

Solon Academic Boosters Club

April 17, 2024 Meeting

Officers:

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

In attendance via Zoom and Market District: Emily Johnson, Erica Kanj, Amanda Musick, Ava Farivar, Dawn Haynes, Robin Siff, Candance Walker, Teanna Pollard, Jody Halley and Heidi Mattlin and Unknown Galaxy Note user

Call to Order

Emily Johnson

Meeting was called to order at 7:01PM.

Secretary's Report

Amanda Musick

Minutes from the March meeting were approved and posted to the website. Please send any reports to kelsey.musick@gmail.com.

President's Report

Emily Johnson

- Thank you to the following individuals:
 - Tera Gross and Ava Farivar for coordinating and ordering the year-end academic awards.
 - Ava Farivar for ordering and stocking the bookstore for 4th Quarter.
 - Christa Bomeli and Ava Farivar for their work on the summer reading and student planners in order to get the pre order process ready.
 - Anju Agarwal, Candice Walker, and Ava Farivar for coordinating the April Rising Stars lunch.
 - Robin Siff, for all her work coordinating the College Essay Workshops including distributing the college essay workshop promotional materials for the English 11 classes and scheduling seniors to visit the English 11 classes.
 - Denise Elliot, for coordinating the college essay workshop registrations, updating the website for the college essay workshop, and running registration and membership reports.
 - Our 5 scholarship judges for carving time out from spring break to review the scholarship applications.
 - Dawn Haynes, for updating membership lists for senior scholarships and junior early registration for essay workshops.
 - Erica Kanj, for completing the Strive for 0.5 Awards.
 - Teanna Pollard, for coordinating the Shining Stars program.
 - Amanda Musick, for taking meeting minutes and getting them sent to Denise for the website.
 - Erica Kanj, Denise Elliot, Ava Farivar, and Amanda Musick, for the behind-the-scenes operational support.

Treasurer's Report

Erica Kanj

- March - low activity this month
- Main income for March:
 - Venmo purchases for the bookstore
- Main expense for March:
 - Website fee for \$179.76. (auto charge to debit card)
 - Thanks to Denise for looking into duplicate fees and the correction
- April - will have a lot of activity
 - Bookstore sells
 - College essay workshops
 - Scholarship awards
- Reimbursements reminder to get checks in by June

Committee Reports

- **Academic Awards** (National Merit) Candice Walker
 - No report
- **Academic Awards** (Year-End) Emily Johnson for Tera Gross
 - All items have been ordered and are being assembled
- **Academic Teams Support** Emily Johnson
 - No report
- **Agendas/Student Planners** Ava Farivar and Christa Bomeli
 - Update on planner including front and back cover confirmation, number order, and delivery date
 - 275 planners
 - Updating online store
 - Pre-order flier is done for Tammy Strom to email to incoming Freshmen
 - Pre-order dates 4/30 to 5/9 - 10 day window
- **Book Sales** Ava Farivar
 - 4Q books stocked and selling
 - Working on getting summer reading titles for pre-order
 - Will need to update online store
 - Working with Carol to reconcile the 3 quarter book sales

- Concerns for AP book order for next year due to increased cost and no returns
 - Agreed to create a pre-order with notification of a limited number available

- **Bylaws** Emily Johnson, Erica Kanj and Jody Halley
 - No report

- **College Essay Workshop** Robin Siff
 - Junior English classes had visitations by students who participated in the workshops the first week of April.
 - Early online registration began on APR 8. Open registration began APR 11.
 - Promo: flier in English class, email to Academic Boosters members, FB post ABC and SHS PTA, Ms. Short's biweekly Stay in the Know emails
 - Target enrollment: minimum of 15, maximum of 24
 - Current registration for the college essay writing workshops, as of 04/16:
 - Session 1: 24
 - Session 2: 21
 - Session 3: 18
 - Session 4: 15
 - Session 5: 12
 - Supplemental workshops: 1.) 21 2.) 23
 - Will continue promotion with morning announcements and "Tell a friend campaign."
 - Received excellent publicity on The Solon Soundboard by former parents encouraging current to participate

- **Corporate Membership** Emily Johnson for Holly Boykin
 - This committee needs a new organizer for next year
 - Goal: to find 4 corporate sponsorships for events like luncheons
 - All supporting documents and websites are in place and ready for next year

- **Fundraising** Emily Johnson for Anju Agarwal
 - This committee needs a new organizer for next year
 - We need to brainstorm on new ideas since our particular Chipotle is no longer a good draw
 - Help concessions stands during sports events
 - Yard signs: Erica to ask Sports Boosters for return on costs
 - Sign ideas for Academic Teams and/or create a new Academic Booster theme:
 - "We support Solon High Academics"
 - "A hard-working Solon High School Comet lives here..."

- **Membership**

Dawn Haynes

- Staff members:
 - 75 staff member YTD 2023-24
 - 53 staff members YTD 2022
 - 69 staff members FY 2021-22
 - 67 staff members YTD 2020 (virtual)
 - 59 staff members YTD 2019
- Parent members:
 - 192 parent members YTD 2023-24
 - 122 parent members YTD 2022
 - 297 parent members FY 2021-22
 - 111 parent members YTD 2020 (virtual)
 - 155 parent members YTD 2019
- Corporate members:
 - One

- **Rising Stars**

Candice Walker

- STARS= Solon Teachers Are Recognizing Students
- Teachers recognize students: motivation, perseverance, and effort
- Hosted Rising Star on April 16th
 - A full lunch was served
 - 273 students were nominated by their teachers.
 - Roughly 73 percent of students attended

- **Scholarship**

Emily Johnson

- 43 applications submitted, 41 are eligible with current membership status.
- The executive board met to review dispersal options and selected a tiered approach allowing for more than 50% to receive an award,
- \$14,000 in scholarships.
- Will be looking for feedback on how to further streamline the process for judges.
- Award winners recognized at the Senior Awards Program in the evening on May 14th.

- **Shining Star**

Teanna Pollard

- A huge turnout of nominations (600) from graduating seniors
 - Students can submit multiple nominations
 - Those nominated (teachers, club advisors, coaches, faculty and staff) receive a Shining Stars Awards certificate prior to the seniors' last day to be proudly displayed
 - Finalizing certificates

- **Strive for 0.5** *Erica Kanj
 - *Recognized 78 students for the Strive for 0.5 Award in April*
 - Students raised their GPA by 0.5 or greater from Second Quarter to Third Quarter

- **Technology** Emily Johnson for Denise Elliot
 - Denise is doing an excellent job updating for all of the upcoming activities such as the College Essay Workshops
 - Denise continues to run ongoing registration reports along with website maintenance
 - Summer reading books will be added to website soon

Unfinished Business

- Open Committees for 2024-2025:
 - Academic Team Support
 - Corporate Membership

- Vote on technology budget increase

New Business

- Vote on technology budget increase
 - Erica explained the need for a new system to track sales since Venmo is no longer an option and the process needs to be more streamlined - Noted that Danielle Rose uses this technology in the Spirit Store
 - Motion was made to increase the technology budget by \$900 as presented and motion was seconded
 - Vote was unanimous and budget increase was approved

- Year-End celebration May meeting - location to be determined

Meeting was adjourned at 8:16pm.

CONTACTS:

Emily Johnson, emmyedwards@hotmail.com to email newsletter and meeting updates
Ava Farivar, afarivar@hotmail.com for Bookstore inquiries
Amanda Musick, Kelsey.musick@gmail.com for meeting notes
email: solonacademicboosters@hotmail.com
Web: solonacademicboosters.com
Facebook: SOLON ACADEMIC BOOSTERS CLUB,
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/656443948747070/>

UPCOMING DATES:

YEAR-END AWARD ASSEMBLIES: May 14 (sophomore AM, senior PM) MAY 15 (junior), MAY 16 (freshman)

MEETINGS: Last meeting this year - year-end social gathering - MAY 15 at 7pm.