



WESTFIELD HIGH SCHOOL PTSA

Board Meeting Minutes

January 18, 2005

Attendees

Dana Cimino

Jennifer Campbell

Mike Campbell

Teresa Johnson

Nancy Hutchison

Edie Walker

Karen Freiberg

Lorraine Arora

Michelle Plymyer

Melika Reed

LuAnn McNabb

Grace Duke

Mona Miller

Holli Wolter

Laurie Horstmann

Penny Douskalis

Pam Jones

The PTSA business meeting was called to order by President Dana Cimino at 7:10pm. There were 17 members present.

The November PTSA meeting minutes were reviewed, amended on page 5 to read, "Middle School and Elementary School", and were approved as amended.

Special Presentation: SLEEP- Start Later for Excellence in Education

Sandy Evans, a co-founder of the group SLEEP, presented on the role of sleep with teens and how only 15% of teens get enough sleep. She and co-founder Phyllis Payne, MPH, have initiated efforts in Fairfax County to change middle and high school start times to later in the morning. Their goal is to synchronize the school clocks with students' body clocks so teens are in school during their most alert hours and can achieve their full academic potential. Sandy can be reached at sleep2005@aol.com. More information, including the petition for the county can be obtained at their website: www.SLEEPinFairfax.org.

All Night Grad- Pam Jones

The mulch sale has started, with delivery on March 12th. Last year they raised \$16,000 from the sale of mulch. They are also considering an art auction. The Phantom ball will be in the spring. Last year it raised \$3,000. The theme for the All Night Grad Party is "Surfin Out of Here".

BITS- Carol Jasper

The tutoring has been opened up to 2 elementary schools and the middle schools. She is working on better communication between the schools and is looking for more parents. The tutors are awesome and they currently have more tutors than students in the program. They will be going to the Rachel Carson Middle School parent coffee to talk about the program.

TREASURER'S REPORT – EDIE WALKER

The current balance is \$22,543.79. All Night Grad has paid part of their contract. The PTSA is currently ahead approximately \$2,700 in income than anticipated. The \$500 in bank fees was reversed after 2 months of discussions. The PTSA, Music Boosters, and other school groups are planning on meeting with some local banks to see what financial packages they offer which maximize interest and with a minimum of fees.

A parent sent in a confidential letter requesting a refund of PTSA membership and the bankroll donation, since their child was no longer attending Westfield High School. Discussion ensued, and a motion was made not to refund what was initially intended as a donation. All present voted, the motion carried. The vote was unanimous. There were no abstentions.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT - Dana Cimino

Lynne Schwartz had previous updated Dana about the Reflections contest. Several Westfield students received Best in show in 4 categories. Illiana Fernandez received an award for Literature, Charlotte Cain for Photography, Jeff Jones for Visual Arts. Karen Woolley received an Award of Excellence for Music. There will be a reception on February 8th for the students.

Dana received a funding request for Odyssey of the Mind amounting to \$100 to fund a Westfield team. A motion was made to give Odyssey of the Mind \$100 for their team. All present were in favor. The motion passed. None were opposed.

Dana received a certificate from the VAPTA stating that WHS PTSA has met their criteria and remains in good standing.

Principal's Report- Mike Campbell

Mike introduced Teresa Johnson, and intern from Cluster 4 & 5 who is working on a degree in administration.

Mike announced that Linda Rapp, English Department Chair, received the Educator of the Year Award through the Dulles Chamber of Commerce.

The Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) is sending forth 2 proposals to deal with overcrowding in our schools. One is to make Rachel Carson a high school and make a middle school across from WHS. There is also a question of building a high school across the street from Westfield next to the buss garage. Any proposals need to be sent to the School Board for feasibility and would take 2-3 years.

Westfield has had a tremendous year so far. Suspensions have decreased and the school ranked number 2 behind Jefferson in terms of the percentage of students receiving a 3.5 average. There were 47% students athletes that earned an academic average of 3.5.

The School Board changed their minds on pep rallies. They OK'd 3-4 per school year. The Student Activities Council did a good job presenting their proposal to the board.

Planning has begun for next year. WHS is still 200 lockers short for next year. The clinic aid needs assistance due to the increasing number of students. The chem. Labs need increasing, due to the size of the rising freshman class (926). There will be an estimated 100 additional students enrolled at WHS next year. Parking is an ongoing issue. The county has been supportive of some of the additional school needs. The school addition will start on July 1st and be reading in 2006. There is also concern at the county level about the 2,700 students at Chantilly. Centreville and Herndon wouldn't be touched when redistributing students.

COMMITTEE REPORTS-

TECHNOLOGY- MARY WOLF

The new programs are loaded. The lap top computers are in the library and are available for overnight check out. Mary hopes to have 30 students trained and in the program by the end of the year. A goal is to have a

summary report at the end of the year. Mary will be moving out of the area in June and would like to find a Technology chair replacement within the next month so she can transition things. Mary stated that the volunteer doesn't need to need not have a technology background. Mary also shared with the membership a wish list from Mike Mandigo amounting to \$7,600, for future consideration, since technology always needs to be updated. She requested the remaining \$2,000 in her budget since it has been spent and was given a check.

Legislative – LuAnn McNabb

LuAnn gave an update on the recent Task Force. Approval was given for 1,300 residential units to be built within the Westfield High School boundaries. There is a Planning Commission hearing on April 20th, and sign ups for it begin on March 1st. Ron Koch and Jim Hart have been invited to speak about this issue at our next PTSA meeting. At the Task Force vote, 4 voted against the development, while 14 voted for it. Representatives from the homeowners associations from **Gatepost Estates, Virginia Run, and Sully II** were among those that voted for the development.

LuAnn has been meeting with School Board members and legislators in the hopes that any new development in the area be assigned to go to other high schools, particularly those undercapacity. There needs to be more lobbying activity on the part of parents in our area to make the southern part of the state understand our population needs here.

There is upcoming legislation at the state level proposing that public school buses transport private and parochial school students. There is also question of whether home-schooled students will be allowed to join in public school extracurricular activities.

Jerry Kilgore resigned as the Attorney General as of February 5th. He will be running for governor as well as Tim Kaine. Gubernatorial, Attorney General and House elections will be in the fall. LuAnn has invited all of the representatives to come to C lunch and will update us.

Minority Achievement- Malika Reed

There was a meeting for minority achievement where they discussed new strategies for BITS and increasing communications. They will have representatives at the Curriculum Fair (rescheduled due to snow on 1/29)

and will be at the Minority Student Achievement coffee on 3/16. Their next committee meeting is 2/15 at 6:30pm.

5K RUN Laurie Horstmann

The run is scheduled for Homecoming weekend, which is the first full weekend in October (Columbus Day Weekend) The run will be held on Saturday, October 8th. The money raised will go for scholarships. The run held last spring funded scholarships for 2005. A motion was made to disperse funds raised as per last year, combining PTSA and Aviation to \$3,200. The total proceeds for scholarships from 5K funds would total \$8,500 and be divided as follows: Music \$1,800, Athletics \$1,800, Rotary \$1,000, PTSA \$2,700, Aviation \$500, and Theatre Boosters \$700. The motion passes. No one was opposed.

Dana announced that she will need volunteers to be on the Nominating Committee. They will need to come up with a slate of PTSA officers for the April meeting which will be voted on in May.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Jennifer Campbell
Recording Secretary

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

January 20 Inauguration Day/No School
January 26 Minority Parent Curriculum Fair
January 26th Newsletter Article Deadline
January 28 End of 2nd Quarter
January 31 Teacher In-service/No School
February 1 Teacher Workday/No School
February 5 New SAT date
February 9 Curriculum Open House
February 22 2nd Quarter Donut/Juice Reception
February 24 PTSA Meeting
March 12 ANGP Mulch Delivery