



## **Princeton High PTO**

[Princetonhspto@gmail.com](mailto:Princetonhspto@gmail.com)

<http://princetonhspto.weebly.com>

**Meeting Agenda: Wed., February 5, 2020**

## **Welcome**

**PTO Meetings:** Please check our website under the tab “PHS Meetings” for updates on dates and speakers

**For more information or to donate to the PHS PTO, please visit <http://princetonhspto.weebly.com/> or click the PTO link under the Parents tab on the PHS homepage.**

**Special Ed. PTO Report-** Barbara Conforti

**Wellness & Sustainability Committee-** Sandy Moskovitz and Stephanie Chorney

- Princeton Township no longer composting but PPS has been able to continue composting to some degree. PHS, led by Science teacher Paula Jakowlew, has successfully continued composting through a privately sourced company, Organic Diversion. Families interested in composting food waste are urged to contact Paula for further information.
- Parents are asked once again to not idle their engines while waiting for their child outside of school. State law limits idling to 3 minutes. It creates polluted air around our campus.

**Board of Ed. Report-Betsy Baglio, Beth Behrend**

- The BOE is comprised of volunteers who are focused on the well-being of our students. It's about doing what is best for the children
- Creating the budget for next year has begun. BOE working on priority-based budgeting. Feb 11<sup>th</sup>-Budget workshop open to public.
  - Budget to be approved in April.
- Referendum implementation/construction will continue this summer with work beginning at JW and PHS and A/C work at CP and Riverside. JP A/C work pushed back to next summer (2021).
- Academic Calendar has been approved for the 2020-2021 school year. First day of school pushed back to 9/9/20 due to construction schedule.
- Student Achievement Committee meetings are open to the public. Recent issues brought to the Committee in open session are the PHS Fencing program and Math Advancement rules.

**PHS PTO Board: Co- Presidents:** Shazia Manekia, Sasha Weinstein **Vice President:** Jill Frost

**Treasurer:** Adviti Muni **Secretary:** Tulikka Bhatia **Website Management:** Lakshmi Bhamidipati

**Transfer/New Families Committee Chairs:** Carol L. Martin, Mette Otte



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- New food service coordinator K. Lee Dixon has been speaking at schools and working on breakfast changes at JW and PHS with positive feedback on these changes so far.
- Special Education Program (k-12) will be reviewed by outside firm.

### **Topic: Scheduling and Course Selection for Next Year**

#### **Guest Speakers: Guidance Supervisor, Kristina Donovan**

- **Please check guidance page on PHS site for any updates and postings**
- Email to go out soon for course pre-selection with homework estimates and time management worksheet. Students will meet with their counselors for course selection discussion the week after their graduating class portal time has ended.
  - Course Selection Portal to open for these students on these dates.
    - Rising 12 th grader (class of 2021): Week of Feb 24<sup>th</sup>
    - Rising 11 th grader (class of 2022): Week of March 2<sup>nd</sup>
    - Rising 10 th grader (class of 2023): Week of March 9<sup>th</sup>
  - Does not matter if you enter your choices the first day or last day. This is only to choose which classes you would like to take.
  - If you miss your specific portal week, please email Kristina Donovan
  - Please base any course advancement decisions on mid-year grades of prerequisite courses.
  - Schedules are not set until August.
- Course verification will be sent out in April. Please go over with your student
- Any final changes can be made up until June
- Summer School schedule to be released in late Feb;

#### **Supervisor of Humanities, Stephanie Greenberg**

- English Language Arts internal review coming up. Parent forum and student surveys will be going out for feedback.
- 15 new board approved books added to curriculum this year. Teachers have been given options to use in class vs. every class reading the same book
- In fall, piloting a new class on Game Design. Open to 10-12th grade. Course is more about creating the narrative and characters in the game
- Questions about creative writing and more structured research writing were asked. Issues are a part of the upcoming review

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### **Supervisor of Mathematics and Business. Stephenie Tidwell.**

- No changes to math program for next year. Still evaluating
- No changes in Math advancement policy for now. Summer courses for Math advancement will be announced soon. Check Guidance site and Math department site for updates and information.
- Business Courses: new courses being offered in Financial Planning (investment and portfolio management) and Cyber Security.
- JAVA/PYTHON – more classes have been added
  - Student can present coding portfolio for class advancement esp. Intro coding courses. Portfolio guidelines and dates will be available by 2/14.

### **Principal Jessica Baxter**

- Email sent on 1/29 with Class Homework estimates and Time management worksheet Please review time management activity with your student for this year and when working on schedule for next year. It is important to find life balance.
- Challenge Success Survey, given by Stanford University, results are in and will be presented at a parent information session on 3/23, 6-8pm in the PAC. Along with discussions on the results for PHS, nation-wide trends and results will also be discussed.
- Grading Quarter 3 has started
- 2nd club fair for students at the end of February
- Black History Month events and celebrations can be found on the PHS calendar. Special exhibit in Numina gallery during the week of 2/10
- De-stress event (1/24 after school), led by Dean of Students, Diane Lygas, was successful. More than expected number of students came out to pet puppies and participate in other stress relieving activities. Another bigger event is being planned before AP/ Standardized test weeks in April.
- Initiative to replace old desks with flexible seating has begun. Working on making classroom less restrictive in terms of work space and configurations
- Please encourage your students to take the bus to help alleviate traffic around PHS

**Next PTO Discussion: Wednesday, April 1<sup>st</sup> @ 8:35 am PAC**

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### **Upcoming February Events:**

- **Friday, Feb 7<sup>th</sup>: 6:00-8:00pm D&R Greenway: Princeton Children's Fund "Share Your Love" Fundraiser [www.princetonchildrensfund.org](http://www.princetonchildrensfund.org)**
- **Friday, Feb 7<sup>th</sup>: 6:00-8:00PM PHS PAC: Movie screening "True Justice"**
- **Wednesday, Feb 12<sup>th</sup>: 7:00-9:00PM JWMS: National Jazz Show Preview**
- **Friday, Feb 14<sup>th</sup>: NO SCHOOL- Professional Development**
- **Monday, Feb 17<sup>th</sup>: NO SCHOOL-President's Day**
- **Friday, Feb 21<sup>st</sup>: 8:00-9:00AM- JWMS: Bagels with Board**
- **Friday, Feb 21<sup>st</sup>: 6:00-8:00PM- District Art Show- Numina Gallery**
- **Friday, Feb 21<sup>st</sup>: 7:30-10:00PM- Black History Month Celebration**

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