

Chattanooga Central High School

Alumni Association

Meeting Minutes

June 10,, 2021

The June meeting of the Chattanooga Central High Alumni Association was held on June 10, 2021, online using Zoom. Buffy Hoge called the meeting to order.

### **Acceptance of Minutes**

Buffy made a motion to accept the approved June minutes. James Walker made a motion to accept the approved minutes with the change to be made from April to May 6th. Judy Phillips seconded the motion. Motion passed.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Tara gave the treasurer's report. There is a total of \$33,672.52 in the bank. The total available balance minus designated scholarships is \$25,596.42. Three checks were mailed to the Chattanooga Community Foundation (Spirit of Central Scholarship in memory of Ray Steinmetz) totaling \$1, 072. James made a motion to accept the treasurer's report and Lucy Bottorff seconded. The treasurer's report was approved.

### **Principal's Report**

Central's current enrollment remains at 768. Approximately 500 students continue at home learning this term and the other students are scheduled for in person learning. During all in-person learning we are serving approximately 265 students in person.

Academics: Student Success Labs concluded on May 13 for this current school year. Summer school session began June 7. Currently serving 80+ students. Students are working on recovery credits in core subject areas of Math, English, Science, and Social Studies.

Quarter 4 ended May 27

Last day of classes May 14

Senior Day was a success as was Class Night also on May 14

May 18 Graduation 7:00 was greatly attended and was very successful. Only about 6 seniors are working to complete requirements for graduation in summer school. This number is less than in previous years. Our graduation rate is expected to be 85%, slightly more than last year's 84.4%.

Our stadium was also used by the Middle school on May 24 for their 8th grade promotion and again on May 26th for two elementary 5th grade promotions all went well.

The school year closed out successfully.

We are waiting on final results from our state EOC testing.

Currently all teaching/staff positions are filled for the coming school year. 4 Exceptional Education teachers relocated and were replaced 1 English teacher is moving out of town and 1 History teacher moved out of state.

Plans are underway for a return to school with all students attending in person in August.

Lucy asked how our graduation rate compared to other schools. The district goal was 87% and we are just below that.

James asked if a student starts as a 9th grader and leaves how that affects our graduation rate and Mr. I explained how they can track this and also how those with special education diplomas affect the graduation rate. Lucy asked about dropouts and how those stats are kept up with and Mr. I explained that this also affects our graduation rates.

Mr. I believes we are doing a great job and we hope to be at the 87% graduation rate within the next two years.

Lucy asked about the summer school students and what grade they were in. Mr. I said it was an even split with maybe more in the 10th grade. Those that struggled most were the students who stayed home either part or all of the school year.

Buffy asked if the football schedule that was sent out is complete and Mr. I stated it was.

Buffy also asked how the community colleges not using ACT scores would impact the high schools and what their plans were. Mr. I said until something drastic changes or it is a final decision not to use those scores they will continue to prep students and give the ACT aiming for scores of 21 or higher.

## **Student Officer's Report**

Jessyca Foster reported that the Military Ball funded by Jack Graham's family went well and it was a great time at the Chattanooga Events Center. She said there were several proms organized by people. Zane ? won state representative at Boys State . AP exams were on May 27th. Anna Frazier won the essay contest for her city at Girls State. Jessyca won a chair in the House of Representatives and was elected as House Speaker. ROTC had JCLC at Central. The Marching Band theme for the upcoming year is Harry Potter. Jessyca got into the honors scholar program at Chatt St and is doing an internship (Global Learning Collective). She is working on a business team for Equal Children in Africa. She is volunteering at the hospital and is an HBCU scholar. She is hoping to start several clubs next school year and looking forward to having her senior year in person.

Katheron Latham reported for Sarah Katheron. The Ruriteen Club is planning a group effort to work on the planters in the agora before school starts back. Sarah Katheron is an intern with the Child Evangelism Fellowship this summer. They do the Good News Clubs in the elementary schools.

## **Old Business**

Lucy reported that she thought Class Night was too long this year. Buffy said that all the students that were recognized and their efforts were amazing. She said it is amazing what the Alumni Association is able to contribute. Mrs. Fry sent a sweet note regarding her induction. Buffy thanked Admiral and Mrs. Fry for their continued support. They have contributed \$1000 to the brick project.

Tara reported that a lot of money has been sent in for the brick fundraiser. Preston said there were 24 or 25 and he thinks we are ready for an order. Buffy said there were previously 11. Buffy and Preston will get together on ordering them. She encouraged everyone to keep pushing the brick fundraiser. She has a hard copy of the brick fundraiser flyer and will get those to whoever wants them. She will be taking some to the golf tournament this coming weekend.

James asked if they would have the ability at the golf tournament to use the square and Tara said it wasn't reliable due to the internet. Buffy will direct people to the website on how to order and pay for the bricks. Lucy asked if they could put in a credit card number on the flyer. Tara said this wasn't safe to do. James asked if there was a QR code they could scan. Preston said this was a great idea but right now this isn't available. Tara asked how many flyers were made and Buffy stated she made 500. In the future we can have a QR code that they can scan that takes them to the website. Preston agreed and said that the link is an easy one and everyone should be able to use this for now.

Buffy said there are flyers at the school and they will be given out at reunions and other events this summer. Preston said that there were two different forms, the flyer and the order forms that were previously printed out for people without internet access. Lucy said we need to make sure we are checking the mailbox often so that their checks can be deposited in a timely manner. Tara said she could check on Sundays and Buffy will check it midweek.

John Crawford asked the total dollar amount that was given on Class Night from Alumni + other scholarships given. Buffy will get with Ms. Alexander for this information. Lucy asked if pictures were made of the recipients as a group. Katheron said there wasn't a group picture but Sarah Katheron tried to get pictures of each recipient for the Digest. Katheron said she would get the pictures to the association. Tara said we needed to remember for the next year to get a picture of the Alumni scholarship recipients and get this out to the media.

Tara said one of the presenters paid the bill for the Alumni that went to eat at Sweeney's after Class Night and asked for the association to send a thank you card. Eddie Gillette presented the Frizzell scholarship and paid for everyone's dinner. Buffy will get a thank you card out to him. Tara let the group know that it meant a lot to Eddie that he was asked to present and he

felt honored and wanted to get more involved with the Alumni Association. He does plan to play in the upcoming golf tournament this weekend.

Judy asked if the DAHOF was in the media or if a press release was sent out. Tara said she had informed Buffy that she wasn't able to do it at the time and needed someone else to send it out. It did not get done. John said we could still get it out. Tara said if someone will write it she will get it out to the media.

Lucy asked what a full page in the Times Free Press would cost. Buffy said she thought about \$1200. Lucy said we needed to do this. Buffy asked if we could link this with the SHOF. Tara said we probably need to cover the DAHOF before we release the SHOF. Lucy asked if Preston could help write the release. John asked if Barney could send the DAHOF information out and Tara said she would send it to Preston.

Judy and Katheron praised and thanked Buffy on all her work on the anvils and how beautiful they were. Mrs. Fry reiterated what Judy and Katheron stated and said the inductees were elated at the anvils they received and said it would mean the world and be very appreciated if something could be in the paper.

John reported that SHOF BBQ dinner and induction would be September 17. Central plays Red Bank. The Class of '20 and the Class of '21 will be combined. The Class of '21 has been selected and will be presented at the next meeting. Letters will be sent out to the new nominees after the association has voted. Letters will be sent out to the Class of '20 as well. There is one from each class that is deceased. Hopefully there will be a representative for each inductee. He asked Buffy if she would get the anvils ready for them and she said yes. It will be held in the cafeteria at approximately 5:00.

Barney asked if we publish this in the paper 3-4 weeks before the event we would get a better turn out. John agreed and said he will be going on the radio and asked Tara to help him with sending out the information. Lucy said we would also do an email blast. Lucy said there are people who want to help defer the cost of the \$1200 page ad. Barney said in the past the paper has run the articles at no cost. Buffy said they will run the articles for free but not for a full page ad. Tara explained the process of sending out a press release. Judy said we don't need to set a precedent on putting a full page ad in the paper. John agreed with this. Tara said they will still do an article on the DAHOF and in a separate release can send in the Alumni scholarships. She said we can send in pictures and they will probably use these.

Lucy asked when the information would be mailed out to inductees. John said the beginning of August. She asked about when the football tickets would be mailed out and when the BBQ tickets would be available. He doesn't know yet. Lucy said at the last induction there was a lot of confusion about tickets and she wants to mail the tickets out that they need. John said this was a great idea. Mrs. Fry asked Lucy to get in touch with her about pursuing the Times Free Press full page ad. Judy asked how much tickets would be. Student tickets are \$4. He doesn't know yet about the BBQ dinner. He is thinking about using Sweeney's. Tara asked if they were

donating to Central now because in the past they have not. John said he didn't know but would find out. Buffy said there are only 8 spaces left for pictures for inductees and we would have to decide what to do for SHOF and DAHOF. Barney said we would just go around the walls. Buffy said we would have to get with Mr. I to clear the walls.

Buffy asked for people to be thinking about who can help with the BBQ dinner. John will call Vivian Pettigrew and ask if she will help. Buffy said she has Judy's notes and Judy said she will help.

We will have 60 days starting in July to get the Alumni Association Golf Tournament ready.

Judy asked for a report on the picnic held last Saturday for the football team. James said it went great. They were able to meet 2 new coaches and a lot of new parents. James said there were at least 30-40 players and 40-50 parents and supporters. It was a great turnout. Buffy thanked James for all his time and effort.

## **New Business**

Buffy said we had a state qualifier in track, Noah Collins. She asked for a motion to recognize him. Tara made a motion to recognize him with a pullover in keeping with tradition. The motion was seconded. The motion passed. He runs the 200 meter and is a running back on the football team.

Barney asked if in the upcoming year we were going to dedicate the track. Buffy said that now that Mr. Highlander was our District 9 representative, she hoped we could get our lights. She said that after the golf tournament, in September we would pursue the track dedication.

John said he had a talk with Steve Lewis a few weeks ago and one of our Brown Middle students was forced to go to Cleveland, whose family presented money for our track program a few weeks ago, and there are a lot of good plans for our track in the future. He said we don't need to overwhelm Steve Highlander but thinks he will be able to help us. James thinks we might go back to District 5 and Harrison Elementary isn't in our District right now. Buffy said we need to work with whoever our representatives are. Lucy asked if James was applying for the school board and he said he is undecided right now. John said it would be a great idea for Buffy to send a handwritten note to Steve Highlander congratulating him.

## **Miscellaneous**

Mrs. Fry let the group know that Katheron's father passed away last week. The group expressed their condolences.

Judy asked if there were any plans to meet in person soon. Buffy said she would get with Mr. I. Tara said on the agenda it says we are meeting on the 9th which is a Friday. Buffy said that it would be on Thursday the 8th. Katheron said to make sure the air conditioner would be on if we meet at the school. Lucy said we could meet at Sweeney's or Fresh Burger if possible. Buffy said we would meet at Sweeney's at 6:00 p.m. John asked her to also ask about September

17th. Buffy asked how many meals we should plan for and Judy said it is in the notes. Many in the group said around 100 people. Tara said she would look and see what we paid. Buffy will send an email to confirm the next meeting at Sweeney's 6:00 on the 8th.

Next alumni meeting on July 8th at 6:00 p.m.

Tara made a motion to adjourn the meeting. James seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Heather C. Randolph

Secretary

### **List of Attendees**

Lucy Bottorff  
John Crawford  
Preston Fore  
Jessyca Foster  
Admiral Vance Fry  
Charlene Fry  
Naomi Hay  
Buffy Hoge  
Mr. I  
Katheron Latham  
Barney Ottinger  
Judy Phillips  
Tara Waldrop  
James Walker