

SHS PTSO GENERAL MINUTES
Thursday, October 13, 2011

The meeting was called to order at 8:40am by Katherine Tseng in the SHS teachers' lounge.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES. Moved by Liz Guy, 2nd by Cindy Zuccarino, to approve the minutes of the regular PTSO meeting dated September 8, 2011. Carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT, Sushama Thakker. Sushama reported that the 2011-2012 budget is similar to last year's. There was a larger than usual carry-forward this year. The Just-do-it contributions are up from last year, but membership over-all is down. Income is about \$5K lower than it was this time last year.

BUDGET APPROVAL. Moved by Judy Goldman, 2nd by Liz Guy, to approve the 2011-2012 PTSO budget as presented (attached). Carried.

MEMBERSHIP, Diane Hoe. Diane reported that membership income is off by \$5K this year, due to the fact that membership participation is down.

STAFF GRANTS, Kristin Gagnola. The PTSO has allocated \$45K for grants this year. Only \$13,560 in requests have come in so far. A criterion in determining which grants to fund is the number of students who will benefit. The grant protocol also includes making sure that other sources of funding have been explored.

APPROVAL OF STAFF GRANTS. Moved by Carolyn Doles, 2nd by Susan Chin, to approve the following staff grants:

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| • Equipment for PE classes | \$1,624 |
| • Camcorder, tripod, microphone for CCC | \$1,332 |
| • Music stands and carts for music dept. | \$3,560 |
| • Videos for Social Studies | \$ 650 |
| • 13 movies and review tools for Social Studies | \$ 176 |
| • 3 KW energy measurers for Science Dept. | \$ 361 |
| • Glassware for Science Dept. | \$ 864 |
| • Labs for AP Bio | \$1,725 |
| • Microtubes for Biology | \$ 87 |
| • Suppl. Instruct. materials for World Languages | \$ 425 |
| • Speakers for Health classes | \$2,400 |
| • Clickers, peer instruction for Math Dept. | \$ 357 |

Carried.

TEACHER REPORT, Bob Kucer. Bob thanked the PTSO for their continued support over the years. The AP Biology course would not be possible without the PTSO's support, funding the consumables that allow the kids to have hands-on experience, notably two biotech labs and the ecology section of the course. The AP Bio program includes between 60 and 90 students (2-3 sections). The science department is also requesting additional glassware, not only to replace broken glassware but also to equip the department to run more labs simultaneously.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT. Jeff reported that homecoming went well. The freshmen had a great performance. He and Brian Safine met with Redwood to articulate programs. One idea being considered is for SHS to hold math booster camps for a couple of weeks during the summer for both for Algebra I and Algebra II. Proactive programs like these will help kids who don't have the early math foundation. SHS celebrated 28 national merit semifinalists this year, the most in many years. Jeff attended the Project Cornerstone event at the Marriott in Santa Clara. Mr. Walsh gave a presentation about teen psychology and stages of brain development in adolescence, which Jeff found enlightening. There will be a parent education night featuring Walsh next August and Jeff recommended it to all parents. The teacher work day earlier this month was productive for teachers and a nice break for kids as well.

SCHOOL BOARD REPORT, Cynthia Chang. Cynthia introduced Doug Ramezane, new board member and former LG principal. The board has hired Bob Mistele as the new superintendent. She says his passion and leadership style recommended him to the position, and the board is looking forward to working with him. Doug added that the new superintendent is a good listener and true educator and the district will benefit from his experience and leadership. The board has decided to spend the surplus money from the parcel tax this year. The district will begin to pay for the workbooks and lab fees which parents have been asked to pay for, which will total \$140K. The board is gathering information about solar panels.

VICE-PRINCIPAL'S REPORT, Karen Hyde. The school drama "Tartuffe" will be performed in the McAfee on October 20th and 22nd. The administration has been working with the Green Team, and they are having a "green tea" for the environmentally-conscious student on the 19th from 4 – 6 in the library. The Winter Ball, a semi-formal dance, will be held in the gym on December 10th and will be catered by a former student, Ken Ochi.

Kevin Mount. The track will be resurfaced over winter break, which means that for a couple of weeks people won't be able to use the track. He pointed out how great the quad is looking. His goal is to continue to fix up out-lying areas around campus, and to complete the painting.

Brian Safine. Brian thanked those who helped with the college fair. 25 colleges were represented. 500 students have signed up for the PSAT. There was a LINK event yesterday on the upper field, an opportunity for every link crew leader to meet with his or her freshmen. He mentioned that the guidance department communicates in a variety of ways, such as Parent nights, and highlighted a new feature on the guidance page on the website -- the "buzz-worthy" section -- which he encouraged parents to check out.

OTHER REPORTS. Dory Albert reported that SSC is reviewing the survey results from last year and will take action accordingly. The Music Boosters cookie dough fund raiser will begin 10/11. Among the things it will help fund are the choir's trip to Italy and the band's participation in the Macy's parade.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:35 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Liz Guy, Recording Secretary