

Solon Academic Boosters Club

March 15, 2023 Meeting

Officers:

- PRESIDENT: Andrea Pitzel
- SECRETARY : Emily Johnson
- TREASURER: Erica Kanj

In attendance via Zoom: Andrea Pitzel, Emily Johnson, Jennifer Shusterman, Erica Kanj, and Madahvi Rubbo

Call to Order

Andrea Pitzel

Meeting was called to order at 7:02 PM.

Secretary's Report

Emily Johnson

February meeting minutes were approved and posted on the Solon Academic Boosters Club website.

President's Report

Andrea Pitzel

- Reminders/Dates
 - Fourth Quarter books on sale Wednesday, 03/15
 - Rising Stars Tuesday, 03/21
 - Early Morning Bake Sale Wednesday, 03/22
 - Next meeting Wednesday, 04/19
- Thank you to the following individuals:
 - Ava Farivar and Erica Kanj, for helping stock the Fourth Quarter books at the SHS Bookstore.
 - Shannon Wong, for working with the college essay advisor to coordinate junior English class visitations by students who participated in the college essay workshops.
 - Paula Telepak, for creating the Google Docs for the Shining Stars nominations by seniors.
 - Mike Buckholdt at the Print Shop and Jen Rooney in Guidance, for helping assemble the senior scholarship applications.
 - Emily Johnson, Erica Kanj and Madhavi Rubbo, for the behind-the-scenes operational support.

Treasurer's Report

Erica Kanj

- February was really a very slow month from a financial standpoint.
 - There were a few smaller deposits for the bookstore, all from Venmo sales (\$1600) as well as our last deposit from Amazon smiles.
 - Main expenditure was for Rising Stars (\$752).
 - Things will really be ramping up with college essay workshop registration opening soon, as well as sale of quarterly books.
- Could not change Venmo account to charity status
 - You cannot have a stand alone business account.
 - You must first create a personal account and then make a separate business account within your personal account.

- Venmo is currently working on making it possible to have a stand alone Venmo account such as we have for PayPal and we will be notified when this is possible and then the change will be made at that time.

Committee Reports

- **Academic Awards/Graduation Medals** Andrea Pitzel
 - Ordered honor roll awards and graduation medals.
 - Will ask for volunteers to assemble when they come in.
 - Will need committee chair for the National Merit Luncheon next year.
- **Academic Teams Support** Andrea Pitzel
 - Need a chair for next year
- **Agendas/Student Planners** Andrea Pitzel
 - Need a chair for next year
- **Book Sales** Andrea Pitzel
 - Fourth Quarter books have been stocked at the SHS Bookstore.
 - Fourth Quarter book lists will be communicated to teachers, students, and parents
 - Third Quarter unsold books will be returned in early Fourth Quarter. Will invoice SHS for titles sold, excluding those paid via Venmo.
- **Bylaws** Andrea Pitzel
 - No report
- **College Essay Workshop** Andrea Pitzel
 - Value: to help juniors get a jump start on the college application process via college essay writing AND to distinguish themselves beyond just test scores and GPA.
 - Program highlights:
 - Workshop dates run MAY-AUG
 - 4 days length/workshop: 3 days in person at SHS with the group, 1 day online review using Zoom, individual student with advisor
 - Early online registration for ABC members begins Thursday, 3/31.
 - Regular registration for all Juniors begins Monday, 4/4.
 - Revised promotional materials with college essay advisors.
 - Received signed contracts from advisors.
 - Promotion/Communications
 - Junior member email will be sent at the end of March with program promotional materials and reminder of early registration dates.
 - Junior student email will be sent via Naviance.
 - Junior English classes will have visitations by students who participated in the college essay workshops after spring break on April 4-5.
 - Junior parent student email will be sent from Tammy Strom.
 - Early registration for Solon Academic Boosters members begins Thursday, 04/06.
 - Open registration for all juniors begins Monday, 04/10.
 - Word of mouth also helps support program; pls share posts.
- **Corporate Membership** Andrea Pitzel
 - No report
- **Fundraising** Jen Schusterman
 - Restaurant fundraiser for spring
 - Will follow up with Candice Walker
 - Next Bake Sale Wednesday, 03/22
 - Amazon Smile program ended 02/2023
 - Should be receiving one small final check
- **Membership** Andrea Pitzel for Dawn Haynes

- 7 new memberships since December
 - All from Rising Start individuals
- **Rising Stars** Jen Shusterman
 - STARS= Solon Teachers Are Recognizing Students
 - Next Rising Stars Event, a dessert bar: Tuesday, 03/21.
 - 280 students nominated
 - Signup genius for volunteers and donations of desserts and fruit.
 - Will host an Early Morning Bake Sale the following day, Wednesday, 03/22.
- **Scholarship** Emily Johnson
 - 29 applications submitted, 25 are eligible with current membership status.
 - Applications are being assembled for judges to review.
 - Vote on scholarship dollars at the meeting on 04/19.
 - Award winners recognized at the Senior Awards Program in MAY.
 - Discussed that we may use SAB alumni as scholarship readers in the future.
- **Shining Star** Andrea Pitzel
 - Seniors can nominate staff member/coach/advisor who has made a positive impact during their time at SHS.
 - Seniors will be informed of the program on 4/3 in a meeting with administration, including hard copy nomination form.
 - Seniors will receive an electronic nomination form via Naviance email on 04/03.
 - All nominations due Friday, 04/07.
 - Can submit multiple nominations.
 - Hard copy nominations submitted in Senior Commons.
 - Electronic nominations submitted via Google Docs.
 - Will send Parent/Member email update, including Google Docs link.
 - Winners receive certificates the last week of classes for seniors, the week of April 24
 - Teanna Pollard will do the certificates.
- **Strive for 0.5** Erica Kanj
 - Will get list of students who raise GPA by 0.5 or greater from Third Quarter to Fourth Quarter in early April
 - Students received a letter, certificate, and candy
- **Technology** Madhavi Rubbo
 - Upcoming projects: college essay workshop, summer reading, running weekly reports from Paypal for College Essay workshop
 - Maintain and update web presence and e-commerce.

Unfinished Business

- Open committees for 2023-24
 - Academic Awards (National Merit Luncheon)
 - Academic Teams Support
 - Agendas/student planners
 - Book sales co-chair
 - Fundraising

New Business

- Volunteer opportunities: Rising Stars (signup genius), Academic Awards assembly

Meeting was adjourned at 7:36 PM.