

Burke PTO Meeting Minutes
August 24, 2020
Meeting Called to Order: 7:02 pm

Welcome: PTO President Susie Gundersen

- First of our on-line meetings. 29 people signed in
- Meetings will be online, every other month this year
- Each meeting will feature a message from Mr. Rasmussen, a “counselor’s corner” to spotlight keeping students engaged and on track, and a teacher or program spotlight
- Notification that the PTO made a \$500 food bank donation and purchased yard signs for 2020 graduates. This was done without a member vote due to pandemic restrictions.

Principal’s Update: Darren Rasmussen

- Brief bio: Mr. Rasmussen is a long-time (27 years!) OPS faculty member. He taught high school social studies, was dean of students at Burke, an assistant principal at Bryan High, and principal at Bryan Middle. Mr. Rasmussen has very strong ties to Burke. His own children recently graduated from Burke and he lives in the Burke attendance area.
- Remote Learning: Watch for a weekly email with ongoing updates about remote learning and technology deployment. Freshmen already have their district iPads. The expectation is that students in grades 10-12 will receive their iPads in late September.
- School supplies: 1600 students picked up their text books and school supplies. There are still quite a few who need to stop in to collect their learning materials.
- Student engagement: Teachers are working hard to make sure students are present and engaged during remote learning. The goal is to have 100% of students logged in and learning each day. Teachers also have daily office hours where they are available to connect via email with students and parents.

Counselor’s Corner: Hope Smejkal

- Counselors are sending their students weekly emails to check in. They are also sending seniors weekly emails with suggested tasks to ensure they are ready for graduation and college applications. Students are able to request 1:1 online meetings with counselors.
- Counselors will provide online lessons which will be assigned through Naviance.
- Students will continue to have ongoing individual contact with counselors to determine course planning and offer social/emotional support.

Teacher Spotlight: Jane Luethge, AP/Dual Enrollment Coordinator

- Burke High School has the largest AP course offering in the state
- Currently offering 33 of 38 possible AP courses
- Spring 2020 AP students managed to survive the pandemic testing experience. Of the 793 exams that were taken remotely last spring, 45% of testers received a passing score of 3 or higher. This is the highest pass percentage in 5 years.
- This year students will need to sign up the College Board’s AP teacher dashboard. This will offer students online practice and experience with AP materials to better prepare them for exams. Students must have an AP classroom account and they must indicate on this account by September if they plan to take the AP exam in May. AP teachers will give instructions on how to do these things during class time.

- Dual Enrollment: Students wishing to enroll in dual enrollment courses will pay a reduced tuition fee (\$250 for UNO and Midland courses, \$50 for Metro courses). These classes do not have an outside exam at the end of the year, but the grade students earn in the class is reflected on their college transcript.
- To see if your planned college accepts dual enrollment credit, contact the university admissions office.
- ACT: As of now this is still planned to be in-person, at Burke on Sept. 22, for seniors only. Students in grades 9, 10, and 11 will not have online learning this day as all staff will be on hand to proctor small groups of students and ensure social distancing.
- PSAT: This test is also still planned to be delivered in person on Wednesday, Oct. 14. This test is for juniors and some sophomores. More information to come.

2020-21 PTO Officers:

- An exception was made to the bylaws stating the PTO president cannot serve more than 3 consecutive terms.
- Executive Officer Slate was nominated and elected:
 President: Susie Gundersen
 Vice President: Molly Ottens
 Co-Treasurer: Alan Hauschild
 Co-Treasurer: Michelle Krapfl
 Secretary: Wendy Kendeigh

Treasurer's Report: Alan Hauschild

- [Link to 2020-21 Budget](#)

Upcoming Events: Nov. 1 – Dec. 1 Virtual Fundraiser – “Cash Instead of Bash”

- More information to come

Meeting Adjourned: 8:05 pm

Next Meeting: Monday, October 19, 7:00 pm, Zoom