

George C. Marshall PTSA Meeting Minutes  
March 17, 2021

Present: Carolyn Keehan, Althea Benjamin, Marie Robles, Elizabeth Keegan, Auggie Frattali (acting principal)

1. Nominating Committee: The Nominating Committee, who will fill open positions on the PTSA, was announced and approved. Kelly Sund, Jennifer Manise, and Susan Skaggs will advertise positions and run the May elections. Althea Benjamin will be president next year, and Elizabeth Keegan will return as secretary. The vice president and treasurer positions will need to be filled, along with various other committee chairs.
2. President's Report: Minutes from the February meeting were approved. Carolyn reported that 6 videos were received for International Night and will be compiled into a video presentation for the school. The PTSA sponsored two sophomores who will attend the Hugh O'Brien leadership conference. Fairfax County is asking parents to vote on future school calendars, which includes the possible addition of religious holidays. Carolyn met with leaders from the Region 2 pyramid. News from that meeting was as follows: Approximately 50% of county students chose to return to in-person school – numbers were higher among elementary students than older kids. Seniors will be having in-person graduations, likely in stadiums or other outdoor venues. Traditional proms will not be held but they are exploring "promenades" where kids have stations to take photos. All celebrations must be consistent across schools. Superintendent Braband is pushing for a 3% pay increase for teachers. FCPS has a Covid dashboard but transmission has been low in the schools and kids are very compliant with masks. The PTSA continues to host SAT bootcamps and mock tests- there will be a prep class over spring break. At the April meeting, we will be voting on the PTSA awards – teacher of the year, staff member of the year, and the senior award. Details will be announced in the next blast.
3. Budget – We remain in good shape as expenditures have generally been low this year.
4. Principal's Report: Mr. Frattali reported that seniors will be having a drive-in movie in the parking lot. Return to school has gone exceptionally well – kids have been fully compliant. Lunch period, he said, is the hardest for them as they are unable to socialize with their friends. At the request of a student, they are projecting videos in the cafeteria, such as previous sporting events, theatre productions, etc. and the students seem to be enjoying that. Teachers are happy to have students back. Freshmen have acclimated incredibly well. Fall athletics have gone well; spring tryouts begin April 12. March 26 is the end of the third quarter and will be a catch-up day for students. An in-person graduation will take place with details TBD. Student Services is working to intervene with students who need it. Mr. Frattali said the silver lining in the pandemic is how much teachers have learned and adapted. A parent asked what seniors will do in May in the absence of IB exams – Mr. Frattali will follow up with the IB coordinator.

5. Committee Reports: Shirley Alexander, a 9<sup>th</sup> grade class parent, asked if there was an opportunity to sell the car magnets and decals in person. Carolyn suggested she contact Boosters to sell at sporting events. The PTSA will continue to run the ad in the blast. Jennifer Manise reported that there is a week and a half left in the plant sale and that sales have been good so far.

The next PTSA meeting is Wednesday, April 21 at which time we will be voting on awards.