



vania Technology Student Association and Foundation, Inc.
Learning to Live in a Technical World

Incorporated 2004

**Board of Directors Meeting
Agenda for
January 16, 2021 - Virtual, PA**

1. Meeting Called to Order

2. Roll Call - Establish a Quorum - 9:00am

Board of Directors: Jason Kofmehl (President), Chris Miller (Past-President, Technology Coord.), Josh Pennington (President Elect), Judy Hawthorn (Secretary), Jeff Seamans (Treasurer/ACT 48 Coord.), John Bratton (Executive Director), Shelley Evans (SOT Advisor), Lauren Lapinski (State Conference Director), Dale Moll, Chris Roth (National), Mike Flowers (Foundation), Ryan Ferry (Alumni)

Region Reps: Molly Miller (Region 2), Bob Dwyer (Region 3), Matt Kline (Region 8), Tim Linkenheimer (Region 1&6), Jocelyn Long (Region 5), Stacy Hallman (Region 9)

Student Officer Present: Elliot Ginzburg (President), Evan Grove (Vice President), Megan Cooper (Secretary), Arnav Dhingra (Treasurer), Madison Martin (Reporter), Avery Broggi (Historian), JonBen Moldovsky (Parliamentarian), Julie Wright (Sgt@Arms)

3. Meeting Announcements

a.

4. Adjourn for Committee Meetings (if needed)

Minutes (Motion to Approve) - **APPROVED**

- July 2020

Treasurer's Report (**File for audit**)

- Balance Sheet – Reports uploaded
- Details - Report
- TSA Check Req- Editable Digital
Total membership dues are at \$5400 since July.

*Regions are taking care of their own money now so our balance is lower.

Regional Reports

- Region 1 – Report –Feb 6, 2021
- Region 2 – Report – Feb 20, 2021
- Region 3 – Report – Feb 6, 2021
- Region 4 – Report – no report
- Region 5 – Report – Feb 6, 2021
- Region 6 - See Region 1 0 Feb 6, 2021
- Region 7 - Report- Feb 6, 2021
- Region 8 – Report - Feb 20, 2021 with all events due Feb 8, 2021
- Region 9 – Report – Feb 6, 2021 – required all competing school to create a Gmail account with the school PATSA number so each student submits without names on events. Numbers area down significantly – only 2 middle school chapters
- Regional Registration Fee & Regional Results Reporting



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- Most conferences are Virtual with some having a limited on-site presence
- Question about Children's Stories event – "five teams of three" should appear in the Event Guide (typo)

Team Reports

- State Officer Team
 - State Officer Advisor – Report – officers have been meeting with other states to gather some information about meeting virtually
 - State Officer Team – Updates

Report from students (file in Google Doc)

-Pin Design Contest- Arnav Dhingra - updated rules to follow Nationals rules format, timeline in document...is the SOT planning on sending them to chapters and will the contest be pushed back also, who is assuming the cost for shipping (BOD)? Will the Chapters be charged a fee for shipping? It is suggested a postponement until we can meet again (not virtually)

-Event Resources Reformation Update – Julie Wright – graphic linked to each event and an event overlap index to help students understand each event

-VCPM Update - Madison Martin – by-annual virtual chapter presidents meetings – positive feedback - huge success. Some wanted to see graphics along with discussions, more middle school attendees, more questions posted for discussion

-Capitol Visit and Outreach – Elliot Ginzburg – postponed due to COVID but trying to reach out and schedule something virtual in the spring. Connections to Reps are needed. Suggested to reach out to Brandt Hutzler to get things started

-PA Rules Redesign – Arnav – shorten them and make more concise like Nationals, seeking approval from BOD to make the changes. Lauren – took the work and began process of updating to a virtual format

-Outreach Comm. Update - Megan Cooper – restructured how TSA will reach out to companies and businesses. Email template, prospectus document for each sub comm. – meant for an in-person setting but could be sent during this time. *Lauren – there are ways we could do outreach but this vision doesn't quite work the way we wanted it to. Molly Miller – do not get deflated over this year. The team has laid groundwork for the next state officers.*

-Member Run FLEX Sessions – Evan Grove – implemented through virtual FLEX Conf.. A general application that was used this year and this year there was only one presenter. We are hoping there will be more. Asking Regional coordinators to push the FLEX Conf website out to their regions.

-College Fair Update – Ben Moldovsky - Updated the list of colleges and contacts

-By Law Amendments – adds qualification to running for state office (must be on a comm. or currently serving on a comm.), and, by-law clean up –

Chris Miller – we shouldn't do By-Law Amendments this year due to the lack of input and no in-person conference

Jason Kofmehl – member of comm – question if it's necessary due to connections they already have with other students. By Laws – it will be tough to get a valid and informed vote. Some of the clarifications and housekeeping could be done in July.

-Lauren – our numbers will be low therefore to amend a by-law may be done in bad faith

-Shelly – By-Laws- which can we look at the BOD level and which should go to membership?

-Virtual Conferences – Regionals– Evan – wanted each region to create and generate



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sessions. (see Virtual Conference doc). Reach out to SOT to 'come' to each Regional Conf – [perhaps pre-tape a session on how to run for office. Then have a live break-out session for questions. M. Miller – have Zoom time set up where students could pop in and ask questions (region 5 & 9 are on the same day – they could push out one link)

-States – SOT hoping for synchronous and a-synchronous elements. Planning on zoom sessions..a virtual field trip, special interests sessions, large general session, etc...justifies the school days being excused. Perhaps some students can log in a-synchronous due to the fact they will not be able to login during school hours.

-Fundraising – Work on proposals that are approved by the BOD (trivia tournament with other states, Miracle Month-statewide fundraiser to uplift spirits during the month of March by pushing out weekly challenges, Meme contest)

-Last concern – running for state office – connect delegates to candidates

- State Conference Team – Report – try to retain some normalcy with the conference, participating in a virtual conference -15th and 16th running comp events...perhaps some students would not be able to participate? Perhaps single students or small groups could participate. See "State Conference 2021" document

- Have conference participate during school? Some school (CV) will not allow that due to the fact that they are on site each day not allowing students to mix with others outside their pods.

- Perhaps students will be able to do the conference from home and then interact with one another

- Do the conference April 15 and 16 with awards on the 17th

*The sooner we can produce information and send to parents, et,al...the easier this may be.

***Suggestions - Make everything due on the 14th...are judges going to be able to get everything judged? Run the same schedule (give judges two weeks to judge) but push the whole thing back for judges to get everything done as well as getting everything out electronically. National's is giving themselves a month to get stuff in and back out. If we pushed it back it would be. And, many kids pick up new events to move into another competition but will that be common due to COVID? There needs to be enough time to judge and get results versus giving students more time.*

- We will stick through April 14-17 and push the dates forward past the conf.

- We need to standardize the events (digital display - video size, etc...). Keep everyone to a PDF and keep file size the same. Digital display is interpreted as a video.

- Distribution of entries to judges – envision as a team effort

- Interviews – these are the big questions right now

-Awards – Jim Davis retired (trophy guy). Trophies are stored in Quakertown. People will pick up trophies and run them to each region where they will be distributed. Spikes Trophies has our information but we do not have anything going with them at this time.

-T-shirts – should we distribute t-shirts or not? Some yes and distribute them with the trophies. Shirts will be distributed for kids and judges

-Registration costs – Lauren feels that it could be lowered. Lauren will break down the costs

-Thaddeus Stevens will no longer be participating in the conference because of changes in their leadership. And Betsy is no longer with Seven Springs but Lauren is working with someone new and our dates are penciled in for 2022 and 2023.

-Lauren's PhD information survey – Jason and Chris will send out the survey and help



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Lauren collect the data needed for her PhD. Alumni can also take the survey.

- Chris Miller concerns - I want to throw this out there... since we are looking to move virtual, we might have some small hurdles we need to jump. Maybe having a submission period, followed by a judging period followed by a virtual conference. In our region we pushed our conference slightly later just so we could have a little longer for students to prepare as well as a window to allow us to organize entries a little more. We are going to have some back end challenges with tech, that I know we can address, but I don't want to pigeonhole us.

**Motion – Move the PATSA State Conference to a virtual setting – Linkenheimer, 2nd:Miller
APPROVE**

- Technology Team
 - Website - Report

Committee Reports

- Communications (Social) – Report – Instagram has grown with older community, posts have grown
- Publications (Print) - Report
- STEM-
- Scholarship - Report – 3-\$2000 awards...we are still good to give out 3 scholarship, Update web page to reflect Molly's contact info, push back deadline to March 15, go to all electronic submission. Chris will start to update info today. Advisors...make sure your students apply. Brandt asked to be added to review committee
- Bylaws
- Finance
- Redistricting - Report – Phila. schools will be checked on by Jason
- FLEX Leadership Conference – Report – 11 separate sessions at two different levels
- Act 48/TEEAP – tabled ACT 48 (for at least a year) because of content of TEEAP right now (professional development). Once content is developed, they will pursue. Instead of a conference this year, TEEAP will hold monthly webinars with strands

Advisory Reports

- Foundation - Financial, Scholarship & General Fund –Mike Flowers - \$38K in scholarship, no income from last conference. \$13K from general fund (for conf). Lauren may want to use this for reimbursement of transporting trophies to regions, etc...
- Alumni – Ryan Ferry – No new information
- Curriculum Specialist (PDE) – Report – Brandt Hutzel – Proposed Standards for SEETC standards are available. Look for the public comment period. Hopefully approved by July 2021. They are closely aligned with ITEEA's STEL standards. Molly has been working on adding some "PA" to them... 2024 is when districts will be up to speed and start testing (PSSA). EbD is being funded by PDE and PDE is offering training through IU's. Reach out to Brandt for help with judges.

Corporate Member Reports

National Report – Chris Roth – state advisor meeting with Nationals. Nationals will send an



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opening four minute greeting for states. They will decide the format for Nationals (virtual or in-person). M&M Productions will run the virtual national conference. If we are interested in pursuing that format, Chris has a contact. Some states are still having a real component (pick up dragsters and video the race).

Put a poll on the website to survey for a real competition for dragster and structural with all regional winners. If 'yes' they would be run at Conestoga Valley.
Executive Director/National TSA (Acting State Advisor) - Report

Executive Committee Concerns –John Bratton – CTO's office has been meeting every other month. Most contests are virtual using a professional company to do the conference. Examining other CTSO's, most of their events are more person to person vs with objects etc... There is a consensus that these types of conferences may become the norm due to costs. Most of the organization memberships are down FCLS down to 25%, FBLA is at 75%. Who is paying for the conferences? Charging students (FCCLA charging students to participate - \$35 and then a \$5 fee for every event entered) to cover the costs of hiring a company to do the virtual conf.

MOTION – Move to accept all reports – Mmiller/CMiller – APPROVE

Old Business

- No old business

New Business

- Appointed Positions (every year, open nominations, take office July 1)
 - State Conference Director - Current Nomination(s) - Lauren Lapinski
 - State Officer Advisor- Current Nomination(s) - Shelley Evans
 - Technology Director - Current Nomination(s) - Christopher Miller
 - Scholarship Chair- Current Nomination(s)- Molly Miller

MOTION- move to accept the positions as stated – APPROVE

- State Conference Format & Delivery – approve the event list for states
- Website Maintenance Responsibilities & Update Process – if Chris can get people to help with website updates (Jason and Molly will do) that takes the load off of Chris or Dan.

Adjournment (TBD, Red Lion Hotel, Harrisburg, PA) – Next meeting

MOTION – adjournment at 1:03 – JPennington, MMiller - APPROVE

Upcoming Meetings

- TBD
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