



FRANKLIN HIGH SCHOOL PTSO

MARCH 17, 2026

MEETING MINUTES

ZOOM MEETING

PTSO Executive Board Attendees

Elected Officers	Yes	No	Elected Officers	Yes	No	Non-Elected Officers and Administration	Yes	No
Deborah Parillo, Co-President	X		Wendy Riga, Co-President	X		Genesi Miles, FHS Principal	X	
Sue Lyons, VP Fundraising	X		Jonathan White Co-Vice President and Montese Anderson, Co-Vice President	X	X	Arohiben Madura, Teacher Liaison	X	
Nathisha Washington, Corresponding Sec. & Membership	X		Crystal Charles, Co-Treasurer and Danielle Keens, Co-Treasurer	X X		Leslie Churette, Board Liaison to PTSO		X
Lisa Budesheim Co-VP Communications & Media and Eusebio Pires, Co-VP Communications & Media	X X		Nancy Zumbana, Recording Sec.	X				

Other Attendees: Sheronda Martin, Class of 2027 VP., Nicholas Solomon Director of School Management and Student Advocacy

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 PM by Deborah Parillo.

Approval of Minutes

The February meeting minutes were presented for approval. A correction was noted indicating that Danielle Keens was not in attendance at the February meeting. Additionally, an edit was requested under the Fundraising section (Horizon).



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Wendy Riga made a motion to approve the minutes with the stated revisions; the motion was seconded by Sue Lyons. The motion carried.

President's Report – Deborah Parillo and Wendy Riga

- Elections for the PTSO Executive Board will commence in April.
 - Danielle Keens will assist Nancy Zumbana with the election process.
 - There will be no meeting held in April due to Spring Break.
 - Elections will take place in May.
 - Eligibility requirements include being a paid PTSO member and having a child currently enrolled at the school.
 - Members were encouraged to reach out with any questions regarding the election process.
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Communications Report – Lisa Budesheim

- The PTSO Facebook page continues to be updated regularly with important information and event details.
 - Lisa Budesheim will share additional event information on the platform.
 - The Polar Plunge fundraiser successfully raised \$10,000.
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Membership Report – Natisha Washington

- Membership enrollment has closed.
 - No additional updates were provided.
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Women's History Month Event – March 26, 2026

- The "Girls Night Out" event will take place from 6:00 PM to 8:30 PM; tickets are priced at \$22.
 - Approximately 150 participants, including students and adults, are registered to attend.
 - The event will feature vision board activities, raffles, and a staff cook-off with participation from 12 staff members.
 - Comedian Erin Jackson FHS Alumnus will serve as the guest speaker.
 - The event has received formal recognition from the Governor, including an official letter.
 - Ms. Simmons shared a related Wishlist via the meeting chat.
 - Wendy Riga noted that the event had been discussed during a prior board meeting and that further discussion will take place regarding PTSO support.
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Special Recognitions and Events

- Deborah Parillo highlighted the success of Matthew's book signing event, "My Way," noting strong attendance.



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- The PTSO purchased two copies of the book to be donated to the FHS Library.
 - Wendy Riga and Deborah Parillo commended Ms. Martin for her efforts in organizing the event.
 - Ms. Martin shared that Matthew is planning to write an additional book.
 - Wendy Riga extended congratulations to Dr. Miles for achieving her doctorate degree.
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Presentation – Dr. Nick Solomon

- Dr. Solomon presented on the state-mandated bell-to-bell cell phone policy, which is currently posted on the school website.
 - School districts are awaiting further guidance in the form of a model policy from the state.
 - Dr. Solomon emphasized the importance of input from teachers, parents, and students.
 - Questions and comments were presented by Jonathan, Alana, Wendy Riga, and Lisa Budesheim.
 - Wendy Riga suggested that Dr. Solomon attend a future President's Council meeting.
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Student Liaison Reports

- Emma Budesheim:
 - Recognized the Theater Club for its production of *In the Heights*.
 - Suggested improvements to microphone equipment for performances.
 - Shared that the Class of 2027 is interested in incorporating senior quotes into next year's yearbook.
 - Deborah Parillo requested guidance from Ms. Martin, who recommended consulting with Ms. Nagourney and indicated that the proposal is feasible.
 - Peyton reported no updates.
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Fundraising Report – Sue Lyons

- No new fundraising updates were provided.
 - The possibility of organizing a Nothing Bundt Cakes fundraiser is being explored.
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Treasurer's Report – Crystal Charles and Danielle Keens

- The current account balance is \$30,765.07.
 - See treasures report for detailed transactions
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Additional Announcements

- The PTSO will no longer accept payments via Venmo. Accepted forms of payment are cash, check, money order or online via CheddarUP.
 - Wendy Riga announced that Dr. Ravally will be retiring.
 - A reminder was given that the PTSO awards four \$500 scholarships annually.
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Teacher and Staff Information – Arohi Madura

Principal's Report – Dr. Miles

(Refer to attached presentation for full report.)

- Recognition was given to Ms. Rad, Ms. Martinez, Ms. Strand, the *In the Heights* cast and crew, and supporting families and community members.
- NJGPA testing is currently underway for juniors.
 - Grades 9, 10, and 12 report at 10:25 AM during testing days.
 - Grade 12 students with early release must report by 7:25 AM for attendance credit.
 - Makeup testing will occur on March 19. Grade 11 students who complete testing by March 18 will report at 10:25 AM.
- March 20: Schools closed in observance of Eid Mubarak.
- March 23: Minimum session (all FTPS).
- March 30–April 3: Spring Break.
- April 8: Junior Parent Night at 6:00 PM (post-secondary planning, applications, financial aid, recommendations, and related topics).
- April 9: Spring Bus Evacuation Drill (students must leave backpacks and exit via rear of bus).
- April 15: FHS College & Career Night, 6:30–8:00 PM.
- April 22: Start of Marking Period 4.
- April 25: Community Check-In, Green Fair, and Family Fit Day (11:00 AM–2:00 PM).
- Updates regarding the state cell phone policy were shared.
- NJSLA Testing Schedule:
 - April 28: Math
 - April 29: ELA (Grade 9) and Science (Grade 11)
 - April 30: Science (Grade 11)
- May 4–9: Teacher Appreciation Week.
- May 14: Last day of after-school bus service.
- Reminder provided regarding driver safety in the Heller Park area.
- District Vision and Mission Administrative Project discussed, including reflection on:
 - Evidence of the vision and mission at FHS
 - Values currently prioritized at FHS
 - Values that should be prioritized moving forward

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:17 PM.



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