Mad Wings coming up right after Spring Break.

Mean Girls the Musical is right around the corner. Liz and Mrs. Roy worked through it to take the best language and least controversial content.

Sent correspondence for the parents for senior assassin. Thursday will be all the big Senior end of the year info. Including the lottery with how to get extra tickets. We want to keep it personal and charming at DAR.

New cell phone update came from legislature. Youngkin sent his recommendation, and we are waiting to see if they will accept it. Vetoed their version and sent back his. His version is saying that it will be against the law for students to have cell phones in school. Liz is in a pilot program and on a committee with other Principal's trying to figure out how to implement and track and manage this. We will see what happens and work together to figure it out. Do not want to create a culture conflict over phones in this school.

She is certain that we need to maintain our commitment to learning and a positive environment but need to understand the addiction piece of it.

July 1 is the date of the decision.

## Student Services Report: Tim Buckley

Staffing: working through it. It's going to be tight next year. We are trimming the electives to trim the budget. May have to go to a lottery for certain classes. Doing everything in our power to get the right people and maximize our classes. Trying to offer all sessions and classes. We will have far more classes start at capacity so will have less flexibility to change their options. AP and Honors may be full so if you bite off more than you can chew, you may only have the option to stay or go down to regular level of that class. There will be a methodology of submitting a change request.

AP Exams start May 5<sup>th</sup> and go for 2 full weeks. If have a student taking an 8 am exam, they need to be in the class and seat by 8 am to start!

We have put out volunteers but need to put on Facebook as well. Have 61 slots and only have 6 slots filled.

3<sup>rd</sup> week of May we are doing the SOL blitz. May 20<sup>th</sup> & 21.

Two days of (primarily 9<sup>th</sup> grade and 11<sup>th</sup> grade reading) could have some 10<sup>th</sup> graders in there.

Then Make up Sols and Aps.

There will be a follow up message after Spring Break with policies and timelines of schedule changes.

## Student Government Report: Beth

Prom May 10<sup>th</sup>, Juniors working on that and helping advertise for ANG

Spring pep rally April 25<sup>th</sup>

## Treasurer's Report: Kara Reynolds

The numbers are the same as the last meeting. We have a tight budget, and we were 3 k off revenue goals. There are plenty of areas where we won't spend all the cash so should be ok.

Motion to accept the treasure report. Gayle motion. Move to adopt, Regan. Motion to accept mar financial rev with date correction is passed and adopted.

President's Report: Regan Morgan

Doing the yard signs. The final push for this year is coming up and will have more for next year.

Posted on FB page doing a prom dress and suit donation for prom at front office. Also got message at men's warehouse will do whole package with shoes tux shirts etc. for \$99.

Teacher grants: Approved two so far – health and wellness for classroom journals and gave it to the class for a gerrymandering game.

2 more to discuss: initially we placed a cap for 200. Others were there. Today came in higher.

The first one is from librarians to host breakfast for an annual reading celebration. Asked for \$600.

Second one is from English Humanities teachers – have their students build rockets. \$789. We teach the 9 humanities cohort classes, and we read Rocket Boys this year for the English content. Have a rocket day where students build and launch rockets.

Because multiple teachers are considered for up to \$200 each,

A motion by Kris for approval of both teacher grants ads written. Vote. Reagan called for a vote. Approved as written and adopted.

## Committee Reports

Nominating Committee: Beth Eachus, Angie Gutenson

A slate has been put together of all willing participants.

Proposed slate

President: Gayle Schlueter

Vice Presidents: Tana Keffe and Regan Morgan

Treasurer: Hina Metha

Secretary: Kara Reynolds

Will post and vote next time, must be posted for 30 days.

Beth Eachus:

Parent Program - On Wednesday, April 23rd at 7pm, we will be hosting a parent program with Blackbird Health on Parenting Anxious Teens: Shifting Parenting Patterns to Reduce Anxiety and Increase Resilience. Parents will learn practical strategies to support anxious teens navigating the pressures of academic stress, social media and social events, all while building their confidence and independence. You must register here to access our virtual webinar at <https://share.hsforms.com/1E55dxL5tT5uUa60qi45qeAskxcm>

Special Olympics Feet Meet - Madison is hosting our 3rd annual SPECIAL OLYMPICS FEET MEET for students across FCPS from preschool through high school on Friday, May 2nd from 9:30am-12noon. We currently expect almost 400 athletes and partners - and will need volunteers to lead the stations and events as well as serve as "ambassadors" for visiting schools and our own team. Students will miss class so need to check with both your teachers and your parents to get their approval. If you would like to volunteer, please complete the interest form.

Baccalaureate - The Madison 2025 Baccalaureate Service will be held on Monday, June 2nd at 6:00pm at Vienna Presbyterian Church.

Musical selections, both voice and orchestral, are traditionally part of the Baccalaureate Service, as well as student speakers and faith leaders. It is time of reflection for our seniors and their families on the eve of graduation. We have chosen the following theme for this year's Baccalaureate:

"In this truth, in this faith, we trust. For while we have our eyes on the future, History has its eyes on us."

If you are interested in participating or would like to provide a recommendation for a speaker, please email Chair Beth Eachus at [1stvicepresident@jmhspts.org](mailto:1stvicepresident@jmhspts.org)

Pantry Update- the pantry continues to support our students and families through the generous support of the community. In addition to food and hygiene items, we have been asked for gift cards for Walmart for some of our families as well as spiral notebooks.

Making a Difference Scholarships - The PTSA will award scholarships to four seniors who exemplify the qualities of service within the school and community. At the convocation ceremony, four applicants will receive a \$500 scholarship for "Making a Difference" Applications and letters of recommendation are due on Monday, May 5th for consideration.

Triple I Awards - Nominate a Teacher for the Triple I Award. Triple I stands for Innovate-Instruct-Impact and the awards are intended to acknowledge the teachers that have been exceptional educators. Nominations from parents, students, teachers, and administrators are being accepted now through Monday, May 5th for this year's awards. The PTSA will award ten (10) JMHS teachers \$250 each. Award recipients will be announced at Convocation and shared in our PTSA communications. Teachers who have won the Triple I Award in the previous school year are not eligible to win this year.

Teacher/ Staff Appreciation: Angie Gutenson

Have an event tomorrow am - APRIL TREATS where parents will drop off morning treats for the staff.

In May we will have the Taco bar for teacher app week and finish up with bagels for the morning after graduation.

All Night Grad: Jennifer Hallworth

The SGA found a several ANG items while doing shed clean out. Some of the decorations are from when the party was at the pool and not relevant for current use. They will donate those items, but they found a ton of décor and supplies that can be used. The highlight is that it opened up storage space for the existing items that are sprinkled around town in garages!!

The Senior lawn signs are ready to go and pick up is this week.

Raffle prizes are under way and Mr. Buckley has been amazing with announcing the prizes. The word about ticket sales is still being put out. The SGA Instagram page is helping. So far, we have sold over 100 tickets. Ginger Piercy and Tim Buckley have been successful in securing 25 tickets for reduced and free lunch kids ahead of time - That is 50%!

There is a meeting and walk through at VCC tomorrow. Signups for volunteers will post right after Spring Break.

New Business:

The Robotics team had Districts, and they qualified for worlds. We qualified on our own merits this year and will be in Houston.

Band, Orchestra and Choir received a superior rating on their programs which gives them a Blue Ribbon Designation. Orchestra received a standing ovation from the judges!

Regan Morgan: Close of meeting - 8:01 PM adjourned