PTSO Board Meeting Minutes – October 9, 2014


Laura Tillett called meeting to order at 8:31 am

September Meeting Minutes 9/11/2014 handed out. Susan Chin motioned to approve, Laura Menard seconded. 9/11/2014 PTSO General Meeting Minutes approved by all.

Membership Update - Sarah Hung passed out PTSO membership list as of yesterday 10/8/2014. PTSO is still short $14K, however still have a shot at meeting the budget. Hopefully, when directory comes out will get more members. Now getting 1-2 checks per week. We are 80 members short compared to last year. Smaller class size YTD from last year and not very many Senior class PTSO members. Directory will be distributed in November.

Review and Approve Budget - Michelle Fan handed out budget and check ratification. Budget displays actual vs. budget for income and expenses. Hopefully, we can get another $16K in income. Judy Goldman motioned to approve and Laura Menard seconded. Budget and check ratification approved.

Guidance –Brian Safine will be teaching Naviance at the next meeting. This will be an advanced presentation showcasing the newer tools with Naviance such as a free college planning application. He has done four parent presentations and 45 student presentations in the classroom.

- It is now college application season and Guidance is working furiously. There is a lot of buzz about early college applications, from last year number doubled (214 early this year), at minimum writing 35-60 recommendations per month. Very busy time.
- Seeing students on D and F list. Paul has been a great ally; he met with counselors of students with a D or F, on who is going to say which message.
- October 18th PSAT with 500 students taking it. 1/2 of sophomore class, students have to be on time-9:00 am.
- Cynthia Miller mentioned that Khan Academy has a nice module on college applications and will be lower cost than a private college counselor.
Principal – Paul Robinson noted that for every student struggling, the counselor knew the student, the situation, illnesses, etc.

- Homecoming next week. Rebecca Marshburn left this am for jury duty. After PSAT testing on Saturday, can start decorating quad for the lunch class performances. There will be a faculty and staff skit performance on Monday, the announcement of homecoming court, Tuesday freshman bleachers will be set up in quad, each day gets better, Friday home football game with the coaches guaranteeing a win, and ending with dance on Saturday. Please pick up kids promptly at 11 pm. It will be an exciting week of events.

Asst Principal - Kevin Mount oversees facilities, attendance, staff development, discipline, and parking.

- Parking situation has been turned over to leadership who is working on a plan. Met once with sheriff and traffic officer. City of Saratoga has provided a traffic officer for schools, monitoring traffic and everyone driving safely; he has written a few tickets, be careful, some students come back quickly at lunchtime with 3-4 getting ticketed, and beware he is out there in a car.
- G bond - Met with athletic group, design of project done for H building, and modernization of café being worked on.
- Attendance - more kids are on time than last year

LGSUSD – Cynthia Chang introduced new board member, Robin Mano from Los Gatos. Michelle van Zuiden is retiring. They are issuing $45M bond. Single student achievement plan just passed which includes formative feedback. It was an open meeting.

MAP – Joanne Makeever reported that on November 6th, at 6 PM in McAfee, Director of Research at Facebook will come to talk about opportunities. She has been with Yahoo and PayPal. An Adobe Senior Computer Scientist will also be at this speaker series.

Parent Education - Dory Albert reported two events coming up: Digital TAT2 at Fisher Middle School connecting with your kids in a positive way through electronics and Women in STEAM which includes the arts at LGHS, will present positive role models for girls. The next event is Thursday, November 18 in the LGHS theatre 7 pm, Shawna Shapiro on Mindful Parenting. All events are funded by donations.

President's Update: Laura reported that teacher grants have been returned.


Meeting concluded at about 9:05 am.

Respectfully Submitted,
Susan Vukovatz