

ALHS PTA was called to order at 6:35 p.m. Christa Olijar, PTA President, welcomed all to the meeting.

### Mr. Mueller's Report

- Mr. Mueller could not attend the PTA meetings as he was at Senior Swim night. Mrs. Isaly-Johns provided the Principal's Report in his absence.
- Friday, January 11<sup>th</sup> was the end of the second quarter. Second semester begins Monday, January 14<sup>th</sup>.
- Spring Break is very late this year (April 19<sup>th</sup> through April 28<sup>th</sup>). State Testing will occur on April 11<sup>th</sup> and April 12<sup>th</sup> and the following week (week of April 15<sup>th</sup>). State Testing will finish up right after Spring Break. AP Exams will be conducted during the week of May 6<sup>th</sup>.
- The Administration is already working on scheduling for next year. Learwood started the scheduling process this week.
- Vaping has become a very serious issue at Avon Lake High School. The school Administration is spending a lot of time on the vaping issue. There will be 2 vaping information sessions for parents hosted by the Avon Lake Police Department and LCADA (Leadership, Compassion, Awareness, Dedication, and Advocacy) Way. The dates are Tuesday, January 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 at Learwood and Thursday, February 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 at ALHS. The same presentation will be given on both dates. Mrs. Isaly-Johns described the vaping situation as "very concerning and disturbing". Mrs. Isaly-Johns highly recommended that parents attend (she will also attend). Students will be suspended for 3 days for their first vaping offense, and will be suspended another 6 days for a second vaping offense. Parents need to understand that vaping is illegal unless you are 18 years or older. Other school systems, such as Westlake, are having Law Enforcement Officers issue vaping offenders tickets, which require a court date and fines.
- The Administration will be focusing on anxiety and stress issues, as this is unfortunately an issue for many students. Anxiety issues even occur in our Elementary Schools. Programs under consideration include workshops, stress management, test taking skills, yoga, and meditation. Yoga is not currently offered under ALHS PE program, however, the Administration is considering adding yoga to the PE curriculum. Teachers participated in a yoga/wellness session during the last In-Service Day for teachers. The Elementary Schools are also offering yoga during recess during the winter months. There are many triggers for anxiety including societal influences, self-inflicted stress from the student, parents, and the general competitiveness atmosphere of ALHS. Training and awareness initiatives have already begun.
- January 16<sup>th</sup> is a late start at the high school. School will begin at 8:45 a.m.
- One new course will be added to the curriculum for the next school year: Environmental Studies, which will be an on-line class, for juniors and seniors.
- Naviance was also discussed. Guidance Counselors will be discussing Naviance with all students. Naviance allows students to house all of their information in one place and facilitates the college application process. Parents will not get a login for Naviance – only students will be provided with a login ID. Avon Lake has been working with Naviance for three years now. A lot of training was required. Guidance will provide more information to parents soon.

### Guest Speakers

- Mr. Hodge and Mrs. Jannuzzi (liaisons to ALHS PTA) were unable to attend. Christa Olijar presented in their absence. A thank you from staff was extended to PTA for their support and generosity (staff appreciation, conference lunches, etc.).

### PTA President's Report – Christa Olijar

- Avon Lake will host the Ohio PTA Conference on February 20<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 to 8:00 in the LAKE. Two workshops will be done (topics TBD). ALHS PTA is hopeful there will be good participation across all PTAs in the school system.
- Christa Olijar suggested scheduling an ACT Tutoring Seminar. The focus would be on how to take the test, not test content.

### Treasurer's Report – Alison Hawkinson

- Alison Hawkinson presented the Treasurer's Report. The only activity related to Craft Fair.
- Ashley Whitehead and Joan Smith will conduct the Mid Year Audit Review.
- Alison Hawkinson will miss the next three PTA meetings due to tax season.
- The Treasurer's Report was approved (first by Ashley Whitehead and a second from Kristen Masa).

### **Secretary's Report**

- November minutes were accepted (no motions taken).

### **Membership**

- ALHS currently has a total of 151 members, 88 parents/students and 63 staff.
- PTA members were reminded that PTA scholarship recipients must be a member of the PTA.

### **Board of Education**

- Anxiety issues among the student body was discussed and further communication will be provided in the Spring.
- Board of Education is working on whether to change the mandate for midterms and final exams. This will be decided on a case-by-case basis. For example, the Math Department will likely continue to give midterms and final exams, but individual subjects (for example, Honors Biology) may opt to offer students the option to do a project in place of a final exam. Mr. Scott reported that many colleges now don't give final exams, but rather focus on projects.

### **Delegate's Report**

- There will be a spring book fair at the library.

### **Craft Fair**

- Craft Fair was highly successful this year (the only fundraiser the ALHS PTA does). Approximately \$10,800 was raised. Attendance was excellent, as were the volunteers.

### **Reflections**

- No Report

### **Publicity**

- No Report

### **PTA Scholarship**

- Members were reminded that scholarship recipients must be a member of PTA.
- Kristen Masa will review PTA scholarship applications.

### **Staff Appreciation**

- Kristen Gallo is planning Staff Appreciation and lunch for teachers during parent teacher conferences (March 7<sup>th</sup>).

### **Publicity Report**

- No report.

### **Volunteer Coordination**

- No report.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:07 p.m.