



June 5, 2017

Hello AHS Friends and Families,

How quickly another school year has gone by! Congratulations to all our families who had graduates on Friday! If you're like me this is an exciting time, but oh so bittersweet!

I'm writing to give you an update on BPAC happenings, but also to talk about our sustainability

Happenings first: we hosted a successful Staff Appreciation Luncheon in early May. Thank you to Nancy Lamothe and her volunteers for a great day! Your support is overwhelming and the staff is effusive in their thanks.

Palooza II funds have been distributed to the AHS Gift and Donations fund, and the technology has begun to be distributed throughout the school. We purchased additional Chrome books and carts. A Smart TV for the library, and an exciting program called Google Expeditions, a virtual reality teaching tool that allows students to experience immersive virtual journeys. Travel to historic places, ocean swims and exploring outer space are just some of the opportunities that await our children. It expands the classroom far outside our building's walls.

This summer we will be coordinating a grounds cleanup project. Spearheaded by Mr. Runey and Cathy Killough. There will be more information about that coming up soon.

We held our first Blue Pride Art Mixer, a fun paint night at Patterson Creations, downtown. We raised just over \$500.00 that night!

Coming up, I am in the midst of planning a Cross Country Fun Run for September with Mr. Tighe, that will be open to the entire community.

The Board of Directors worked hard to create a Strategic Plan that includes these events for 2017 into June 2018. This is an ambitious undertaking, which leads me to our sustainability. We are a young, volunteer organization, formed just 4 years ago, with the support of Mr. Runey, our Principal. The BPAC mission is to "enhance the educational experience for students and staff by providing and supporting volunteerism, fundraising and encouraging community engagement through BPAC sponsored events. The organization shall serve as AMBASSADORS of the school to the greater Attleboro community. "

We held our first significant fundraiser, the Blue Pride Palooza in October 2015. Amazingly, we raised over \$50,000, those funds were used to purchase and enhance much needed technology in the high school. We then spent 2016 expanding our outreach within the community to support Back to School initiatives, the Staff Appreciation Luncheon, the student-led Attleboro Showcase and then Palooza II, which again raised over \$50,000. We have been Ambassadors at the Attleboro Farmer's Market in the late summer into the fall. BPAC volunteers were also present to welcome new students and families at Freshman Orientation, and we support the School Store and are volunteers at Blue Pride Night.

The BPAC will also be very active in creating awareness, distributing information, and working as advocates for the Attleboro High School building initiative. This is a very exciting time in Attleboro and a very important time for our community growth and our children's future education.

There has been a core group of parents and supporters who have led the organization to where we are now. BPAC needs your help to continue to grow. I'm asking all of you to consider how you might be able to contribute time, knowledge, and experience to help us meet our goals.

Our current elected offices of Vice President and Treasurer are open for voting this month, June 2017. Our current VP, Marianne Doran - Collins will not be seeking re-election. She will be continuing her focus on coordinating PALOOZA III! We have Dave Blessinger, our current Treasurer, who will seek re-election. (The office of President and Secretary will be open for election in June 2018.) Please carefully and thoughtfully consider volunteering your time in a role on the BPAC Board of Directors. In addition to these elected positions we also need committee leaders to guide our initiatives. To sustain our growth, the BPAC needs new ideas, new faces, and new energy.

Our next General Meeting will be Wednesday, June 14th at 6:30PM in the mini-auditorium. Please grab a friend and come.

We currently have a database of over 500 members. Imagine what we could accomplish with just half of those people!

Please give me a call if you would like further information. I look forward to meeting all of you and talking about the future of the Blue Pride Ambassadors Club!

Libby Murphy-Zielinski

BPAC President

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