

DSHS PTA MEETING NOTES

Date: Wednesday January 6, 2010

Time: 7:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

In Attendance

Lea Darrah, Sandra Schickele, Winfred Roberson, Stacey Black, Jane Schafer Kramer, Spencer B., Courtney J., Patricia Y., Eve Dunaway, Stacy Desideri, Mary Nicholson, Karlen Harmison, Laura Rodman, Will Wallace, Steve Smyte, Nora Shimoda, Cathy Farman, Al Ghaffari, Kathy Magrino, Dorian Signori

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:33 p.m. by President Lea Darrah. Introductions were made all around.

Approval of November Minutes

The November 2009 minutes were read by Secretary Dorian Signori. Hard copies of the December 2009 were provided. Jane Schafer-Kramer moved to approve the November and December 2009 minutes. Eve Dunaway seconded the motion. The motion passed unopposed.

Student Reports

Courtney J., sophomore class president, stated that her brother, Clayton J., wished to thank the PTA for their support for the student government sponsored teacher breakfast. He was able to receive all the food items necessary to successfully provide the breakfast. Courtney also reported that the sophomore class was planning activities for the upcoming "Break the Record" night on January 29th.

Patricia Y., senior class president, reported that the senior class is finalizing everything for the Black Light Bash which will be held on January 29, 2010, following the "Break the Record" event. There will be a contract for the dance, which will be posted on the website.

Junior class president, Spencer B., reported that the Junior Prom was a success; approximately 620 people attended.

Teacher's Report

Steve Smyte, the Special Education Department Chair, introduced himself. First, he thanked the PTA for the paper drive and the luncheon. Mr. Smyte reported that, despite the economic downturn, teacher moral is high and the school retains a very positive attitude. He described the Special Ed department: In 1985, he started a learning center model for Special Ed students. Today, there is a 95% Special Ed student graduation rate; 85% are involved in extra-curricular activities, and, there is a "best buddy" program operating on campus.

Teacher Brett Stone was introduced. Mr. Stone reported that, as a result of the WASC report, each department at DHS is trying to align "like" courses; they want to unify course content so that students will be taught the same thing, no matter who is teaching. They are examining content, test materials, and questions that students were asked, in order to create an environment where each student will have similar learning experiences. Upon examination, they have found that there are fairly large differences in the course material being taught.

Counselor's Report

Will Wallace, DHS counselor, thanked the PTA for their support and purchase of Naviance. By the end of this year, the 10th grade class will all have had an account created and be online with Naviance. Mr. Wallace reported that on January 14th at 7:00 p.m., in the MPR, the counseling department is hosting a financial aid workshop for seniors. He also reported that there will be a suicide prevention talk on January 27, 2010, beginning at 7:00 p.m. at Harper Junior High. Jane Shafer-Kramer requested that Mr. Wallace prepare something regarding the suicide prevention talk for the PTA newsletter. Other items:

- Sac City College offers extension classes to DHS students, as long as it is a class that DHS does not offer. Classes are held at the Drew Road facility, and Advanced Education Applications are in the counseling office.
- Programming planning will be in Mid March.
- The Final Exam schedule is posted on the PTA website.

Principal's Report

Principal Roberson reported that the new bike racks have been installed and that the students are happy with them. The administration is planning on implementing a "hall pass" regulation so that campus supervisors know why a student is out of class during instruction minutes. He would like the PTA's help in implementing this procedure.

Parent Connect will be available second semester. It is new and everyone will need to get a new pin. Any parent that is on the student ID card will be able to get a pin number to access Parent Connect. Stacey Black suggested that they have a "Parent Night" or a few evenings available so that parents who work can get their pin.

WASC Report (Western Association of Schools and Colleges): There were several themes presented in the WASC report. The administration is focusing on the following:

- Collaboration of teachers;
- Revisiting the school vision and mission statement;
- Closing the achievement gap for at risk students.

Vice Principal's Report

Vice Principal Stacey Desideri would like the PTA to express the administration's thanks to the parents of the Junior Prom. They created a fantastic environment, and the kids were extremely appreciative.

Blue Devil Spirit Awards: The administration is two months into celebrating five students every week who are nominated for their outstanding spirit. The student is greeted by the teacher or staff member who nominated them, their photo is taken, and they are given a gift certificate from a local business.

Alternative Classroom Placement Program: This program is for kids who are struggling. Rather than send them home, the ACP program puts them in a classroom that contains every single textbook. Mike Tobey, the Lacrosse coach, works with these students. The administration has found it to be a very positive intervention.

Hospitality Report:

Chair Carla Almeida reported that she had a great response to the first luncheon. She requested that the upcoming teacher luncheon, set for January 15th, be moved to January 29th. The luncheon theme is "Tacos."

Action: Gloria Whalen will put the luncheon donation list on the PTA website.

Treasurer's Report:

Sandra Schickele presented four checks for payment:

- Davis Joint Unified School District, \$91.99, November Newsletter,
- Joyce Boulanger, \$164.41, Directory

- Dorian Signori, \$25.14, Administrative (supplies)
- Jane Schafer-Kramer, \$17.60, Newsletter (stamps)

Stacey Black moved to approve payment of the four checks. The motion was seconded and passed unopposed.

P.I.E. Grants:

Debbie Austin presented and led the discussion regarding the current grant applications. The following grants were approved by the PTA:

2009-2010 DHS PTA Partners In Education Grant Awards

Title of Proposal	Applicant	Department	Request	\$
Bulletin Boards	Sheila Smith	Administration	Bulletin Boards for front office hallways	\$ 1,800.00
ELL Enrichment	Karen Street	English	Time for Kids	\$ 130.00
Microscope Repair/Replacement	Linda Husmann	Science	Microscope repair & replacement	\$ 1,115.00
Friendship Day	Friendship Day	School Climate	Funding for Friendship Day	\$ 1,000.00
LCD Projector English/Debate	Pamela Martineau	English	LCD projector and bulbs	\$ 800.00
HUB Video Editing Software	Kelly Wilkerson	English	Adobe Premier Elements x 9	\$ 760.00
Projector Ceiling Mount rm L10	Scott Mahon	English	Ceiling mount for digital projector in room L10	\$ 345.00
Videos for Speech & Debate	Pamela Martineau	English	National Forensic League DVD's	\$ 198.00
Digital Voice Recorders	Amelia Diaz	Foreign Lang	Voice recorders for AP students	\$ 584.00
AP French Language Workshop	James Curley	Foreign Lang	Registration fee to attend AP French workshop	\$ 100.00
Blue Devil Spirit Awards	Tom McHale	Administration	Snacks and awards	\$ 500.00
Nat'l Science League Entry Fees	Wayne Raymond	Science	National Science League Competition entry fees	\$ 140.00
			TOTAL	\$ 7,472.00

Several grants were placed on hold or revised until further information can be gathered:

- Naviance: \$3,165 – Awaiting district possible payment;
- United Streaming: \$3,860.00 - Mr. Roberson will follow-up with more information;
- Digital Voice Recorders for Foreign Language: \$584.00;
- And, \$3,200.00 remaining for administration bulletin boards.

Due the lack of a quorum at the last meeting, the board was only able to approve grants totaling \$1,000.00. The following had been approved and were presented for reconfirmation:

- National Science League Competition Fee: \$140.00
- Adobe Premier Elements for the DHS newspaper The Hub: \$760.00
- AP French Language Workshop: \$100.00.

Stacy Black moved to approved all of the above grants, including the three from the last meeting totaling \$1,000.00, and an extra 10% to cover neglected taxes and shipping. Kathy Magrino seconded the motion. The motion passed unopposed.

Parent Ed:

Parent Ed has had a presentation every month. Jane Shafer-Kramer was able to get the slide presentations of Sally Springer onto the website.

Flu Clinic Update:

President Lea Darrah report that, despite the glitches, the clinic went well. Thank you to Dr. Paula Watts-White and Nurse Megan Lowry, and to the two student volunteers that participated.

January Newsletter:

There will be no January newsletter, but Jane Shafer Kramer will try and get the February newsletter out by the end of January.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Dorian Signori