

## Parent Teacher Student Organization (PTSO) Meeting – September 2, 2021

Attendees: Julie Faure, Brett Wilson, Louisa Laguette, Jenica Barber, Allie Jones, Nancy Frahm, Leah, Dave White, Jacque Fay, Matt Wong, Tonya Smith, Terrylene Warren, Rochelle (Rosie) Ludlow, Catherine, Stephanie Charles, Prasert Chirachanakul. Polash Hai, Mohamad Jama, Heather Haley

Our group organizes and funds AMES student dances, dinners for teachers and staff during Parent/Teacher Conferences, breakfasts for students before ACT and PSAT tests, teacher appreciation week, scholarships for seniors, graduation party, etc. These events are only possible with YOUR help. Being involved is a great way to support your student(s).

### Agenda/Events:

1. Dinner for faculty and staff for Parent-Teacher Conferences (Tues. & Wed., Sept. 28 & 29)
2. Welcome table with parent volunteers (Tues. & Wed., Sept. 28 & 29)
3. Student Breakfast for PSAT (Wed., Oct. 13)
4. Parent and Student Breakfast for College App Day (Sat., Oct. 16)
  1. Julie – overview of PTSO: We help to facilitate the events at school, dinners PTC, gifts at holidays and Teacher Appreciation week, breakfast/snacks for tests, dances, scholarships. We are here to help parents with questions/feedback/concerns. PTSO is the bridge to AMES administrators. We hope to get \$25 per family per kid that we can use to fund these items throughout the year.
  2. Brett – updates
    - a. We held freshman house in person over two days and broke into smaller groups. Day 3 we were all together in the gym.
    - b. 476 kids in building. Room for 2 more. 133, freshmen, 115 sophomores, 114 juniors, 114 seniors. Good start to the school year. Kids are happy to be back.
    - c. AMES has had some teacher turn over for two years in a row due to various circumstances. Mr. Wilson has been doing formal observations and in the classroom. Staff are asked to wear masks. We have masks and sanitizers, wipes in each classroom.
    - d. Upcoming events – Student Council will meet to schedule the fall dance.
    - e. Granite SD went to A/B schedule that has set days and then they alternate Friday. AMES has adjusted to match the change. Club day on Fridays. We are running study hall for those who don't want to do a club. Hosted by staff.
    - f. Credit recovery in the summer – went well for most classes, Math was slow. 313 quarter credits are still outstanding. Working on those still behind to make those up. Credit recovery will continue to be free this year.
    - g. Several seniors are still behind. Really working hard with them to catch up. They need to be more diligent than before. We have instituted a new rule to help students not leave as much to the final year, financial literacy and PE packets – 2/3 have to be done before senior year to take a UU classes.
    - h. June 3 is Granite graduation. We are graduating May 27. If your student takes Cottonwood classes they will go until the 3<sup>rd</sup>. We have 3 days during the school year that CW does not to make this work.
      - i. Sept 17 – AMES in session. Cottonwood is not. Need to bring lunch. Will be buses. Skunkworks, pods, etc. open for Cottonwood class times.
  3. Stephanie Southwick – finished with schedule changes. Used Zoom this summer and that helped reduce 1<sup>st</sup> week schedule changes. Start Senior CCRP next week. Culminate with application day. We like to meet with parents – highly encouraged to attend via person or zoom. Email going out tomorrow for signup. We will see 3 a day until everyone is met with.
    - a. Incoming 9<sup>th</sup> graders and parents will be meeting with them after seniors
    - b. Passing grade – pass/fail or Carnegie credit (D- or above)
    - c. During COVID – we passed 50% or above. Above 73% we gave them the letter grade.
    - d. Those still missing credit can also use BYU credit recovery process or they can recover via other state resources or packets.

4. Jenica financial update: Current balance is \$5,270. Of that, we are trying to plan out expenses and ensure that scholarships have more continuity. \$2,000 will be our balance if we hold aside \$3k for scholarships again.
  - a. Ways for PTSO to get funds
    - i. Paypal
    - ii. Smiths – how do we register for that? Jenica will find it.
    - iii. PTC nights – Past years (pre COVID) we have gotten \$400 per night (\$800)
  - b. Upcoming costs
    - i. Breakfasts for PSTA - \$50 – 70
  - c. Other: Parent asked about Amazon Smile – don't qualify. Ask the Foundation if they can and it will be a directed donation?
5. Allie Jones – environmental club for AMES and Cottonwood
  - a. Two teachers (Morgan and Harris) at Cottonwood. Will join with them to fill out application for Cottonwood and AMES joint club.
  - b. Will be at Cottonwood Club Rush next week over lunch to do sign-ups
6. Clubs are an opportunity for students to get involved and use skills they learn for future applications etc.
7. PTC are the last week of September from 4 – 7 pm – come with students and meet with teachers. Parents are encouraged to have a conversation about how the classes are going and meet the teachers. Opportunity to see the relationship with students, see how they are progressing, where they still need help. We will have a table there to fundraise and answer questions.
  - a. Traditional PTC has been held with tables throughout the school. This year we will have one day in person and one on Zoom.
  - b. Meal for both or one evening? Wait to hear what is needed from AMES
  - c. Sign-up genius to help out for tables, meal, etc.
8. Breakfast for PSAT for juniors October 13 – purchased breakfasts take to school in morning. Split between parents? Katoa will bring in and take out again for the break
9. College Application Day October 16 – breakfast for students/parents. Highly recommend attending. A tip from past years is to write essay in advance. The day is there for students to receive dedicated help with application, submission, etc. AMES pays for 1 college application if they come that day. If they use the Common App it goes to several colleges.
10. Looking at upcoming lottery and getting the word out about AMES: General enrollment is down over the state. What do we need to do recruit and who do we want focus on for recruitment? Further discussion to come.

Next meeting: October 7