

## PTSA Meeting Minutes

January 19, 2011

### Teacher Report:

- Mr. John Pruess (in the SLHS science department) presented a new **Geospatial Science** class that will be introduced for senior students as an elective (not part of IB courses) next academic year. Students who take the test at the end of the year will receive 3 credits from James Madison University.
- Financial Skills course: Bill introduced requiring this course. Counselors will work with students to incorporate the course into their schedules. This course does not apply to the students currently enrolled in high school: the requirement will begin with the class of 2015.

### Student Report:

- January 27, 2011 the SGA will sponsor “**Chillhawk**”, an open mike night in the lecture hall – A time to relax and see local talent. Needs: 2 parent- volunteers to sell tickets, bean bag chairs, big pillows and baked goods. Contact Maab Yasin at [maabyasin@gmail.com](mailto:maabyasin@gmail.com).
- Brad Cohen highlighted upcoming events: Junior Class fundraiser for prom – **Chick-fil-A** week and Administrator Appreciation week – are this week; Pep rally is this Friday if not snowed in; **Mr. Seahawk** is scheduled for March 25<sup>th</sup>.

### VP for Programs (Susan Sather):

- Christi Campbell and Lauren Crispino (Counselors at SLHS) presented the 2010 Student Services and Needs Assessment survey results and their plan to address priority issues identified from the survey.
  - More than 25% of the student body participated in The Needs Assessment Survey conducted in September 2010 (seniors -21%, juniors -23%, sophomores-28%, and freshman-28%).
  - Students identified needing help in the following areas: resumewriting-80%, study skills-76%, careers-79%, pressure from family and self -59%, leadership-51%, self-esteem-50%, and depression-30%
  - 30 percent of students responding to survey (173 students) indicated being depressed.
  - Students identified motivation, time management and inability to understand teacher as reasons for poor performance in class. This information was shared with staff.
  - There are 8 counselors in the school. They are focusing on safety and wellness programs
  - Maureen Becker setup a meeting with the Whole Foods Manager to initiate wellness and nutrition programs/talks in the school.
  - School Counselor, Carrie Olsen, obtained training in suicide prevention. There are numerous state operated resources/programs on this issue which currently align with the 9<sup>th</sup> grade PE curriculum.
  - Programs on study skills, leadership, resume writing etc in the school are by self-enrollment.
  - Screen of “**Race to Nowhere**” movie in March. This movie highlights stress from family, peer pressure etc. Should be viewed with students. Two options to screen the movie: (1) PTSA pay \$1,500 upfront and not charge for tickets, (2) PTSA pay a \$500 return deposit and charge \$10 per advance ticket online, \$15 at the door. With option (2) if we sell 100+ tickets we get 30% of the take, if we sell 150+ tickets we get 50% of the take. Will coordinate with Rachel Carson and Langston Hughes. Would like to provide about 100 tickets at no charge for our families who are unable to pay for a ticket.

**Minutes of November 17, 2010 meeting:** Reviewed and approved.

### President’s report (Joan Burkart):

- Thank you (**communications**):
  - **Annette Anderson** (newsletter editor), **Sophi Cahoon** and her production crew, **Ann Confer** and **Kelley Westenhoff** and our VP of communications **Maureen Becker**, for producing, distributing and posting the newsletter to help keep are families informed.
- **PTSA Citizenship Essay Project:** Theme – Entitlement vs. Responsibility; Due to VA PTA – Feb 1, 2011.
- **VA PTA Scholarship** Applications (due March 1) forms available online or at the Career Center
- **Curriculum night** volunteers needed to man the PTSA table on Feb 2, 2011.
- Call for **Nominating Committee** volunteers. We need 3 volunteers to serve on the nominating committee. To volunteer contact Joan at [president@southlakespts.org](mailto:president@southlakespts.org). The committee will be voted on at the February 23<sup>rd</sup> PTSA meeting.
- Dr. Apt’s Patient Relations Coordinator (would like to be involved at SLHS) – Joan and Kim will meet next week to give tour of the school and determine how they would like to be involved.

**Treasurer’s report (Jody Wolfe):** The PTSA income is \$1,300 greater than that in the budget. Received check from Harris Teeter for \$312.

**VP for Communication (Maureen Becker):**

- No more printed newsletters after this year

**Academic Boosters (Kim Shoop):**

- **Mock ACT and SAT** test on Feb 26, 2011. Feedback on test strategies scheduled for March 9. Cost will be \$10 per student (for test and review session) there will be a \$.50 handling fee for online payment. The vendor will get exposure to student community. The student body benefits from this program but the PTSA does not endorse any vendor.
- Need to move more money into **BUG** (to provide a more equitable number per class, based on class size). To provide additional gift cards for the upcoming two BUG drawings, Academic Boosters are asking for a \$200 increase to their budget.

**ANGP (Micki Moravitz):** Micki said planning is on track.

- There was an unplanned fundraiser (concessions at the forensic debate) where ANGP earned \$1,800.
- **Outback Luncheon** is on February 19<sup>th</sup> – 100 seats available.
- Non-alcoholic drinks at ANGP served in “Margarita styled” glasses will not be labeled “Margarita” but as “Seahawk Smoothie”
- Needs: folks to help with corporate donations, and chairs for clean-up and activities committees. Micki will talk to Lindsey Trout (Sr. class AP) regarding the need for parent volunteers.

**Reflections (Paula Parker, Gina Katz):** There were 14 entrees – one received outstanding in music composition and two received excellence in visual arts/literature at the cluster level. All participants will be recognized at the April PTSA meeting.

**New Business:**

- Motion to passed to increase BUG budget by \$200. There is enough additional PTSA income to do this.
- Motion passed to have a mock SAT/ACT test and feedback session.
- Motion passed to sponsor and plan the viewing of “Race to Nowhere.” Most likely PTSA will follow option (2).

**Principal’s Report (Bruce Butler):** Mr. Butler presented a slide show of various activities in the school.

**Upcoming dates**

- Jan. 20 and 21 Broadway Night 7:00pm
- Jan. 27: Academic Booster meeting 9:30am cafeteria
- Jan. 26: Science Fair (snow date, February 3)
- Jan. 31-Feb 1: teacher workday, student holiday
- Feb. 1: PTA Citizenship Essay Project entries due to VA PTA
- Feb. 2: Curriculum Night 7:00pm
- Feb. 5: Harlem Wizard game at 7:00pm athletic booster fund raiser
- Feb. 9: PTSA Board meeting in Career Center
- Feb. 22: Superintendent’s Parent Advisory Meeting
- Feb. 23: PTSA meeting (vote on nominating committee)