

DSHS PTA Meeting Notes

Date: Wednesday, February 3, 2010
Time: 7:30 pm to 9:00 pm

In Attendance

Lea Darrah, Kathy Magrino, Kelly Wilkerson, Winfred Roberson, Catherine Pereira, Sheila Smith, Sandra Schickele, Debbie Austin, Spencer B., Courtney J., Patricia Y., Stacey Black, Nora Shimoda, Jenny Kobold, Madeline Brattesani, Jane Richardson, Cathy Farman, Joanne White, Gloria Whalen, Solveig Seland-Toft, Al Ghaffari, Steve Smyth

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 by President Lea Darrah. Introductions were made all around.

Approval of January Minutes

Debbie Austin asked that her name be added to those in attendance at the January 6, 2010 meeting. Cathy Farman moved to approve the minutes. Nora Shimoda seconded the motion. The motion passed unopposed.

Student Reports

Patricia Y., senior class president, stated that the Black Light Dance went well last Friday night. There were approximately 275 students in attendance. The dance was a fundraiser for the senior class. About \$2,000 was brought in, and after expenses, the senior class ended up raising \$600 that will go toward the senior ball.

Courtney J., sophomore class president, announced that there will be a school-wide coin drive this Friday with the proceeds being donated toward relief in Haiti.

Spencer B., junior class president, mentioned that the Youth in Government program will be occurring soon, where juniors and seniors have an opportunity to shadow a city of Davis official. He also mentioned that Break the Record Night attracted 1,300 spectators to the varsity basketball game.

Teacher's Report

Kelly Wilkerson shared a picture from YouTube of Chris Lee and Mr. Roberson performing at Davis Idol. She also showed a picture of Jon H. performing at the recent Grammy Awards. She collected comments from various teachers, which are summarized below:

Bill Zinn reported that the Davis High Jazz Choir will perform its 22nd Annual Cabaret Dinner on February 13th and 14th at Emerson Junior High. There are tickets available for Sunday, February 14th. There will also be a Cabaret Concert at 7:30 at DHS in the Richard Brunelle Performance Hall.

Linda Hussmann wanted to thank the PTA for funds for microscope servicing/repair and replacement. Two new microscopes were ordered. Unfortunately, the physiology microscopes are so old that parts are not available. Thankfully the repair person was able to use some parts from these old microscopes to repair other microscopes, so the number of working microscopes has still increased.

Peter Haws wanted to share that the Model UN club had a successful trip to Santa Theresa High School for the Santa Clara Model UN Conference, and they will be going to the UC Berkeley conference the first weekend in March. Also, Mr. Haws' 3rd period students had a great showing in the Sacramento Region Stock market game with teams coming in 1st and 2nd places.

Steve Smyth shared that the Special Ed staff was busy administering the CAHSEE to special Ed students. Prior to the CAHSEE, the staff held some workshops on relaxation strategies, test taking strategies, and strategies for taking the CAHSEE.

Amy Schulte wanted to spread the word that some of the State of California rules have changed regarding ROP classes, and students no longer need to be enrolled in 5 classes before taking an ROP class. She was also concerned about how career tech education will be affected by the budget cuts and the long term impact of those cuts.

Kelly shared that from a teacher perspective the new hall pass system seems to be working well and the teachers are pleased with it. The rules in place have been effective. She also passed out the latest edition of The Hub. She mentioned that they appreciate the monetary support of the subscribers and the PTA, because they lost Carl Perkins funds last year, so The Hub is totally self-supported.

Counselor's Report

Cathy Pereira reported that Wednesday, January 27 a Suicide Prevention workshop was held at Harper Junior High. It was a very timely topic, and the presentation will be available on all of the secondary school websites. She also reported that the counselors sent out a scholarship letter to all families on free and reduced lunch offering help with the cost of yearbooks (offered at a reduced price), caps & gowns, grad night tickets, senior ball tickets, and SAT/ACT fee waivers.

Program planning will occur March 15 – 19. Prior to the PTA meeting tonight there was a parent meeting to introduce Naviance Family Connection, which had a big turnout. Counselors will be visiting all English 10 classes by the 1st week in March, where sophomore will receive their login codes (juniors have already received theirs). On Wednesday, February 10, from 5:00 – 7:00 pm parents can come to campus to pick up both their Parent Connect information and their Naviance parent codes.

Principal's Report

Principal Roberson announced that report cards are delayed, and they will be mailed on Monday. A discussion on Parent Connect was held, and it was determined that parents could either come to campus on 2/10 as described above, or they can also sign up online. They need to understand that this is a NEW Parent Connect, thus their old passwords will not work anymore.

Other items:

- ★ We have a new Librarian, Christina Lonzaro, who will be working Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays.
- ★ David Blackwell will be our new football coach.
- ★ The Blue & White Foundation is holding a "Fund Run" to raise money for the new track. The track now has stripes and we are getting ready for track season.
- ★ The MPR and Academic Center now have heat!
- ★ Angela Y., a senior, is a finalist in the Intel Math & Science competition. She has already received \$1,000 in scholarship money, and she will fly to Washington D.C. with the other finalists to meet the president and have a chance of winning a \$100,000 scholarship.

Vice Principal's Report

Vice Principal Sheila Smith reported that DHS just finished CAHSEE testing, and she wanted to thank the parents who volunteered for all of their support. The 2-day process ran very smoothly, and the students were patient, polite, and helpful. Fewer than 10 students missed the test. Patty Smith, the testing coordinator, is taking another position within the district; therefore another testing coordinator will be hired. Additionally, Sheila wanted to thank the PTA for the Partners in Education grant that funded bulletin boards for the office.

Treasurer's Report

Sandra Schickele gave the year-to-date report. So far, only \$2,170 of the Partners in Education grant money has been spent. Sandra presented two checks for payment:

Davis Senior High School, \$140.08, Teacher Grant, Karen Street

Davis Senior High School, \$466.68, Teacher Grant, Linda Hussmann

Stacey Black moved to ratify the expenses listed on the income and expense report. The motion was seconded by Cathy Farman and was passed unopposed.

Sandra mentioned the new process for funding PIE grants, because items can no longer be ordered by the school if money is not immediately available to cover the cost of the item. Therefore, as soon as an item is requested, Sandra gets a check to the school at the same time as the purchase order is being prepared.

Auditor's Report

Stacey Black noted that the PIE amount earned was \$17,208, not \$17,700. There was a category change between newsletter and directory, but the dollar amounts did not change. The books were audited as of 12/31/09 and were found to be correct. Madeline Brattesani moved to accept the audit as completed by Stacey Black. The motion was seconded by Cathy Farman and was passed unopposed. The audit is adopted as of today, 02/03/10.

President's Report

Lea Darrah presented an overview of the PLG, Parent Leader Group, which consists of representatives from PTAs, PTOs, and Booster Clubs. They meet quarterly to discuss issues. The PLG is requesting support of a forum that will highlight the State Superintendent candidates. They want a donation of \$20/site to help sponsor this event, which is not endorsing any particular candidate. The forum will take place at Freeborn Hall on March 15 from 7:00 – 9:00 pm. Madeline Brattesani moved that the DHS PTA approve the request for \$20. The motion was seconded by Kathy Magrino and was passed unopposed.

Lea updated us on the \$5.8 million district budget shortfall. Many classes can be affected at the secondary level, and she encouraged everyone to stay informed and involved. Davis Schools Foundation will be fundraising for 4 main areas: class size reduction, counseling, core programs at the high school (Math, Science, and English) and campus safety.

Partners in Education Grant Update

Principal Roberson reported that as a site we are not ready to move forward with United Streaming, which was one of the PIE requests that needed further investigation. It was decided that Debbie Austin will put out another call for PIE grant proposals, and that United Streaming will be considered (as a classroom purchase, not a school wide purchase) at the same time as the additional requests are being considered.

Committee Reports

Nomination Committee needs to be put in place. Kathy Magrino, as our parliamentarian, organizes this committee. The committee consists of: Kathy Magrino, Stacey Black, Leslie Hunter, and Jenny Kobold. Kathy Magrino moved to approve the nomination committee, Nora Shimoda seconded, and the motion passed unopposed.

Curriculum & Instruction committee meets with Mr. Roberson once a month. It consists of Department Chairs, school leaders, and parents. They discuss textbook adoptions, proposals for new courses, etc. Recent activity includes looking at the homework policy and how field trips affect instructional minutes. The committee makes recommendations to the Cabinet that are then taken to the School Board.

Jenny Kobold reports that the Climate Committee, also known as the Human Relations Committee, is headed by Tom McHale and has three subcommittees: Positive Campus Activities, Achievement Gap, and Reaching Out Beyond Davis. They meet on the 3rd Wednesday of every month.

Announcements

Lea Darrah reported that the PTA luncheon scheduled for 1/29 was put on hold, and will possibly occur on Friday 2/12. Parents will be asked for donations via the PTA listserv.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:04 pm.