Minutes by Niv Pidaparty, PA Secretary

Juliana McNeill, President of PA Executive Committee, called the meeting to order at 8:16 am.

Juliana McNeill

- Thank you parents for attending the first PA Gen Meeting
- Thank you for volunteering. We have more than 150 volunteers.
- If you would like to volunteer, please sign up either online. This is the only way for you to receive information about the various events happening at school.
- A lot of kickoff meetings for the various events are taking place in the next few weeks.
- Today’s Speakers: Patricia Merz, Head of School and Gordon McNeil, Matt Balossi and Dominic Campeau

Gordon McNeil, President and Patricia Merz, Head of School

- Gordon thanked Juliana McNeill for leading the charge this year.
- Patricia Merz gave an update regarding the accreditation process and report
- The process was started two years ago which is a self-study, a process requiring reviewing everything that the school does.
- Report was submitted to California Association of independent Schools (CAIS) in December 2018.
- CIAS evaluates the report and decided to extend/hold or freeze the accreditation.
- As part of evaluation by CIAS a team of independent educators led by Head of School for Marin Academy visited the school in January 2019 for four days
- They met students, Board of Trustees and faculty. They visited classes and faculty and submitted their report to CIAS.
- Part of the report in response Sage Hill School’s work, intuitional purpose and living by core values.” In 20 years since its founding Sage Hill school
has exercised intention and dedication to its mission. At each juncture of the founding of the school from its values to its comprehensive student experience to its current administrative structure Sage Hill School has built itself thoroughly, thoughtfully and collaboratively. The 6 C’s sets the standard for exceptional teaching at Sage, provide a clear path for student education and faculty professional expectations and growth. Sage Hill eagerly engages in research, reflection, assessment and goal setting living its desire to create growth mind set both for its institution and community. Through considerable efforts of all constituencies Sage Hill has managed to catch lightning in a bottle. “

• Sage Hill School was given a highly effective rating which is the highest rating an independent school can get. This accreditation is valid for 7 years.
• Sage Hill school is working on strategic planning for the next 3-5 years and the plan will be shared by the school to the parent community in January 2020.
• Stressed the need for participating in the Annual Fund.
• Tuition alone cannot sustain the school and its various programs. Need to raise $1.6 million to be able to provide all the programs that the school offers.
• Sage Hill set institutional priorities namely Annual Giving, Financial Aid, Faculty Support, Program support that need parent support.

Matt Balossi – Dean of Faculty and Curriculum

• School is partnering with “Challenge success” a nonprofit research-based organization to promote student well-being and engagement.
• Challenge Success partners with schools, families, and communities to embrace a broad definition of success and to implement research-based strategies that promote student well-being and engagement with learning.
• High school students need 9 hours of sleep and only get 6.5 hours.
• 87% of high school students admit to cheating
• 30% of high school students report symptoms of depression
• 33% of high school students are actively disengaged in school
• 73% of high school students report being often or always stressed about schoolwork.
• School has set up a committee comprising of faculty and parents.
• Parents and students have to take a survey in order to collect data. Parent survey will be sent in late September.
• Students will take the survey in late September during their English block.
• Data collected will form part of the report and Denis Pope from Challenge Success will be here in November to meet with the students and will also be the guest speaker at the Nov PA General meeting.

Dominic Campeau - Dean of Student Life

• Sage Hill Honor Code- Strict guidelines about Plagiarism and attendance as outlined in the student handbook. Students were made aware of these guidelines and required to sign stating that they read the guidelines and will abide by them.
• Give students the space and time to explore and try new things.
• Students need to face challenges with courage and dignity and learn from their failures.
• Students need to get permission to leave the campus during the day

Announcements

• Multicultural Fair- Kick off meeting on September 17, 2019, 8:00-9:30 am
• Career Series kick off meeting- September 17, 2019, 6:00-7:30 pm
• Multicultural Symposium- sign up to volunteer
• 11th grade coffee – 9/25/19, Studio Lobby
• 12th grade coffee- 9/18/19
• Garden crew- If you would like to help please reach out to Lauren Rednour.
• Book Club- “Doing School: How We Are Creating a Generation of Stressed-Out, Materialistic, and Miseducated Students by Denis Pope. Time and date TBD

Next PA General Meeting is Tuesday October 18, 2019 at 8:00 am.