



Meeting Minutes

NAHS Virtual Meeting
March 10, 2021 ~ 7 pm

Attendees:

- Co-Presidents: Mary Blake, Sharon Ruddy
- Vice President: Jean Bullock
- Secretary: Stacey Nassaney
- Parents: Kristy Bonneau, Nate Bonneau
- Administration: Principal Haviland

Updates:

- **All Night Grad Party (“ANGP”)**

We voted unanimously to donate \$600 to the ANGP for the Class of 2021. We have donated this amount in prior years and want to be consistent in our support. Although the pandemic has created obstacles for the ANGP to plan its event per prior years, we are confident that the ANGP will use the funds it has raised to benefit this year’s graduating class.

A joint meeting on March 18 with the senior class officers, administration, ANGP and NAHS PTO officers covered what the seniors are hoping to do for celebrations prior to their upcoming graduation. Although another joint meeting is seen as helpful for the ANGP and PTO to continue its ongoing communication, we realize that it’s a busy time for all. Sharon and Jean have seniors this year, and they are planning to attend the next ANGP meeting on April 21. We want to make sure the ANGP knows to reach out to the NAHS PTO anytime for us to assist in its efforts with the end of the school year almost here.

- **Stop and Shop’s A+ School Rewards Program**

On March 19, Stop and Shop notified A+ School Rewards coordinators that it is discontinuing this program after the completion of the 2020-2021 school year.

The NAHS PTO receives approximately \$2,500 annually through this program. Funds are used to support the NAHS community and have been used to bring in speakers for enrichment opportunities, purchase green bandanas to support mental health awareness and make an annual donation to the ANGP for each graduating class. The NAHS PTO relies heavily on this program to support its efforts throughout each school year as it brings in the most funds for the PTO.

continued



Updates continued

- **Future of NAHS PTO**

Concerns were raised about the lack of incoming funds moving forward after the discontinuation of the Stop and Shop A+ School Rewards Program.

NAHS has many student activities offered through clubs and organizations and each club/organization relies on its own fundraising activities to support itself. Students lead many of these clubs/organizations and rely on parents and the community to support them via their own fundraisers. The dynamic/dependency at the high school level for parents is a lot different from the younger grade levels in that high school students are very hands-on in actively leading their efforts in their clubs/organizations. The NAHS PTO hasn't pushed fundraising other than the Stop and Shop A+ School Rewards Program as many of NAHS's clubs and organizations have fundraisers throughout the school year for their purposes.

Without status as a 501(c)(3) organization, the NAHS PTO has relied on the School Department to oversee and manage its funds. The PTO hasn't sought its designation to become a 501(c)(3) organization due to the expense it would take to apply for it. We cannot use existing funds of the NAHS PTO for this purpose. Also, the NAHS PTO would need adequate funds to file taxes every year by hiring an accountant.

The NAHS PTO has been helpful in lining up speakers for the NAHS community, providing funds needed to assist with other efforts like the Green Bandana Project and coordinating staff appreciation events. Parents want to continue supporting the NAHS community but it is unclear how to best move forward as an organization. Many of its members feel that an umbrella organization is needed to encompass a larger group of parents to accurately represent all aspects of the NAHS community. Principal Haviland has a leadership summit to meet with all of the students leaders in all grade levels of the high school and it seems like something comparable would be helpful for insight and support from parents.

Principal Haviland sees the need for the NAHS PTO to continue its efforts. The NAHS community can always benefit from speakers to assist in its efforts to



Updates continued

- **Future of NAHS PTO (continued)**

reach out to students and provide enrichment opportunities to them. Nate is going to follow-up with Principal Haviland to see if the MIAA can assist with coordinating any speakers for students.

The discussion will continue next month. Principal Haviland also mentioned potentially needing funds for green bandanas for the incoming freshman class. We will have a better feel of our remaining funds once we receive our final check from the Stop and Shop A+ School Rewards Program.

- **Next PTO Meeting** ~ All NAHS PTO meetings are slated to be virtual meetings this year due to the COVID pandemic. The next meeting is May 12th at 7pm.