PTS0 Board Meeting Minutes – February 8, 2018

Attendees: Ashley Chao, Cynthia Chang, Gary Chen, Amy Chiu, Deepti Devanagondi, Selena Devi, Thierry Doyen, David Frederick, Sophie Gao, Sheeba Garg, Sarah Hung, Yufan Lu, Cynthia Miller, Darrell Miller, Kathy Miller, Arati Nagaraj, Kristofer Orre, Anita Parsons, Monica Reddy, Parul Samdarshi, Sudakshina Sarkar, Stephanie Shi, Fan Steinke, Susan Vukovatz, Karen Wu, Hong Xhio, Janet Xia, Annie Ying, Jean Zhang

PTS0 President, Ashley Chao, opened up the meeting at 8:34 AM.

Treasurer’s Report – Treasurer, Sarah Hung reports that December to January Financial Report income is still short $13K.
• This month many grant checks were sent out. Grant funding closes end of April and May except for counselor grant.
• We need to ratify check numbers 1646-1665. Yufan Lu motioned to ratify check numbers 1646 – 1665 and Anita Parsons seconded. All approved.

PTS0 President’s Update: PTS0 President, Ashley Chao noted that the Food for Finals chair, Anita Parsons, has asked for a $500 increase in budget. Parul Samdarshi made motion to approve the $500 increase for Food for Finals and Monica Reddy seconded. All approved.
• Grant for Special Education – Ashley Chao and Sarah Hung visited Megan Hunt’s classroom and were very impressed by her kindness and caring for the students, thus we would like to grant $150/month to keep the students busy and keeping them together for ten months. The School District will not support any one time purchase of objects such as air purifier, art supplies, or garden tools. This amounts to $1,500 annually another $1300 for special education which is only 70% of her request. Anita Parsons motioned to approve this request and Thierry Doyen seconded. All approved the $2800 grant.
• LGBT Conference Grant - Mrs. Obenour discussed with Paul and other staff the value of this conference. The $580 expense already happened. For future requests, Mrs. Obenour needs to submit her grant ahead of time for prior approval. Sheeba Garg motioned to approve this grant of $580 and Deepti Devanagondi seconded. All approved.
• For the 2018-2019 school year PTSO needs many volunteers for all the events. Now, the Nominating Committee needs five (5) people to recruit volunteers for the PTSO Executive Board or chairing an event. Please let Ashley Chao or Shaughna Green, PTSO Parliamentarian, know if someone is interested to be on the board or to chair an event.
• Guidance is hosting a seminar for Financial Aid on Thursday, February 15 at 7 PM in the cafeteria.
• Anita Parsons working very hard to get Brian Safine to navigate Naviance one more time for our parents.

Approval of December 7, 2017 PTS0 Meeting Minutes, PTS0 Secretary, SusanVukovatz handed out the December 7, 2017 PTSO General Meeting Minutes and asked for a motion to approve. Darrell Miller made a motion to approve the December 7, 2017 PTSO General Meeting minutes and Parul Samdarshi seconded. All approved.

Principal’s Update: Principal, Paul Robinson reports the final Parent guidance night is tonight.
• There are also Senior nights for athletic teams coming up. Our girls soccer made a comeback.
• Boys soccer senior night is this Friday, February 16, along with the ever popular Bombay in the Bay which so many of our students are involved in it
• Next week students have a week off. During this week there are students heading to Mexico for a trip. Hopefully, we will not leave any appendix’s there as we have in previous years.

MAP Boosters – Thierry Doyen, reported that there is a MAP speaker series coming up with raffle prizes. One of the speaker is Jeff Cable, renowned Saratoga photographer in Seoul who is blogging every day. Check out Blog.jeffcable.com. Thierry will send PTSO link to advertise this.

Guest Speaker, Mr. Orre, Director of the Tutoring Center, in the library. It used to be the Research Center, consolidated and converted it to a tutoring center.
There is a bank of computers, a set of chrome books, and furniture that allows for small group study work with couches. It is a nice atmosphere open from 10 am to 3:45 pm Monday through Friday.

Sunitha Bal is there the entire time. Check in with her and sign up for the subjects needed. There are students there interested in being volunteer tutors and subjects get matched up.

This study hall place is a good spot to get homework done. The atmosphere of helping one another has been great.

Any parent, retiree or community volunteer interested in being a tutor can contact me by email. They will need to be fingerprinted.

Primarily trying to create culture of students helping other students. Data is collected on subjects, tracking why kids are come in, whether for tutoring or just doing homework.

Seems like there are enough tutors. The math and upper sciences are higher needs subjects. They are pushing for more academic tutors, so have a larger pool.

Makeup tests are being done by Sunitha.

Mr. Orre has a list of paid tutors.

This concept began in 2014 when some parents visited Mountain View High School. Previous parent, Laura Tillett was very excited about it, the district stepped up, while SHS Foundation paid for furniture and Measure E money was for the facility.

Guest Speaker – Mr Torrens, Leadership. Mr Torrens took a group of students to the fire ravaged Anova School in Santa Rose to deliver the check and he held up a shell of a car that they gave him as a momento. What a sight to see the firsthand impacts of the fire.

Currently, there are 60 kids in Leadership. All class officers have to do some kind of a drive or service project.

He passed out a handout of different service opportunities. Mr. Galleher was instrumental in putting this list together. For example, with Second Harvest Food Bank a friend and I can host a Second Harvest Food Drive. Students do a service project on their own with parent volunteer drivers.

Other projects have been Garden Projects in the community.

Leadership bought two extra vans, now there are four vans to drive students to service opportunities.

A good way to reach parents is having students stand out on the curb and hand out flyers during drop off. Parents, please read specifics and please no expired food.

The school website has links for community service opportunities.

Guest Speaker, Mr. Gallaher, Community Service Learning began here in May and still doing so many service projects. They have built garden projects with Sacred Heart, English classes, and AP Environmental Science are doing projects. Students can find their own projects too.

Current things happening is the Big Guadalupe River Cleanup coming up Sunday, Feb. 25.

If you have anything to put on the Community Service page, he is happy to do that.

There is a Computer Coding class with low income school districts; can use help with this.

Many schools require community service. Ours requires 6 hours as freshman in Health class. Our students do it for the love of helping.

Even Los Gatos students are accessing our website for service learning opportunities.

There are 600-700 students involved.

Mr Galleher is talking to incoming parents in Guidance meetings

There is a link in supporting Cystic Fibrosis which has been a highlight of this school and district. In May there is a Saratoga walk.

This summer there is a 5 day service opportunity for an urban community project in SF and Oakland, needing 10 students to participate.

Meeting adjourned by PTSO President, Ashley Chao at 9:30 AM.

Respectfully submitted by:

Susan Vukovatz
PTSO Secretary