

## Solon Academic Boosters Club

October 18, 2023 Meeting

Officers:

- PRESIDENT: Emily Johnson/Ava Farivar
- TREASURER: Erica Kanj
- SECRETARY: Amanda Musick

In attendance via Zoom: Emily Johnson, Erica Kanj, Jody Halley, Robin Siff, Holly Boykin, Denise Elliot, Amanda Musick

### Call to Order

Emily Johnson

Meeting was called to order at 7:01 PM.

### Secretary's Report

Amanda Musick

Please send any reports to [kelsey.musick@gmail.com](mailto:kelsey.musick@gmail.com). Minutes from the September meeting were approved and posted to the website.

### President's Report

Emily Johnson

- Welcome
- Mission: To promote, recognize, and reward Solon High School students for their academic achievements
- Thank you to the following individuals:
  - Ava Farivar, Erica Kanj, and Laura Cohen for stocking the SHS Bookstore for Second Quarter required reading books.
  - Carol Schultz, for selling the quarterly books at the SHS Bookstore.
  - Anju Agarwal, Candice Walker, and Ava Farivar for organizing the Rising Stars Student Recognition, to be held 10/26.
  - Lisa Monaco and Candice Walker, for organizing the National Merit Recognition Luncheon, to be held 11/2.
  - Paula Telepak, for coordinating the teacher, student, and parent communications for the Rising Stars Recognition and the National Merit Recognition.
  - Dawn Haynes, for collecting and updating the membership data.
  - Amanda Musick, for compiling the meeting minutes.
  - Erica Kanj, for managing the budget planning and finances. As well as her important help with Venmo transactions.
  - Denise Elliot, for hosting the technology platforms for the online store and membership.

## Treasurer's Report

Erica Kanj

- A small deposit from Venmo at the beginning of the month for Q1 book sales.
  - Expect many Venmo transactions in the coming days for 2nd quarter books.
- There was a membership deposit from Paypal for just over \$1,000. However, membership is still more than \$1,000 less than where we were a year ago. October 13, 2022 we had \$5,527 in memberships and this year on the same date we had \$4,346.
  - We are not the only parent organization with lower numbers. Athletic boosters have less money also, although their number of total memberships is up.
  - The theory is more people are opting for the cheaper memberships.
    - It should be discussed what "early bird" membership means. We are running it through October 31st this year, which is the same as other years. This membership is only \$10.
    - At max, I propose this run through September 30th, if not August 30th or mid-september. This would truly be an "early bird" membership. This gives time to advertise at curriculum night and the parent principal coffees. After that I really think most people that would join will still join and have no problem paying \$25. Even if we have a few less memberships, we would have more money coming in.
- Submitted all the paperwork to the accountant to do our yearly taxes - not due until December 15th, gives plenty of time. This is the same accountant we used last year. Also used by the music parents and athletic boosters. Located in Independence, the cost is fair but not very responsive.
- Paid our charitable registration fee which is \$50 and is something every non-profit in the state of Ohio must do once per year.
- At the end of September we had \$23,160 in our savings account and \$57,479 in our checking account. After the end of the month is when I do my reconciliation for these totals.
- Upcoming expenses will include payment to Fireside books for our 2nd quarter books, a technology fee and reimbursement for Rising Stars luncheon and National Merit Lunch.

## Committee Reports

- **Academic Awards (National Merit)** By Emily for Lisa Monaco, Candice Walker
  - National Merit Recognition
    - 54 students recognized in 2022
    - 50 students recognized in 2023
      - 20 Semi-Finalist Scholars
      - 27 Commended Scholars
      - 3 African American Scholars
    - Luncheon: Nov 2
- **Academic Awards (Year-End)** Tera Gross
  - No report

- **Academic Teams Support** By Emily for Shakari Donerson
  - Support academic teams that submit a mini-grant request to offset competition fees and equipment purchases, up to \$250.
  - Sent email to academic team advisors 10/15, with application deadline of 11/1
  - Will vote on submissions at the NOV meeting.
  
- **Agendas/Student Planners** Christa Bomeli
  - No report
  
- **Book Sales** By Emily for Ava Farivar
  - Second Quarter books are stocked and available for purchase
  
- **Bylaws** Emily Johnson,\*Erica Kanj
  - No report
  
- **College Essay Workshop** Robin Siff
  - Plan to meet with Andrea Pitzel
  
- **Corporate Membership** Holly Boykin
  - Working to define target group and ways to recognize
    - Met with Andrea Pitzel last year and put together a list on who to approach
    - Ideas to recognize sponsors included adding “Supported By XYZ.....” stickers at events
      - For example, on goody bags handed out to students
  
- **Fundraising** By Emily for Anju Agarwal
  - Fall Fundraiser
    - No fall dates available for Chipotle
    - Book a January date for Chipotle to ensure we have something on the schedule and in the meantime continue to consider other places in the Solon or Twinsburg areas.

- **Membership**

By Emily for Dawn Hayes

- Staff members:
  - 70 staff member YTD 2023
  - 53 staff members YTD 2022
  - 69 staff members FY 2021-22
  - 67 staff members YTD 2020 (virtual)
  - 59 staff members YTD 2019
- Parent members:
  - 123 parent members YTD 2023
  - 122 parent members YTD 2022
  - 297 parent members FY 2021-22
  - 111 parent members YTD 2020 (virtual)
  - 155 parent members YTD 2019
- Continue to ID target groups with emails: prior members and rising stars, etc.

- **Rising Stars**

By Emily for Anju Agarwal, Candice Walker

- STARS= Solon Teachers Are Recognizing Students
- Teachers recognize students: motivation, perseverance, and effort
- Upcoming fall event, TH 10/26
  - Discussed if using Gioninos for food discounts
- Rising Stars Dates: OCT 26, JAN 25, MAR 21

- **Scholarship**

Emily Johnson

- No report

- **Shining Star**

Teanna Pollard

- No report

- **Strive for 0.5**

\*Erica Kanj

- Planning for end of January after grades are posted

- **Technology**

Denise Elliot

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### Unfinished Business

- None

## **New Business**

- Proposed Budget vote
- Budget Vote
  - Motion was made to accept the budget as presented and motion was seconded
  - Vote was unanimous and budget was approved

Meeting was adjourned at 7:33 pm.

### **CONTACTS:**

Emily Johnson, [emmyedwards@hotmail.com](mailto:emmyedwards@hotmail.com) to email newsletter and meeting updates

Ava Farivar, [afarivar@hotmail.com](mailto:afarivar@hotmail.com) for Bookstore inquiries

Amanda Musick, [Kelsey.musick@gmail.com](mailto:Kelsey.musick@gmail.com) for meeting notes

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Facebook: SOLON ACADEMIC BOOSTERS CLUB,

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/656443948747070/>

### **UPCOMING DATES:**

**MEETINGS:** Third Wednesday monthly, 7:00 pm: SEPT 20, OCT 18, NOV 15, JAN 17, FEB 14, MAR 20, APR 17, MAY 15

**RISING STARS:** OCT 26, JAN 25, MAR 21

**NATIONAL MERIT RECOGNITION:** NOV 2