

## Peters Township Thespian Backers

### 4/10/24 Meeting Minutes

**Attendees:** Jeanie Cygrymus, Kristianna Gizzi, Michelle Hoffmann, Becky Lipinski, Kristin Kulikowski, Joanne Gudenburr, Mandy Feitt, Tanya Kotenoglou, Gretchen White, Jeremy White, Dan Taylor, Kristin Taylor, Amy Berner, Margi Swellie, Stacy Henderson, Jen McCabe, Alan Skillings, Mike Zukowski, Michelle Reyes, Amy Racunas

#### Jeanie Cygrymus (Sponsor)

- Induction Letters
  - Given to students eligible for induction by earning at least 10 thespian points this school year
  - All freshmen earned at least 10 points this year (first time for our troupe)
  - Inductees also include some sophomores and juniors
  - Acceptance from students due no later than 4/19
    - Sooner is better so that Jeanie can order materials for awards ceremony
    - Drop off at school or play rehearsal
- Points
  - List recently updated to include most recent events
  - Must submit all points by 4/14 (via Google form) to be counted for this year
- Awards Night: Held 5/31/24, 5:00-Awards ceremony (PTHS), 7:00-Banquet (VBCC)
  - Voting-will take place at next student troupe meeting on 5/16
    - Voting privileges are for students who are in good standing with troupe
      - “Good Standing”-Missed no more than 3 meetings, involved in at least 1 production (cast or crew), and has attended other student productions (if not involved). Students signed in at performances for credit.
      - Some students are not able to vote this year. If they vote, theirs will not count.

- Students should see Jeanie if they have any questions about their eligibility.
  - Hall of Fame: Awarded to one female senior and one male senior
    - Student members will vote from Top 5 from each category
    - Top 5 determined by number of points
    - Award presented by last year's winners, Emma Hardy and Aiden Green
    - Troupe given permission to make and hang plaques of winners at PTHS
  - Pictures from previous years will be filed.
      - Jeanie will meet with students to file pictures tomorrow (4/11)
      - Students who have not participated in strike this year should report to help
- Student Officers
  - Applications due 5/13
  - Submit completed form and 3 teacher signatures as recommendations
  - Submit speech as an essay to Jeanie
  - Speech will be given at student meeting prior to voting
- Senior Scholarships
  - Six \$1,000 scholarships will be awarded this year, funded by Thespian Backers
  - Applications due by 4/30
  - Students should refer to Band app
  - Jeanie emphasized importance of essay, as it is worth 25 points
  - 2 judges will review applications. Judges chosen are theater professionals from the community. They will be blinded to name of each applicant.
- Conference
  - To be held in January 2025

- Site is West Chester University and must be held while college students are on break
- Students will leave school on 1/2/25 (first day back from holiday break)
- PTHS will apply for one act
- Spring Play “Little Women”
  - 5/10 and 5/11 at 7 pm; 5/12 at 2 pm
  - Rehearsals are going well
  - Students working hard and moving through material quickly
- Mamma Mia: 3/27/24
  - 80 attended; well received by students and chaperones
  - Workshop was held by Pittsburgh Cultural Trust at PTHS on 3/27
    - Actor presenting workshop spoke highly of our auditorium and program
    - Kristianna offered to continue to facilitate events between our students and the Pittsburgh Cultural Trust outreach program in the future

**Kristianna Gizzi (President)**

- Requested approval of minutes from 2/10/24 meeting
  - Motion to approve: Joanne Gudenburr, 2<sup>nd</sup> motion by Stacy Henderson
- 2024-2025 Production Schedule
  - Will be confirmed and announced in the summer (usually July)
  - Must be approved by school administrators prior to announcement
- Review of upcoming expenses
  - \$1,018-Tech Director for spring play
  - \$1,968-field trip to Mamma Mia
  - \$462.98-bus for Mamma Mia
  - \$282-cover school thespian account shortage
  - \$700-Awards night

- \$6,000-Senior Scholarships
- \$1,600 Banquet meals for 32 seniors (at \$50 each)
- All Shook Up
  - Directors have received much positive feedback from community
  - Senior Recognition was well received by seniors and their families
    - Yard signs added this year and were appreciated by students
  - Applause Ads in program were used for the first time this year
    - Students enjoyed receiving treats backstage
    - Successful as extra fundraising and student acknowledgement
- Banquet/Senior Recognition
  - Senior recognition will start the Awards Night on 5/31
  - Jeanie will announce the name and bio for each senior
  - Senior will be escorted across stage by parent(s)
  - Photos will be taken of each senior family
- One Acts
  - First production of One Acts this year
  - Malea Bode is directing and reports that rehearsals are going well
  - Malea is former PTHS student and is now studying directing
  - Goal of One Acts is to give more material to students and opportunities to students not available for other productions
  - Show is 5/2/24 at 6:00 pm
  - \$5 donation is requested for general admission; proceeds benefit student troupe
- Spring Play
  - Merchandise will be delivered next week
  - Yard signs have been delivered and will be distributed to students
  - Kristianna commended students' efforts, as it is challenging to learn and perform a classic play

- Slated Backers for 2024-2025 school year were presented
  - President: Julie Collins
  - Vice President: Brian Hyjurick
  - Secretary: Becky Lipinski
  - Treasurer: Alan Skillings
  - Parliamentarian: Mandy Feitt
  - Senior Trip Coordinator: Brian Hyjurick
  - Formal vote by Thespian Backers to be held at next meeting (5/22)
- Committee Heads needed for 2024-2025-plan to assign in May
  - Programs: Previously held by Colleen Gallagher with assistance from Kristianna Gizzi
    - Kristianna emphasized that Colleen's efforts were much appreciated and programs have been excellent.
  - Concessions: Previously held by Julie Collins; she is would like to share responsibility with another parent next year if anyone is willing
    - New procedure this year made process much easier and fair to families
    - \$25/family to fund concessions
    - Julie spent funds and tracked how much of each item purchased and sold
    - Kristianna suggested continuing with this process in the future, as supplies were sufficient to cover upcoming spring play. Families have reported that process was easier.
  - Show Bags: Kristen Taylor volunteered to continue with head of this committee
  - Fundraisers-includes Patron of the Arts, an important fundraiser to support the troupe all year
  - Donut Sales: improved process this year under Mandy Feitt
  - Banquet

- Senior Rec-Michelle Skillings previously held position as committee head. Needs assistance from anyone available.
- Trip Coordinator position-new for next year, Brian Hyjurick has volunteered
  - Planning begins in July so that plans are confirmed by September
  - Includes its own fundraisers

**Michelle Hoffmann (Vice President):**

- Banquet (5/31)
  - 5:00 at PTHS auditorium; 7:00 dinner at Valley Brook Country Club
  - Senior parents: please report at 4:30 to prepare for recognition
    - Anyone with dietary restrictions should contact Michelle as soon as possible. She will provide contact information to Valley Brook so that restrictions can be accommodated
  - Attire: Students enjoy dressing formally (long gowns, suits); parents can dress semi-formal (no jeans)
  - Forms due 5/10 but as soon as possible (forms made available at meeting); pay by Venmo or check
- Volunteers
  - Spring play sign up has been posted
  - No requests for concession donations
  - Volunteers needed for concessions, steaming costumes, ushers, backstage, etc
- Volunteers: Please check Band app for upcoming Sign-Up Genius for parent volunteers for musical (concession stand sales, backstage, etc); help is needed for successful show

**Becky Lipinski (Secretary)**

- Next meeting is 5/22/24
- Senior Scholarships: reiterated that 6 scholarships will be awarded; see Jeanie with any questions

**Kristin Kulikowski (Treasurer)**

- Budget spreadsheet provided at meeting

- Motion to approve budget: Alan Skillings; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ann Gavorcik
- Fundraisers
  - Concessions at musical were very successful, profit of \$6,052
- Cast party-thank you to parent volunteers for organizing and decorating
  - Thespian backers provided cakes
  - Martin family from Family Deli donated meal for party and it was much appreciated
- Programs
  - Lower cost for printing this year through new printing company recommended by Music Boosters
  - Next year's Thespian Backers will need to decide program format, printing, etc

**Motion to Adjourn made by Kristen Taylor, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Joann Gudenburr**