

PTSA Meeting Minutes

October 13, 2010

Student Report: Student government representative Maab Yasim (president), Mary Davis (vice-president), Andy Liggett (treasurer) and Will Street (secretary) presented the student report. They informed PTA of activities during homecoming week, requested convertibles for the homecoming parade, and requested help with a fundraiser (dance-a-thon) that they are planning for February 5, 2011. Specific information will be provided via KIT.

Senior class sponsors Katy McDonald and Cindy Furrer: Homecoming Dance – requested chaperones for coat check, tickets and hospitality as well as food and water donations. Donation drop-off for the dance is between 9-11 am on Saturday, October 23. Dance tickets will be sold at lunch for \$15 and \$20 at the door. To volunteer, please contact Katy McDonald at kwmcdonald@fcps.edu.

VP for Programs (Susan Sather):

School Improvement Plan (SIP): Presented by Mr. Chad Lehman, Assistant Principal Class of 2012.

- Three major goals: Academics, Essential Life Skills, Responsibility to Community
- Academics: Teachers work collaboratively to develop PLCs.
- Life Skills: Make healthy and safe choices, developing safety and wellness programs: stress management, eating disorders, sexual harassment/bullying, and substance abuse
- Responsibility to Community: Increase involvement in community, service hours towards NHS, CAS, IBMYP. Most students already do this through the IB program.
- SIP committee has 2 teachers from each aspect of the school. Suggestion to include a PTSA member in committee to help with local community activities.
 - German Honor Society helped Reston Chamber of Commerce at Octoberfest

Next month's program will be a presentation by Lisa Ehrhardt on diversity.

Minutes of September 15, 2010 meeting: Reviewed and approved

President's report (Joan Burkart):

- Joan thanked the folks who helped during back-to-school night and all who joined the PTSA. She also thanked Annette Anderson for putting together the newsletter and Sofie Cahoon and her volunteers for its production.
- Joan circulated three area workshops/events in October:
 - Open dress rehearsal with Fairfax Symphony on October 23 at 4 pm followed by a FSO concert at 8 pm in the GMU center for the arts.
 - Pathways 2 Independence: Sunday October 17 1-5 pm at SLHS
 - Little known secrets of paying for college: October 18 and 26 at Mclean HS

Treasurer's report (Jody Wolfe): More than \$4,200 income in membership, approximately \$3,000 in donations. Online membership is working very well. Approximately 400 directories were sold and they can be ordered until October 18, 2010.

VP for Communication (Maureen Becker):

- Freshman KIT (Keep in Touch) on homecoming week was very successful – good feedback from freshman families.
- There are still 300 families without email addresses who have been mailed the full newsletter. Hopefully some of these families will provide email addresses so they can be sent the condensed version.

- **Community Outreach** (Elizabeth Vandenburg):
 - Initiative for Public Art in Reston (IPAR) is great way to get IB and CAS hours. There is also potential for internships.
 - The PTSA and school have purchased an 8 ft X 6 ft laminated world map to be mounted and in the main hall near the office. The map will be used to demonstrate the diversity of our student body.

Academic Boosters (Kim Shoop):

- Kim thanked Trish Smith for selling advertisements in the directory – about \$4,000 collected so far.
- Freshman at Risk program has been renamed Project Graduation and Cristy Campbell and Kari Olsen are working to tailor it like BUG. Volunteer requirements are uncertain at this time.
- Volunteer Opportunities (See AB website <http://www.southlakesptsa.org/academicboosters.htm> for more information)
 - College essay application workshops are ongoing. Good turnout: 20-40 students during PSATs. Need parent volunteers for future workshops.
 - Need volunteers for academic letters ceremony and will also need dessert donations.
 - We are piloting a writing workshop for TOK. Program includes training on TOK basics and writing critique methods. Volunteers will read prescribed topic essays and meet to discuss with students. Krista Vita is coordinating.
 - College partnership program – for first generation college-bound students. Adults facilitators needed. The program meets every third Wednesday of the month from 2:15-3:30 pm after school.

Volunteer Coordinator (Sheryl Cosing): Volunteers needed for November 8 and 9 for vision and hearing tests.

ANGP (Micki Moravitz): ANGP meeting on October 21 and 7 pm. ANGP selling Giant gift cards, Poinsettias and Papa John discount card (buy one pizza get one free).

Reflections (Paula Parker): Due date is November 5, 2010.

New Business: Virginia PTA Proposed Legislative Program was voted on.

Principal's Report (Bruce Butler): Sue Semetsky, Martha Martinez, Shannon Tully, and Lindsay Trout received the FCPS ABC award from Dr. Dale in the middle of September for their effort in helping a student's family after his death in the summer. They collected more than \$20,000 from the community.

Mr. Butler presented a slide show of various activities in the school.