

PTSO Meeting November 3rd, 2022 7:30 pm

Members Present: Brett Wilson, Jenica Barber, Jenean Goodsell, Julie Faure, Stephanie Southwick, Stacey Arens, Nancy Frahm, Allison Jones, Robin Abramowitz , Bill Ramsay

Meeting Called to Order: 7:35 pm

### **AMES UPDATES:**

- Principal - Brett Wilson - Spirit week is next week. Emphasis on spirit week to build culture. Assembly on Friday on a key - student council will present. Peer recognition of those who are exemplifying key. College forum tomorrow. Q1 is finished. Student reviewed grades. A low number of students failed classes. If you are concerned about your student's grades please contact the office. Dance on Friday 11th. Good opportunity to build culture. On our website you will find the Utah report card. State performance is down academically. However our scores are exemplary across the board making us one of the few schools in the state getting a grade of "A". Scores are based on tests, ACT, concurrent enrollment. We are above the state average in our scores. Cottonwood is doing a good job improving their culture in getting students to class on time and reducing issues in the halls. To do our part please make sure your student is getting to school on time and going to classes on time. We are approaching midterm grades now but if are taking UofU or cottonwood classes you may not have been notified. School tours are beginning.

- Counselors – Stephanie Southwick and Kari Gardner - Huge thank you to PTSO for college application days support and snacks. Counselors had good attendance! Will be following up with students who did not attend. AMES will pay for an application so they want to be sure everyone gets to take advantage of that. College & Career readiness planning meetings will start with the 9th graders.

In December there will be a wellness month - emphasis on coping skills and suicide awareness/prevention. This will piggyback on the school counseling data project. The teacher survey is complete and tomorrow the list of students who may need more connections will be given to the faculty. Ideas for December, collab with student council and will be getting student feedback. AMES sponsored gift swap, self care bingo card with opportunity drawing ticket, Download of SAFEUT app - get opportunity drawing ticket, Perhaps have SAFEUT send a representative for assembly, Have clubs make hallway awareness posters, ASK for PTSO: PTSO assembly care kits and donations for opportunity drawing prizes. Ask for a Phone tree to call new families in directory to give info about suicide prevention to help outreach. Counseling would provide script. Everyone thought these were great ideas, Stephanie will send document with ideas and proposal to Julie and make a plan for direction.

Robin asked if there was a way to get more people into the school (parents, seniors, UofU students?) to be available to talk with students and offer support and a listening ear. Worries that there are not enough people for students to talk to. Stephanie will look into our options and report back.

### **PTSO BUSINESS:**

Treasurer: Jenica Barber

\$30 of donations, \$250 donated through kroger/smith's (this is a good source of funding for us), \$4795 currently - about ½ what we need for the year. Will need to look at stepping up fundraising in January. Rosi on the sign up for fundraising and Jenica has reached out. If you would like to join the krogers/Smiths:

<https://www.smithsfoodanddrug.com/i/community/smiths-inspiring-donations> School code: Xu372

PTSO cannot currently due Amazon SMILES but we cannot because with are not the correct type of non-profit. Would cost \$1000 to change. Currently not enough benefits to make the change but the PTSO will continue to research to see if perhaps there are more benefits that we are not realizing. School Could do this but would limit what could be done with the funds.

Election of PTSO president-elect: Jenean Goodsell is the only parent who volunteered for the position Jenean is a long time supporter of AMES. Always willing to step up and help the school. Mr. Wilson spoke to her commitment to and investment in the school's success. She will be working with Julie this year to ensure she will hit the ground running next year. Julie motions that Jenean should be the next president, Bill seconds. All were in favor. None were opposed. Jenean will be the 2023-2024 president of the PTSO organization.

## Announcements and Updates

- Thank you to those who have signed up. Your help is invaluable.
- We are still looking for event coordinators and committee chairs for later school year events. Please be sure you SCROLL DOWN. There are opportunities on the bottom that are not being filled. Especially looking for a dance coordinator (next dance is the winter dance).
- Please scroll down to sign-up: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E48ABA82CAAFFC61-school>

## **AMES Upcoming Events & Volunteer Needs**

• Fri, Nov 11, 4pm-10pm: Fall Dance - <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E48ABA82CAAFFC61-fall> **We need TEN more volunteers for mains - need even more for desserts and salads. Food is drop off, there are people signing up to serve.**

- Assist Mr. Wilson and staff with outreach ahead of lottery - Mary Paul and Stacey Arens
- Encourage Parents and Students to reach out to teachers during holidays with letters and emails
- Start planning spring and graduation events

## Parent Questions, Discussion and Suggestions

- Outreach

Stacey Arens asked how the outreach committee could better support enrollment. Mr. Wilson asked if any opportunities come up to speak to groups in the community to please let him know. Counselors and Mr. Wilson are willing to attend. Budget for outreach? \$1000 - 3000 a year on advertising/recruitment. Julie mentioned considering lawn sign "Proud Parent of AMES student" with a QR code on them with the website. QR code would lead to an application page on the website. Mr. Wilson said this was very easy and quick to do. He will work on moving this forward. We also discussed having students or parents at open houses. Also discussed were the possibility of 30 second spots for the website and for instagram/facebook/tiktok posts/sharing.

- Other

These events are provided with the help of your donations to the PTSO. We hope to raise \$25 per student enrolled at AMES in order to fund the activities we organize. 100% of the funds we raise and the work we do go directly to support the AMES students and teachers!

To DONATE:

[https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted\\_button\\_id=2YCKSH2KLXJEQ](https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted_button_id=2YCKSH2KLXJEQ)

Meeting Adjourned: 8:49pm

Next meeting: Thursday, December 1, 2022