



Sanderson PTO Board meeting

9/2/2020

Location: Sarah Glover's back deck

Attendees: Deirdre Baker, Vince Conzola, Amy Darcy, Leisa Glantz, Sarah Glover, Jennifer Pittman, Mary Jane Swecker, Amanda Speer

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:15 pm by Sarah Glover.

2. Minutes

The minutes of the 8/3/2020 and 8/22/2020 meetings were accepted after a motion was made by Jennifer and seconded by Deirdre. All were in favor.

3. Principal's Report

Currently, there are 1,703 students, with a projection of 1,706.

Teacher assistants are needed so please ask around. A number of remote students need one-on-one help so more teacher assistants need to be hired.

Dr. Dula asked that everyone make sure they are signed up to receive her newsletter through School Messenger at wcpss.net/schoolmessenger.

A current disciplinary issue is students sharing zoom codes and then entering zoom classes in the district to which they do not belong and saying inappropriate things.

Forty of 180 staff members are currently on campus. We may have more on campus at the end of the first 9 weeks. Teachers are currently stressed but staying positive. They are having to reinvent the wheel but they are committed.

Drivers' education is being investigated.

Dr. Dula is particularly worried about the Freshmen and Seniors.

She thanked the PTO for the money that we approved for her at the last PTO meeting, and Vince said that the resources will be ordered in the next day or two.

Vince asked Dr. Dula if she would be interested in the PTO purchasing second monitors for teachers who need them. When teachers share their screens in online classes, they then cannot see the students. A second monitor would allow them to do both. Dr. Dula said that would be wonderful and said that Allison will email the staff tonight or tomorrow and ask about second monitor needs. She will then get back in touch with the PTO. If needed, the need for monitors could be leveraged for PTO fundraising efforts.

Sarah told Dr. Dula that the PTO theme this year will be Spartan Strong. She then told Dr. Dula that September 17 will be the kick-off date for the No-Fuss Fundraiser. In addition, the PTO would like to sell merchandise and have a drive-through pick up. She said that she would talk more specifically about 9/17 with Dr. Dula, especially about any events that may involve staff.

Sarah informed Dr. Dula about the new officer positions and then asked Dr. Dula if she is interested in continuing the Save Our Students program, which has a budget of \$1000. It was originally Dr. Decker's program that was used to tutor students who are in danger of not graduating. Nothing has been done with this program for the last few years. Dr. Dula stated that

she would like to continue the program and will work with Mr. Shaffer, the intervention coordinator, to get it going. Mr. Shaffer recently went door to door looking for students who had checked into remote learning in the first few days but haven't been attending recently. Last year, the graduation rate was 87%, which is an improvement, and she would like the rate to improve more.

Vince asked Dr. Dula if the Meet-the-Teacher event that is done each semester will be done this year virtually. Dr. Dula said that the Virtual Open House is the only program being done. Vince said that the Open House isn't enough and he suggested that the school try to do something similar as has been done in person: parents can "walk the schedule" virtually and meet each of their children's teachers virtually. He suggested that such an event could be combined with a virtual general membership PTO meeting.

Dr. Dula asked the PTO to contact her with any questions.

4. Officers' Reports

a. President's Report

Christie Burnette, the current PTO President, was not in attendance at this meeting. Because she has also missed the previous two board meetings, the board discussed that she is no longer in good standing in the PTO.

The by-laws state the following:

"Executive Board Members maintain good standing by regular attendance at Board meetings. Such attendance is considered essential and the Board may act, at its option to replace members in case of repeated non-attendance. Any PTO position in the Governing Body may be declared vacant if the occupant is absent from three successive regular meetings without cause. Vacancies created in any manner shall be filled by the Executive Board. Persons so appointed shall serve until the expiration of the original term of office. If the vacancy occurs in the office of the President, it shall be filled for the unexpired term by a current executive board member elected by a majority vote by the executive board."

The board discussed the need to fill the office of President and other empty positions. Sarah Glover was nominated by the board to serve as PTO President, and she stated that she was willing to serve as President. A motion was made by Leisa to accept the new slate of officers (see below), with Sarah Glover serving as President, and seconded by Amy Darcy. All were in favor.

b. Treasurer's Report (Deirdre)

Deirdre requested that a line item be added to the budget to pay the Zoom subscription fee of \$15/month. Because there is a line item for the monthly fee for the website, it was suggested that these two items be combined into one.

She has been going through last year's budget to identify any outstanding checks. One outstanding check is a \$75 check that was made out to Choral Boosters. Vince explained the reason for the check and suggested that it probably will not be cashed if it hasn't yet been.

As of now:

Credits total ~\$3,000, including:

5 basic memberships (\$15/each)	\$75
7 family memberships (\$30/each)	\$210
11 Spartan memberships (\$50/each)	\$550

No-Fuss donations		\$775
Expenditures:	Insurance	\$255
	Square fees	\$51.50
Current Cash Balance:		\$34,000

The differences between Square and Memberhub were discussed. Many comments were made on how Memberhub is not user friendly.

Form 990 is due in November. Because the total budget is under \$50,000, filing the form will be very easy.

Deirdre suggested that, since there are expenditures needing to be paid prior to the start of the school year (and prior to budget approval at the fall general PTA meeting), summer budget expenditures should be voted on and approved at the final general PTA meeting in May.

c. Communications Report (Jennifer and Amy D)

The website has been updated. There is currently nothing on the calendar so events need to be scheduled. We need to schedule monthly board meetings, general membership meetings (usually done quarterly to coincide with Fall Meet the Teacher, any November events, Spring Meet the Teacher, and Late Spring for Officer Elections). It was suggested that this year's board meetings take place on the first Wednesday of the month.

A PTO newsletter is needed. The PTO website is on a Weebly site, which includes a newsletter. Emails can be sent to parents if they are given the option to opt out of future mailings. We can also send things through Dr. Dula. Currently, PTO announcements are typically made through Cindy Jones' email. Last year, messages about the No-Fuss Fundraiser were sent through Cindy Jones' email and texts were sent by Dr. Dula.

A newsletter and social media are the priorities. A monthly membership email has been sent in the past. Laura Hudson and Nicole Ajello have been working on these issues. They have created an overall Facebook page and one for each class. The first messages sent should be about membership, how to get involved, and list the open positions with blurbs on the requirements for each.

d. Fundraising Report (Vince)

Merchandise. We plan to sell signs (cost = \$8). Merchandise can be presold, and the items can be picked up. Potentially, pizza could be sold at the merchandise pickup event. Jennifer passed around ideas for t-shirts. Vince mentioned that she will need to check with Wake County to see if there is a trademark on Sanderson designs. Merchandise can be purchased from the Square Store. Last year's t-shirts should be put in the store, but Deirdre said that she needs to know the exact number of t-shirts in each size. There are also magnets to sell. A plan was made to purchase 200 signs to start. It was discussed whether Progressive Graphics should be used to sell merchandise. A plan was made to check into their fees.

Last year, Bethany Hicks gave each senior an ornament of a picture of Sanderson made by Lou Wilson. The link (louwilsonart.com) should be added to the website.

The relationship of the Sanderson High School Foundation and the PTO was discussed. The Foundation was supposed to stop fundraising in mid-August, but the donate button in their website is still active.

e. Programs Report (Elizabeth)

Shannon has not provided information on teachers' grants.

The Spartans on a Roll has a line item in the budget (\$2200) for the breakfast. The students will need to be recognized this year also. There has been no information about this from Jennifer Iglie.

Scholarships will be headed by Amy Darcy. Todd Barlow has offered to help. This program requires a large time commitment and a lot of coordinating for a very limited period of time in the Spring.

The Spartans of Excellence needs a volunteer. Jennifer did it in the past. Teachers use a Google form to nominate 60-100 students. There is an assembly with a photographer. A banner containing their names is placed in the lobby. The current budget for this is \$360 but it needs to be at least \$700. This volunteer position is good for volunteers who are new to the PTO.

School Improvement is a program that was used a few years ago to replace PCs. Last year, \$10,000 was budgeted for this but it wasn't clear what the money would be used for.

Grounds Committee: nothing has been done in this area for the last few years.

Elizabeth Sullivan asked that events occur this year during Black History Month. A few years ago, an event occurred that involved the Diversity team and musicians performed.

Nothing was done last year for National Honor Society. It needs to be determined if funding is needed for NHS this year.

Teacher of the Year tickets were paid for last year but the banquet did not take place. Therefore, we should either have a credit or we need to get a refund.

Life Saver program

A number of people have emailed the gmail account and asked how they can help. Volunteers should be sought from those emails.

f. College Essay Writing (Mary Jane)

Mary Jane Swecker described the college essay program. Sanderson is the only high school in Wake County who offers this program. Michelle Allen, a parent of 2 SHS grads, is a technical writer who presents to the Junior English classes about college essays in the spring. This year, her niece, who is a college graduate, will help her. The program will occur 9/21-10/19. The program plan is that the Juniors leave school at the end of their Junior year with all of the tools they will need to write their college essays over the summer. In the fall, seniors can meet with her to work on their essays. It is unclear how the program will work this year.

Mary Jane has been given permission to mail post cards to every Senior. She has to give the school the cards, postage, and labels for them to print the labels. Michelle will create a sign-up genius. A page on the website that contains Michelle's Bio and the sign-up link is needed. Michelle will have to use Google Meet, and a parent has to be copied on each email because this is not a school program.

The budget is currently \$1200. Michelle charges by the student. The budget amount may need to be revisited in the spring. It was suggested that the budgeted amount be increased now to \$1500-\$2000 in order to ensure there is plenty of money as the budget has not yet been finalized. It is easier to increase the amount now rather than have to change the budget after it has been voted on by the membership.

g. No-Fuss Fundraiser (Amanda)

The Fundraiser will kick off on September 17.

Amanda talked to Henry Dehart on LinkedIn, and she and Corrine had a zoom meeting with him. They said that he was supportive of the PTO's fundraising and that the Foundation fundraised but now they planned to back off. However, the Foundation is reaching out to parents and alumnae.

It was suggested that Dr. Dula send a letter/official email to launch No Fuss and support it with texts and tweets. It was asked if a link for the No-Fuss Fundraiser could be added to the

banner on the school’s website. Amanda stated that she needs an avenue to communicate. It was suggested that donors who donate at least \$100 could get a sign but that the sign also be offered for purchase at \$10.

Last year, 35 people donated \$250 or more. 69 donated \$100 or more. A cocktail party had been planned for the “High Rollers” (donated at least \$250), but it didn’t happen because of COVID-19.

h. Membership

The chair is Pam Guthrie, who was not at the meeting.

Current Priorities

1. Website/social media update/start.
2. Help with set up with Meet the Teacher and General Membership meeting.
3. Launch Membership drive.
4. Launch No-Fuss fundraiser.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 pm.

Next meeting: Wednesday, October 7, 2020 at 7 pm on Sarah’s back deck or via zoom

**SHS Parent-Teacher Organization (PTO)
2020-2021 Officers
(Executive Board in Bold)**

President	Sarah Glover	sarahglover5@gmail.com (919) 786-4467
Audit Committee Chair	Sharon Pratto	sharonpratto@yahoo.com 919-302-4116
Advocacy Chair	Todd Barlow	trbarl@hotmail.com
Nominating Committee Chair	???	
Treasurer	Deirdre Baker	dbaker@askd.net 919-270-3127
Secretary	Leisa Glantz	leisaglantz@gmail.com 919-523-9895
VP Fundraising	Vince Conzola	vconzola@redhat.com 919-459-7865
Merchandise	Robyn Winneberger Robin Callen	RobynNC92370@aol.com (919) 601-2824 familycallen@gmail.com (503) 267-5028
No Fuss	Amanda Speer Corrine Krumenacker	aspeer@premierworlddiscovery.com 919-609-5325 corrinek@us.ibm.com

Passive (Harris Teeter, Lowes, Amazon)	Elizabeth Sullivan	emsullivan2002@mac.com 716-393-6791
Holly Days	???	
Senior Signs		
VP Communications	Jennifer Pittman Amy Darcy	jmpittman70@gmail.com 919-349-4346 amytdarcy@gmail.com 919-740-1549
Membership Chair	Pamela J Guthrie Dutchie Sexsmith	pamyoga40@gmail.com 919-264-0939 dutchiesexsmith@yahoo.com
Social Media Chair	Laura Hudson Nicole Ajello	lauravhudson@gmail.com nicole.ajello@gmail.com
Newsletter	???	
Volunteer Coordinator		
Content Producer		
PR		
VP Programs	Elizabeth Sullivan	emsullivan2002@mac.com 716-393-6791
<i>Teacher/Staff Programs</i>		
Hospitality	Lea Edmondson	leaecu@att.net 919-819-6485
Lifesaver Program (Teacher of the month)	Vince Conzola ??	vconzola@redhat.com
School Improvement Team	???	
Teacher Grants	Shannon Montague	shannonmontague@hotmail.com
Teacher Appreciation	Liz Lala Camille Conzola	Lizlala77@yahoo.com 919-389-0872 cconzola@gmail.com 919-744-0907
<i>Student Programs</i>		
College Essay	Mary Jane Swecker	swecker1996@gmail.com
NHS	Karmia Lewis	karmialewis@gmail.com 202-369-8610
Scholarships	Amy Darcy	sarahglover5@gmail.com

	Sarah Glover	amytdarcy@gmail.com
Spartans of Excellence	???	
PVSA (Pres. Vol. Svc Award)	Julie Shannon	seminolejulie@gmail.com
Honor Roll - Spartans on a Roll	Julie Grownney/Jennifer Iglio/Robin Kennedy/Anne Avera/Spencer Daniel/Shannon Montague	jgrowney@nc.rr.com jenniferiglio@gmail.com
4.2 Dinner	???	
Principal	Gretta Dula	gdula@wcpss.net