

**Westfield High School
General Membership PTSA Meeting
2006-2007**

<http://ptsa.westfieldhs.org/>

Date: May 17, 2007

CALL TO ORDER: By Jennifer Campbell at 7:35 p.m.

ATTENDEES:

Jennifer Campbell	Mary English	Roy Clements
Dana Cimino	Meg Crossett	Danette Plummer
Aimee Lowry	Carol Jasper	Nancy Bennett
Tim Thomas	Bill Bernstein	
Karen Friedberg	Edith Bergay	
Nancy Tortorella	Helaine Newman	

MINUTES: Minutes from the February 22, 2007 and April 19, 2007 PTSA meetings were approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Dana Cimino as of 5/16/07

PTSA Balance:	\$ 8,295.47
ANGP Balance:	\$48,714.97
5K Balance:	\$ 190.05

Discussion of the projected budget versus actuals. The expectation is that the carry-forward will be only \$1,120.91 for next year – this is less than the desirable amount.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Jennifer Campbell

- The Fairfax County Council of PTAs will be honoring Dana Cimino with the Volunteer of the Year Award. Kayla Fleming won a \$1,000 PTA merit-based scholarship.
- Thanks to all who volunteered for the After-Prom party. The party was a big success with over 300 students attending.
- Several Board positions still need to be filled. Call Jennifer Campbell if you know of anyone interested in serving.
- The Westfield Coalition is rolling out the “Parents Who Host Lose the Most” campaign to combat teen drinking.

- Jennifer attended the Million Mom March presentation on gun laws. The program is supported by the National PTA. The next meeting will be June 4th at the Centreville library.
- Reminder that the June meeting will take place at Jennifer's house.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT: Tim Thomas

- Fairfax County is putting together a task force on how schools deal with crisis. Tim has volunteered to serve on the task force.
 - Tim will seek an opportunity to debrief with county officials about the experience of Westfield during the Virginia Tech shooting crisis. He felt Westfield was supported well by the county staff during the crisis – does not believe Stone was as well-supported.
- Areas of focus for Westfield next year will be (1) literacy and (2) finding better ways to foster positive relationships within the school community.
- Dave Jagles is working on ways to enhance character education on students. A proposal has gone out to institute a county-wide policy on character education. The proposal calls for agreements to be signed by students who participate in extra-curricular activities. We're not sure at this point who will implement the proposal (i.e., the School Board or the Office of Student Activities.)
- Westfield suspension data is now being analyzed. Nearly half of the referrals for disciplinary action have been attendance-related. There was a discussion at the Principal's meeting earlier in the day that dealt with effective attendance policies and programs, including a call-out program about to be tested. Attendance programs and procedures are in need of overhaul. October and March are the most difficult months for Westfield.
- Onsite AP testing went well. A few problems were experienced, including state-wide glitches.
- Prom went well with over 700 attendees.
- Graduation for 2008 will take place on June 18th, which is the last day in Fairfax County. Dates are assigned by lottery.
- A strong selection has been made for the Assistant Vice Principal slot, pending approval by Betsy Goodman.
- Karen Friedberg discussed a recent issue with Keep In Touch, questioning the inability to send news about a jazz band event to the full community. She suggested trying to find a way to use the feature for events and proposed a weekly reminder as a good way to promote a community feel for the school.

Unfinished Business

- Mountain View has asked for \$100 in funding to support its year-end activities. Meg Crossett made a motion to approve the funding. Edith Bergay seconded. The motion carried.
- Chantilly Minority Pyramid has asked the Westfield PTA to take out an ad at a cost of approximately \$200. Meg again motioned to approve the funding; Edith seconded; the motion carried.

- A Westfield student from Chantilly, Zack Ridenhour, is looking for support to go on a trip as the first place winner in the Food and Beverage Service category in the Skills USA championship. Meg motioned to approve funding; Dana Cimino seconded; the motion carried.
- There was a general consensus supporting GoodSearch.com, which will be publicized to the membership. The search engine donates \$.01 to the school for every search.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- BITS – Carol Jasper – The banquet will take place on June 9th with Northrup Grumman sponsoring the food. Johnny Nelson has been invited as guest speaker. Carol is working on year-end statistics. She is also pleased to announce a potential new co-chair, Nancy Tortorella.
- Minority Achievement – A year-end barbeque is being planned for June 7th. The Committee would like to allow attendees to make donations to the Erin Peterson Memorial Scholarship. Not sure whether this is approved under county regulations. Jennifer will get an answer to the question.
 - Reema Samaha and Erin Peterson Scholarship committees will meet to coordinate efforts. Ariel Jasper is putting together a scrapbook for Erin Peterson’s mother. She is looking for pictures and other ideas.
 - The next Minority Achievement newsletter is being dedicated to Reema and Erin.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 8:15. Neil McNerney was introduced as speaker for the evening’s program, “Help Your Family Cope with Trauma and Crisis.”

**Respectfully submitted,
Aimee Lowry
Vice President**