

September PA Meeting Minutes

September 15, 2016

Attendees: Dave Ussell, Lori Gildred Conlan, Melody Friedman, Stephanie Antin, Therese Hymer, Nancy Mullen, Angelique Deanda, Vicky Ross, Carlos Gomez Perez, George Everett, Kyle Wade

Welcome and Introductions (Therese Hymer)

Informational items

1. Environmental Engineering (Will Raschke)

- first new class in 4-5 years
- focus on manufacturing, while Dr. Don works on tech side
- Inspire students and teachers to make things
- music in bathrooms is first school-wide improvement project. Working with electrical engineer to help with wiring.
- seeking experts- parents with manufacturing, engineering experience - act as mentors, talk to class, work on projects.
- need old construction materials, (wood, brick, metal rods), tools, contacts in cabinetry shops, construction
- Will was asked to write something to send to parents and to talk with teachers at tomorrow's faculty meeting about their project needs. Asked to do a Google sign up form to go to correct teacher.
- ways we can help support Will's class: Nancy had idea to do supply drive at Spruce Up Day. Dave thinks we need a "Needs" webpage -expertise and materials (specifically) needed- which would also include feedback about how things were used and appreciated. Nancy also threw out an idea of a big project day, with various project experts coming in to help.

2. Director's report (Brett)

- smooth first two weeks- budget, admissions, new teachers, leadership, solid reports from students, robust student leadership.
- Staff Day 9/26: planning time for college day, immersion week, junior college road trip. Staff will participate in workshop on mental/emotional health for people who work in education; work/life balance. May possibly practice yoga or meditation.
- Student Senate (began about 8 years ago at HTH): leadership experience, student voice. Not like prior HTHI ASB, which was a volunteer group that varied some from X-Block to X-Block. Meets once a week. Will have a representative attend faculty meetings, improve school, identify priorities, improve academics and school amenities. Members were nominated by teachers, retreat held in August. 18 students as of now. Freshmen will be added later in the year. First meeting next Wednesday 9/21. Students in charge of recruitment. Participants will reflect the

diversity of their school. Maximum student number is 25. First project supported by SS- bringing music to the bathrooms.

-Dave raised not being able to find Athletics info on website.

3. Lightning Feedback Round (Brett)

- appreciates the weekly updates, confusion around times for sports games, loves new gym
- appreciates experience and guidance from 12th grade teachers
- sports (volleyball) schedule changes from week to week, which is frustrating
- appreciates Brett's openness and engagement with parents right off the bat. 12th grade team experience great. Virtual reality project great
- appreciates communication from teams in 9th and 11th grades
- new student started Monday- fantastic, feels free after being institutionalized at a traditional school
- appreciates that daughter comes home regularly and says she had a good day
- appreciates Erik for early focused efforts for 12th graders and college admissions
- appreciates experience and guidance 12th grade teachers are giving her daughter

Brett will type up feedback/sentiments and share with all staff

Breakout groups

1. Spruce Up - Saturday, October 8 (George)

- 8am - 2pm
- email blast will go out next week for people and supplies
- Focus this year is cleaning, with limited painting
- adding patio area clean up - will request small and medium sized stones

2. Teacher Appreciation Lunch - November (Therese)

- November 9 at 12:10 for 40 minutes
- Mexican theme (Día de los Muertos)
- Decorations: Angelique to check with Rafael re interest in student involvement. Nancy to look for succulent donations.
- Donations for teacher raffle: Lori will donate Trader Joe's gift cards. Ask for additional donations in sign up email to parents.

3. Social/fundraising event - February (Vicky)

Vicky Ross, Kyle Wade, Melody Friedman, Dave Ussell

- We spoke about having an event off-site at a restaurant/bar venue and modelling it after a successful HTMMA event that was held at The Loma Club called "Project Dream" that netted over \$8,000.
- The event would take place in February, 2017
- We would charge approx \$40 per person

- HTHI alumni parents invited
- Teachers invited/encouraged by Brett to attend and comped for tickets
- Food/appetizers provided with a no-host bar.
- Live music (student band?)
- Proceeds would come from silent auction items (donated items from businesses and parents), teacher outings and a raffle. Possibility of having a "Giving tree" with ornaments made by the students. At the HTMMA event the teacher outings were very popular. We would work on getting donations so that the outing would be no cost for teachers.
- We would form a committee of approx 6 people working on this event. Vicky will work on a timeline.

Informational items (cont'd)

1. Treasurer's report (Kyle and Therese)

- Review of what we spent last year. PA donated \$2,500 to teacher team funds, \$500 to the Junior's college road trip, \$2600 to the commons area furniture campaign and \$2500 to Immersion Week. In addition, a campaign resulted in \$4975 in direct donation from parents for the commons area furniture campaign. This left PA with a balance of \$4582 going into this school year, so we have fewer funds to donate to the school unless additional funds are raised this year.
- Brett got a grant and increased teacher budgets, so this year we will not be donating teacher team funds
- Made \$287 on tacos at back to school night on 9/8
- New student orientation: \$48 in spontaneous donations
- \$200 budgeted for informal staff lunch during POLs
- will rework budget this year and will vote next month
- Priorities from Brett for PA donations: Immersion week, Junior's college trip, redo kitchen

2. President's update (Therese)

Logowear:

- we took over sales as ASB did not want to continue after trying it last year for the first time in a number of years
- sales will be fundraiser for PA to use for our main projects this year
- Began to sell new logo wear, lots of interest but most parents were too busy at Back to School night to focus on purchasing
- Announcement went out to all parents last night
- No inventory, we take preorders, print on demand
- idea to merchandise Logowear in a space in the commons before SLCs and Spruce Up day- need approval from Fran. Melody will work on this
- Dave had suggestion for student design contest for future. Athletic dept. does logo wear as well.

Volunteer sign ups

- more than 60 so far from various events. Therese working on volunteer list, then will distribute to entire PA leadership team.
- Neighborhood teams by zip code- sign ups happened at Back to School night. Therese getting groups out ASAP

Regular periodic newsletter

- Discussed idea. Decided to pursue idea; need to decide frequency, style, content
- Dave asked question about newsletter frequency in past; emails done as items came up. HTH did monthly newsletters done by one of the teachers; HTH PA this year is giving info to front desk person who does weekly email.
- Will talk with Brett to see if an employee could commit the time to do it

Action/decision items

1. **Approve funds for Spruce Up** (Kyle) -\$200 requested. Stephanie made motion, Dave seconded- Approved \$200 unanimously
2. **Approve funds for Oct. 12 POL staff lunch** (Therese) -\$200 requested. Melody made motion, George seconded. Approved unanimously

New business

-Suggestions for meetings

-Breakfast with Brett the day after our meetings. Might pose a problem with attendance to both meetings

-possible reticence by some parents to come to meetings because of fear will be asked to do more. May be asked to contribute some additional time, but we'll be sure it is not more than a parent wants to/is able to do.

Meeting adjourned at 10:30.

Minutes respectfully submitted,
Nancy Mullen