Laura opened at 8:35

Attendance: Katherine Tseng, Cynthia Chang, Bob Mistele, Grace Jens, Jennie Lau, Paul Robinson, Sarah Hung, Sandy Wu, Susan Chin, Lennie Traina, Loretta Nussbacher, Pragati Grover, Tom Alexander, Dory Albert, Laura Tillet, Gretchen Ludwig, Kerry Monhike, Kevin Mount, Brian Safine, Nikhil Goel, Anne Walsh, Margery Chen, Janice Chang, Maria Cardich, Lisa Finley, Sheeba Garg, Suman Goel, Terri Singer, Mary Eschen

No Presidents’ Report

Motion by Grace to approve October minutes, seconded by Sandy. **Motion passed.**

Sandy – Treasurer’s report: JDI receipts $5500 under what was projected. Corporate matching was budgeted at $2000 and we’re at $1000. This is occurring in a year where our budget projections were already negative. We will be pulling $5000-10,000 from leftover balance. Usually we spend less than budget numbers on other things, so we might yet balance. Filed tax return before deadline. Bank charge of $186 that we need the bank to back out. Motion to ratify checks 1257-1261 – Susan moved, Pragati seconded. **Motion passed.**

Sarah - Directory is out, so encourage people to join PTSO so they can get a directory.

Bob Mistele – **Passed out leaflet about what the School Board has been considering.** Highlights: Facilities at both schools. LGHS enrollment is exploding, so needs more space. SHS buildings need modernization and reallocation of space. Paul: also smarter use of space – bigger space for music, Student Support Services and teacher collaboration space, ASB leadership in a primary location. Teachers are sharing classrooms. Facilities for athletics: some good, some bad; competition for fields, one big mud puddle when it rains. Bob: major HVAC issues here. We also have to keep technology updated, keep up with demand, modernize science classrooms, student center, drama space. Details of the plan will be ready to report at January PTSO meeting. SHS enrollment is decreasing, but not by as much as was forecast.

Principal’s Report - Paul: spirit week next week. Monday Moustache day, Tuesday Mathletes vs. Athletes, Western Wednesday, Disney Thursday, Formal Friday. SHS ranked #81 of top 2000 schools in the nation. Transitioning student transferring event went smoothly. Thanks to parents.


Kerry: Stand Up For Change- English teachers theme - wish request by students for self or other. Choose something to grant – no homework, grandma in a wheelchair. There is some grant money, but might come to PTSO for funding. New drive: for typhoon relief for Philippines. Saratoga idol was fantastic, and tonight Derrek Nelson with Nina (last year’s winner) and Alana Hess (this year’s winner). This is pro bono concert. Winter ball is Dec 7th 8:00-10:00. SHS students on Saratoga High Facebook page. Good heartwarming stories. 900 likes. Stand Up For Change: week of MLKJr day. Escrip pays for SUFC. Gene’s Market is onboard with Escrip – you can sign up today.
Kevin: WASC on track. Draft of first three chapters of report sent off. Transitioning to action planning thru Jan/Feb. then the completed document in the mail by beginning of March. Facilities: almost done with outer corner, swimming pool pump & heater went out and are fixed. Looking into hydration station for McAfee. $2500-$5000 apiece. Back burnered but on the facilities list. May ask PTSO for funding in future.

Brian: Early admission deadline for most private colleges is November 1st. 200 seniors applied early, and all the recommendation letters were done in October. Electronic glitches on commonapp are numerous, but have been worked through. Project cornerstone survey: still awaiting results next week. Passed out info on what counselors hand out to juniors. Help plan testing sequence, what to do over summer, letters of recommendation. Also overview of private college process for students and parents. 30% of college admissions departments said they spot check tweets, Facebook accounts of prospective students.

Grants: already reviewed by Sushama, Laura and Paul. #8 and 19 will be funded elsewhere. #24 is marquee. PTSO is asked to spend $48,606 for the remainder. Budget is $45,000. Can we up the amount by $3,606? Discussion followed that resulted in a decision to wait on all IT grant requests for two reasons: 1. School Board may pay for some of them (to be worked out in Dec 10 meeting) 2. Education equity: whole departments should upgrade, not just individual teachers. Funding for one class isn’t fair. Identify which ones we’ll fund now, and technology ones we’ll hold off on.

So, go forward with #1, 3-6, 20, 23-24. #11 hold off: go through dept. head for continuity across dept., #15 review price, #17, 22: district may pay for. Motion to approve $16,355.18 toward non IT items was made by Loretta, Lisa seconded, motion passed.

Mary Eschen – Discussion in Love & Logic parenting in library on Monday evenings. Daytime option at Saratoga Presbyterian Thursday mornings. Fun. 6 sessions, 2 hours each. Students can de-stress if parents de-stress. LGS has STEP parenting program.

MLK Jr days – Neither of last year’s coordinators available this year. Stop Hunger Now: aim is to end world hunger in our generation. Package 10,000 meals in 2 hrs. Mostly go to feeding programs at schools. Grain-based with vitamins added. Cost is $.25/meal. It costs $2,500 to put on the program. Currently only $1,500 budgeted. Can we make it a 20,000 meal event? Mary’s foundation will pay $2500 if PTSO funds $2500. Some stations should be students with parents. Loretta says she’ll pay $1000 and PTSO pays $1500. We can change amount if we fundraise more, but we have to agree to do it at all. This would be the only activity on MLK Jr day. Need to reserve a room, get custodian, and go through Kerry if it is student led.

Board report: Cynthia – student performance data report is out. Dec 10 agenda item, and on Board website. Profile of both high schools. Interesting to check out LGS website. Challenge success team (Mary Eschen is on team) needs to learn from LGS website to spiffy-up ours. And generally follow best practices across the country. Why don’t we have a master calendar? Should we invite LGS website designer to come to PTSO meeting? Need some more communication between schools.

Adjourned at 10:49AM. Next mtg Dec 13 at noon @ Jennie Lau’s house.

Respectfully submitted by Gretchen Ludwig