October 13, 2026 BHS PTSO meeting

In Attendance: Eve Blakemore, Kristy Catrett, Lisa Timmins, Farrell Davis, Megan Livingston, student representative Isla Mooallem

Meeting called to order at 6:30pm
Student Rep-Isla Mooallem

- Students were very appreciated of support from PTSO for HOCO festivities- amazon wish list, chaperones, desserts
- Student leadership was excited about great turnout for the events, especially the block party (informal dance). The block party right after the football game had great attendance, especially by underclassmen, and was successful in comparison to a stand alone Saturday event in years past. Many students stayed until the end. More positive energy around school spirit and community events this year.
- Next year:
    - Carnival was quieter because students went home after school to take a break or participate in after school activities. Combine carnival with block party to encourage greater participation and add more activities at the evening event.
    - Add more cornhole games and add another quiet area.
    - Desserts gone in 30-45 minutes b/c more in attendance than anticipated. Plan to have more next year. Using only napkins helped reduce waste and students were great about throwing away trash. Dessert table in a good location. Make sure to have water available.
    - Student leadership suggested announcing homecoming royalty at the block party to increase attendance by upperclassmen.
    - Slow to get into the dance. Make more clear directions for entering the dance- QR code, tickets vs. ASB card, etc. Check in early for the dance at the football game and get a wristband? Connect with Julie Larson-Hughes for more ideas next year.
    - Had about seven chaperones/staff members. Helpful to have Principal Novick there to roam/monitor. Do need to plan on 10 for next year.
- Leadership looking for support again during spirit week before winter break- door decorations and dessert platters for top winners. SUG will need to go out for amazon wish list and volunteers

President's report

- Open House- PTSO provided T and C platters for staff ahead of time; Handed out Spartan Spirit PTSO fundraiser flyers/QR code at entry point. Note, BSF also had flyers being handed out at the same time. Is there another time BSF can disseminate their solicitation since it is supposed to be a "quiet" October for them.
- PSAT monitoring update: No volunteers needed for the October 22 test.

- Discussed Thanksgiving luncheon proposal ($6 per person) and/or potential staff breakfast in November. Agreed to support Thanksgiving luncheon, Jill to message staff. If funds are available, can provide a light brunch before finals or a staff meeting.

VP's report

- Spartan Spirit fundraiser- Slow start with only 50 families donating in the first two weeks. Decided to extend the donation period another week. Had a big surge with 30 more families donating when there was a direct ask from Principal Novick. Next year more direct ask from Principal Novick early?
- Using social media to remind families what PTSO supports and encourage support.
- Over $10,000 now and hoping to raise at least another $5,000 to be able to have $8,000 in teacher grants.
- Announce class winners 10/16 and prize. Last year was stickers, Kristy planning on class buttons this year.

Secretary's report

- Recap of updates from the October 1 PTOCC meeting
  - Schools launching their annual fundraisers/jogathon
  - Coordinated an all district Rotary Grant along with BSF to prioritize what is needed and maximize ask. PTOCC has created a cheat sheet of all grants that can be applied for, timeline, what is typically funded, etc. All grant requests must first be submitted to PTOCC before applying to make sure requests fall within district guidelines and help coordinate needs among all schools since all PTOs are under one 5013c.
  - PTOCC leadership is looking into creating one amazon account, with each school having their own group within. The purpose is to receive non non-profit designation, improve transparency versus using a PTO board member's personal account, and have wishlists easily available for the following year when a new volunteer rolls into that job.

Treasurer's report

- Mechanics Bank account balance as of Oct. 11, 2026: $20,653.71
  - Pending Givebutter transfer for Spartan Spirit: $6,475.00
  - Pending Givebutter transfer for GNO: $6,865.00
- English Department grant from last year came in lower than expected: $1,550.94 (vs. $2,680.00 anticipated)
- GNO has strong early ticket purchasing this year. Deposit is due 11/15 and subsequently the deadline for the early bird special rate.

The next PTSO meeting is Tuesday, November 10.
Meeting adjourned at 7:00 pm