

# GHS PTSA Meeting

February 21, 2018

**Meeting opened by President Carrie Bohrer at 6:38 pm.**

**Approval of November 2017 Meeting Minutes** Accepted: moved by Patti Twemlow; seconded by Vicki Lightner. Approved by voice vote.

**Treasurer's Report** –Carrie Bohrer reported that the GHS PTSA has received \$697 in business donations from Amazon and Google's Benevity program. Mixed Bag fundraiser brought in \$1,000. Money will be coming in from After Prom raffle donations. More money will be raised at the Senior Night fundraiser as well.

## Committee Reports

**Staff Appreciation** – Liz McClure reported that the PTSA provided GHS staff with an ice cream sundae treat on Valentine's Day.

**Boosters** – Carrie Bohrer reported for Rob Allan that boosters will need volunteers to help with concessions for the first round of basketball playoffs.

**After Prom** – Melissa Benowitz reported that there are less than 25 raffle tickets left for the controlled raffle fundraiser. There will be restaurant night fundraisers to support After Prom. Still looking for prize donations for AfterProm.

## Old Business

Carrie Bohrer reported that the GHS PTSA helped fund guest speakers for Health classes this month and the club, ALAS for Spanish Heritage last month. GHS PTSA support is available to help clubs, classes with guest speakers or other expenses within reason.

## New Business

Carrie Bohrer reported that a GHS PTSA nominating committee needs to be installed to nominate next year's officers. The office of Treasurer needs to be filled for next year. Let Carrie know if you're interested in being on the nominating committee or running for Treasurer.

Carrie Bohrer reminder parents that they can contact her or Dr. Handy if they have questions about GHS or safety at GHS. Also, it's best that if you see/hear something, say something. The GHS PTSA website has a lot of information for parents. Parents are welcome to come to GHS during the school day to observe school safety in progress.

## Principal's Report

Dr. Handy reported that on April 10, 2018 – 11<sup>th</sup> graders take the SAT at GHS. MCPS is funding the test for all 11<sup>th</sup> graders. Anyone who would like to opt out of taking the SAT, can take the ACT (funding by MCPS) off campus on another date. Students taking cosmetology or automotive classes can take those exams instead of the SAT as well. April 10<sup>th</sup> will be a half day for 9,10 and 12 graders. They will need to report to school during the second half of the day. Seniors will have the opportunity to take the accuplacer on April 10 as well.

March 14 is National School Walkout Day. The organization is suggesting that teachers, students and staff walk out of school at 10am for 17 minutes to honor the students who were killed in the Florida school shooting last week. The SGA is planning for this event. Dr. Handy and GHS security are hoping to keep students contained in the stadium for this event.

Dr. Handy and Mr. Carter addressed safety at GHS. Starting immediately, every adult entering GHS must sign in with their driver's license, even if they are waiting for a student. There is a need to be consistent with all parents so even if they staff recognizes parents, they will be asked to show ID.

Dr. Handy discourages parents from dropping off lunch for their children at school during lunch time. Any given day 50+ parents are coming to GHS to give their children lunches. This is causing too much traffic in and around the school during the beginning of lunch. Also, parents are asked not to have food delivered to GHS during lunch as well. This also adds to the traffic. Students will not go hungry – they can purchase food in the cafeteria and are allowed to charge up to \$10 if they do not have funds in their account.

School and student safety is of utmost importance. One concern is that students are opening doors not in the main entrance and letting other students in the building during the school day. GHS has ordered signs for every door to warn students not to open doors for anyone. Visitors and students must enter through the main entrance. Mr. Nutter is making a safety video to show to all students in the next month. This will address safety policies, lockdowns and shelters in place.

Communication between parents and administration is important. The administration needs to gather all facts and get a letter to parents vetted by MCPS before sending out to parents, which is why sometimes comms take a while to reach parents. Dr. Handy encouraged parents to reach out to her or GHS PTSA President if they have any concerns.

**Adjourned** by Carrie Bohrer at 8:07 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kim Braun

Recording Secretary