

Notes from PTSA General Meeting

August 15, 2017

***These are not official meeting minutes.**

Dear Prospect Families,

In an effort to better communicate what we are doing at the PTSA meetings we are going to send out an informal email with notes from the meeting. These are just meant to keep you updated on what happened, but will not be formatted and pretty until we can find a willing soul with the time to help with that. ;-). If you have any questions about the meeting or want to get more involved in something you read here please contact Cathie at president@prospectpta.org.

Meeting Notes:

1. Student report (Daniel Voskoboynik from ASB, student government):
 1. Aug 28 – Sept 1 is back to school week, Friday is the first home football game. At the game there will be a freshman tailgate co-sponsored with Link Crew, serving food and drinks plus free admission to the game. ASB will also have inflatables and Kona Ice on the grass by the field to encourage attendance and good behavior.
 2. A new focus in ASB is starting an honors program – an incentive for school success. Recognition for improvement in GPA or high GPA, with t-shirt and invitation to a fun rally. 3.0 GPA or a .5 increase in a semester. First event in January.
 3. The homecoming theme (determined by student vote) is Animation/Domination.
 1. Senior: Cars
 2. Junior: Finding Nemo
 3. Soph: Bugs Life
 4. Frosh: Toy Story
2. Financial reports (Thomas Swidler):
 1. Need new treasurer for next year – please consider joining PTSA! (Our treasurer has our finances very well organized and will be a resource for our next treasurer to come on board)
 2. Budget discussed: used last year's actuals for income line items. Discussed expense line items one by one. New items: new parent orientation (event will be next PTSA meeting on Sept 12) (\$250), homecoming dance activities budget (\$1000), marketing to promote PTSA (\$1000).
 3. Mini-grant applications for teachers are already available, and we've received 3 applications so far. Will vote on the first round by the end of Sept.
 4. Open house – budget for refreshments still included, but we haven't used the money in recent years.
 5. We are planning to spend more than our income, with a loss of about \$7300. This is intentional because we are trying to spend down our reserve. We hope to increase our membership income in coming years so we can maintain this budget.
 6. Teacher appreciation lunch renamed teacher appreciation (more than one event).
3. Presentation of bills (Thomas - bills explained and payment voted upon) – Thomas presented two checks to release the funds, for Caught in the Act and Health Office Supplies.
4. Report of the executive board (Cathie Watson Short) :
 - A. PTSA President introduces herself and officers (Cathie, everyone introduces themselves)
 - B. Direction of PTSA - At our executive meeting we talked about goals, how to grow PTSA. Our number one goal is to build more community.
 - C. Describe new format of meetings – going forward, 45 minute business meeting, 15 minute break, 1 hour parent education presentation. Next month's meeting will be for

new parents – how-to information, getting on Schoolloop, more information about navigating a new school. Scheduled parent events:

1. Sept – new parent info night
 2. Oct – CPM math info night with math teachers
 3. Nov – (tentative) Mindset talk with the parents, similar to what teachers are learning
 4. Spring – (tentative) tour of school: Mr. Medina new studio, 3D design, robotics?
- D. Discuss updated website – Thomas and Cathie, Cathie is adding new info, signups for education opportunities, have more plans for changes. Company match info updated.
- E. Principal report – Joell reports the school was repainted. Roofs were repaired, hallway skylights were fixed and re-plastered, in the process of replacing the old chiller system (first school in the district with air cooling, but needs replacement now) with units on top of each building. Have to do one building at a time, and then take down the old system. By the end of the year, we should have new AC in all buildings. New turf field in front, ready any minute. New sound system for the football field, new snack shack and press box (next year or two). Creating a committee to get new pool – one pool that is big enough for diving, swimming, and water polo. Trying to redesign the student hub, maybe a 2 story building, need a committee for that too. Hoping for the next 2 years. The proposed new student union will contain a state of the art kitchen plus a large flexible room for meetings and other activities. Might contain library, college career center, and flexible meeting space upstairs. PHS currently has 1490 students. Online registration process went well, about 40% used it, needs some improvement. There is a current moratorium on inter-district transfers but the district is looking at ways to allow some movement without impacting school site numbers. PHS is trying to get a few magnet-style programs going: business CTE strand, and arts/media production CTE strand (made possible because of the recording studio and other affordances). WASC visiting committee is coming in March and we need parents to greet them on various days, especially Sunday March 18 in the afternoon.
- F. School site council meeting on Sept 27 at 3:30pm. All are welcome to attend.
5. Reports of the committees
- . Membership (Cathie) – Membership drive paperwork shared (handout), will create a banner to put out on the fence near the marquee – out for the month of September to promote the drive, pass out flyers at back to school night with more info. Cyndi will put the donations into a spreadsheet. We have about 25 donations so far. We could also do a tri-fold flier with more info on it. How to best advertise to parents at back to school night? Have volunteers with Square set up to give on the spot? Have Square at the library and the gym? Use auto-dial phone call to promote PTSA, maybe mid-Sept?
 - A. Parent education & Student Classes Offered – sign up online on the PTSA website. Advertise on the video bulletin – give the info to Mr. Medina to include to reach more students.
 - i. Student classes (Cathie):
 1. Study Skills Class
 2. SAT Prep
 3. ACT & SAT Practice tests offered
 - ii. Parent classes (Anita Guerra, 2-3 big events per year):
 1. Mary from Love and Logic booked Oct. 23
 2. Sue Larminie for college application talk in January
 3. Other ideas: Beyond Measure – movie viewing (follow up film to Race To Nowhere)
 - B. Community Liaison (Lisa Palumbo) – FB page will be coming out soon, will share info onto FB about PHS at regular intervals 2x per week. Add “like us on Facebook” to our membership flier.
 - C. Homecoming Decorating Committee -- would like to find a lead and is recruiting now,, date of event is Oct. 14. Work with ASB to help with the homecoming dance, by adding some activities to the event. ASB is already very busy that week doing the thematic

events each day. Westgate Church will help. Need committee members – ask at back to school night. ASB will get back to us with ideas of activities they would like.

- D. Career Center (Amy Bencomo) – handout shared, working on specific college events, campus visits from various colleges are happening each month on PHS campus
- E. Open Committees and Positions – please consider volunteering!
 - . Hospitality
 - i. Homecoming Decorating
 - ii. Middle School Liaisons (EDS, MMS, DCS, Latimer)
 - iii. Senior Scholarship coordinator
 - iv. College & Career Center Liaison – (Lorie Laird)
 - v. Parent Education – Anita
 - vi. Communications
 - vii. Membership

If you no longer wish to be on the Prospect PTSA mailing list please unsubscribe below.

Thank you and Go Panthers!
Cathie