



## Meeting Minutes

NAHS Virtual Meeting  
October 7, 2020 ~ 7 pm

### Attendees:

- Co-Presidents: Sharon Ruddy & Mary Blake
- Vice President: Jean Bullock
- Secretary: Stacey Nassaney
- Parents: Stacy Allen, Lisa Conroy, Kerrie Gallagher, Lynn Goodspeed, Kimberly Morin
- Administration: Principal Haviland

### Principal's Update:

- **Thank you** to the NAHS PTO and other PTOs for their support and funding that helped make it possible to celebrate NAHS's Class of 2020 with personalized signs and home visits with goodies for the graduates. The NAHS community helped make the end of the school year special for last year's graduates.
- **Thank you** to our students and teachers for a successful start to the school year. It's a unique start to the year as we navigate challenges posed during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- **Open House** will be Thursday, October 22, and it will be held virtually with links provided to parents to connect with teachers.
- **Communication** is important and the office is trying not to inundate the NAHS community with emails. He is trying to minimize the quantity of emails sent out by the office by establishing a weekly email/newsletter.
- **X-Block** times may also be used for programs put forth by the school throughout the year. With stressful times upon us during COVID-19, the initial thought is to provide programs to support mental health and wellness.
  - ✓ **KyleCares** is a non-profit organization focused on mental health awareness and suicide prevention programs to support teens and young adults. It mentioned Active Minds to NAHS to pursue as a student organization.
  - ✓ **Active Minds**: NAHS established a chapter last spring. It is a student-run organization that works together to destigmatize mental health.
  - ✓ **The Green Bandana Project** was discussed last spring. It is designed to help people who are experiencing mental illness to become more aware of resources available to assist them. Students attach green bandanas to their backpacks to signal they are safe and willing to help someone struggling with a mental illness.
    - Last spring the project was delayed due to the pandemic, so the plan is to kick things off internally between now and November. Between mid-November and January, the plan is to distribute



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green bandanas and printed cards with lists of resources. By early December it will be ideal to have all pieces in place with 1300 green bandanas. Note: Jean shared had contacted vendors last spring prior to things being placed on hold due to the pandemic, and she is going to reach out to vendor(s) again to get updated pricing and availability for the timeline.

- ✓ **Director of Student Services** is Meg Camire and she is working on bringing SAEBRS (Social, Academic, and Emotional Behavior Risk Screener) to NAPS. It will help NAPS to identify any gaps/needs through students' voluntary self reflections and data collection. Permission slips and notices will be sent home to parents.

## PTO's Update:

- **Kindness Closet** ~ We want to identify any needs for us to seek donations from parents. Principal Haviland shared that it has been recently run by Julie Johnson and her students. Julie's students help to sort boxes of items for the food pantry. He is unsure which food pantry receives the items from the closet and how it is best for us to support it at this time.
- **Teacher & Staff Appreciation** ~ We want to show our appreciation to the teachers and staff. A food truck was discussed. Principal Haviland is going to reach out to student leaders (e.g. National Honors Society, class officers, etc.) to assist with this effort. We want to organize something soon so Principal Haviland is determining which student leaders may be available to get this going.
- **Stop & Shop A+ Rewards Program** ~ Sharon is waiting to hear back from them on our current numbers for the 2020-2021 school year because they changed their reporting mechanism.
- **New Email Address** ~ Mary set up [ptobigred@gmail.com](mailto:ptobigred@gmail.com) because the aol account is older and no one really uses aol anymore. We are going to post data on this drive for the PTO, but Principal Haviland also mentioned creating a Google classroom for all NAHS PTO business. We are going to try the Google classroom approach and see how it goes for a central way to capture all PTO-related information.
- **Next PTO Meeting** ~ All NAHS PTO meetings are slated to be virtual meetings this year due to the COVID pandemic. The meetings are scheduled on the 1st Wednesday of each month. The next meeting is November 4th at 7pm.