

**DSHS PTA
Meeting Notes**

Date: Wednesday, January 4, 2012

Time: 7:37 pm to 9:05 pm

In Attendance

Cathy Farman, Lea Darrah, Sandra Schickele, Liz Grassi, Catherine Yu Li, Roberta Kuhlman, Colleen Costello-Kreidler, Jacqui Moore, Widgen Neagley, Courtenay Tessler, Joseph Rogers, Mary Nicholson, Jill Van Zanten, Linda Zabloutny-Hurst, Anne Happel, Caitlyn, G., Tara M., and Bob Darragh

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:37 by President Cathy Farman. The PTA Board, DSHS staff, students and parents introduced themselves.

Announcement: Cathy noted that the next Climate Committee meeting will be on January 11th at 2:45 p.m. in the DSHS library. The committee discusses several topics including EL, public relations, among other topics. The committee meets the second Wednesday of each month and all are invited to attend and participate.

Approval of November Minutes

A motion was made by Lea Darrah to approve the November 2, 2011 minutes as amended. The change was to the date of the Senior Ball. The motion passed unopposed.

Student Reports

- Tara M., representative of the Sophomore Senate, discussed the ASB elections on February 14th. Since only Sophomores and Juniors vote in the election the Seniors will discuss graduation and Senior Ball. The Junior Prom was also a success.
- Caitlyn G. updated the PTA on several items. The Senior Ball will be at the Sacramento Sheraton Grand Hotel on May 19th with tickets on sale starting in April. Unfortunately, neither DSHS or the PTA can sponsor bus transportation to the dance. However, the PTA listserv can be used to assist parents in organizing bus transportation to and from the event. The Class of 2012 has also started planning for a memorable graduation, concerns about seating, tickets, and handicap assistance will be addressed. Ideas for the Senior gift include sound system or furniture for the Library or contribution to the next generation Computer Lab.

Measure C – Parcel Tax Renewal

A mail-in ballot due March 6th will ask Davis voters to approve Measure C, a parcel tax to help fund the DJUSD. This parcel tax will replace both Measures Q and W that expire this year and requires a super majority (2/3) to pass. The tax is \$320 per parcel of \$150 per unit and includes a senior exemption. Cathy plans to phone bank on February 15th and encourages the PTA to join her that night to call to remind voters to send in their ballot. Lea made a motion for the PTA to endorse the passage of Measure C. The motion passed unanimously.

Administration's Report: Jacqui Moore

- Kate Prien is the new secretary for Dr. Moore. She will manage the DSHS site fund budget

- Sheryl Ozga is the new bookkeeper. She will manage the ASB finances.
- Jacqui thanks PTA for the PIE grants.
- The DSHS progress reports were finally mailed today instead of on December 12th. Unfortunately, the progress reports have been mailed late twice this year. Jacqui is working with DJUSD to bring the mailing of these important documents back to the high school.
- DSHS has grade inflation when grades are compared to SAT scores over time. There was extensive discussion on what is the purpose of a grade, gaming the grading\AP system, learning vs. testing, timely feedback from teachers which is critical for parents, weighting of AP class grades, etc. Please e-mail either the teacher, Courtenay or Jacqui with concerns about teacher feedback on grades and student course progress.
- FTEs will be tighter again next year. In the new catalog extra time is given to select an appropriate class schedule for the upcoming year (Feb 21st to March 23rd). However, changing classes after this date may be impossible due to the impact on staffing and the Master Schedule.
- There is a concern next year that funds for the ½ time Vice-Principal position at DSHS will not be available.
- An anti-bullying assembly will be on January 31st. It will be Rachel's Challenge, a assembly sponsored by the family of the first person killed during the Columbine massacre. The assembly is powerful and moving.
- Technology Plan: Jacqui and others are working on an interim patch to several major deficits in current computer technology at DSHS in order to provide a minimum level to students and staff. DJUSD unfortunately still lacks a Technology Plan and will not produce one in a reasonable time frame. The four main components of the DSHS plan are:
 - a) Add LCD projectors to 10 classrooms (PTA has already purchased additional projectors this year through the PIE grants for check-out through the Library)
 - b) Replace 11-year old computer lab with 38 new work stations (\$38,000)
 - c) Add Wi-Fi to parts of campus (Library and P-building, the only buildings with fiber optic cables) (\$4,000)
 - d) Provide teacher training in the new technology. There is potential training in June for librarians and teachers.

Other aspects of the plan include:

- a) Start-up cost is \$53,000 with \$23,000 from Intel matching funds, \$20,000 from Blue and White Foundation and \$10,000 requested from PTA.
- b) On-going professional technical support and maintenance can be funded using matching funds from Intel that have been from \$8,000 to \$20,000 per year.
- c) Bring-your-own-device (BYOD) along with Library check-out of devices for students without smart devices. A donation drive for old smart devices was suggested
- d) Rapid upgrade of the computer lab, routers, switches and Internet content filters.

Counselor's Report: Courtenay Tessler

- Courtenay emphasized the role of the counselor's in helping the student develop strategies to approach teachers.
- March 23rd is the deadline for class schedule requests for next year. There are nearly two months for families to discuss course choices with teachers and counselors. No changes in schedule should be expected after this date.
- Additional Naviance training will be provided for Juniors during American Literature between

February and April.

- The counselors provide graduation caps and gowns for appropriate students. These will now have an iron on patch “Property of DSHS Counseling Department – Please return.”
- The Counselors are providing additional assistance/intervention on Thursday for at-risk, low-achieving students for 30 minutes. The students are taught techniques for academic success. In addition, on-site tutoring is available each day in the Academic Center.

Teacher Report: Widgen Neagley

Widgen emphasized the importance of the student advocating for themselves in the teacher-counselor-Vice Principal- Principal problem-solving hierarchy. Parent support and encouragement is, of course, helpful at all stages.

Treasurer’s Report: Catherine Yu Li

• Catherine presented the Treasurer’s Report dated January 4th, 2012. Income totals \$35,979.66. This is \$5,552.66 more than in the budget. PIE donations to date are \$25,761.53 exceeding the budget estimate of \$20,000. Tax preparation charges have exceeded the approved budget due to additional forms required by the CA State Attorney General. This new line item (Registration Fee) in the amount of \$50 is included in the Treasurer’s Report of January 4th, 2012.

- Catherine also presented the following five checks for payment. The payments total \$2,454.33.

The five checks are:

DSHS Counselor’s	Student Aid	\$1,500.00
Helen Ma	Directory mailing	\$174.33
Roberta Kuhlman	Parent Ed	\$30.00
DCW Collaboration	Parent Ed – Spring Program	\$400.00
Pam Mainini	Tax Preparation	\$350.00

Catherine Yu Li moved to accept the Treasurer’s report dated January 4th, 2012. The motion passed unanimously. Catherine Yu Li moved to approve the five payments listed. The motion passed unanimously.

PIE Grants: A second round of grants will be announced to teachers this week. One additional PIE grant request from a teacher in the Art Department has been received. Lea Darrah made a motion to approve the grant request for a white board on wheels of up to \$350 (including shipping and handling). The motion passed unopposed.

DSHS has at least two critical needs. The first is the Technology Upgrade (summarized above). The second is that the Library needs to replace many old, heavy tables at a cost of about \$17,000. The new seminar tables would allow for flexible configurations and can be more easily used for PTA Parent Education and other events in the library. The request to PTA is for 50% or \$8,500, the rest of the funds to come from a DSHS discretionary donation fund that Jacqui will spend down to \$0.

Since the table and technology requests are both beyond current budget authorizations the Executive Board recommends to:

- a) Provide \$10,000 for technology from the carry-over with the explicit understanding of ongoing technical support and quick implementation of the updated lab. The PTA carryover will be reduced by this amount to about \$11,000.

- b) Suggest that teachers apply for PIE grants for training in the new technology with the understanding that this training will be shared with other teachers at DSHS.
- c) Suggest that a request for recycling bins be part of a PIE grant request.
- d) Provide PIE grant program to the Library (up to \$8,500) for table purchase. The amount of funds available is determined by the remaining unallocated PIE donations once all approved grants have been funded. This should ensure that all PIE funds will be awarded this year and that the carry-over will not increase due to unspent PIE donations.
- e) PIE grant requests to be funded before the purchase order end-of-year date.
- f) PTA also plans to work with Senior Class on gift ideas in these areas of need. A senior gift in one of these areas would have a lasting impact on the High School.

Lea made a motion to provide \$10,000 for technology to DSHS from the PTA carry-over with the explicit understanding of ongoing technical support and quick implementation of the updated computer lab. The motion passed unanimously. The PTA carryover will be reduced to about \$11,000.

Parliamentarian Update: Colleen has started preparation for obtaining a slate of PTA Board candidates for 2012-2013. A committee of 2-3 will be appointed at the February PTA meeting and the Slate of Officers presented and approved at the March Association meeting.

Parent Education Update: Roberta Kuhlman reported that 193(standing room only) attended the Sally Springer presentation in the DSHS Library. Courtenay Tessler joined the discussion at the end of the presentation to answer DSHS specific questions from parents. The next event will occur on January 25th and will be a joint presentation by Donald Palm, Darlene Hunter and Courtenay Tessler (if available).

The event on Friday February 3rd is part of the Davis Parent University Lecture Series for 2012. The title is "The Whole Child - Gratitude Works" featuring Robert Emmons, PhD, Professor of Psychology, UC Davis. The talk is from 7:00-9:00 p.m. (doors open at 6 p.m.) at the Brunelle Theater, Davis High School. For more information please go to the following PTA website:

http://www.dhspta.org/Parent%20Education/ParentEd_Archive/teengratitude

New Business:

- Lea will attend the CA State PTA conference on February 6th and 7th as the Third District Legislative Liason. Other PTA members are invited to attend. The PTA plans to sponsor a CA bond initiative to provide \$1300 per student at each site to solve the education funding crisis in CA. More information is at www.ourchildrenourfuture2012.com
- Joe Rogers (DHS Student Activity Coordinator) noted that soccer and flag football are popular lunch-time activities on the campus.
- The number of volunteer hours from November 3, 2011 to January 4, 2012 was 99 hours.
- The next PTA Association monthly meeting is on February 1, 2012 starting at 7:30 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Bob Darragh, Secretary