

January 2009 PTSA Meeting

The January meeting was called to order at 9:40. In attendance were: Colleen Joyce, Lauri Harder, Kim Breda, Mary Pat Cieri, Diane Corcoran, Candy Wood, Pat Berry, Melanie Goldstein, Sherri Witkins, Joelle Malec, Mary Bottero, Alice Smith and Reghan Diaz. From the Administration and Staff: Ms. Gina Pin and Ms. Anne Kipp.

PRESENTATION

Ms. Kipp and Ms. Pin lead an informal presentation on Time Management. They went over some of the points on several handouts:

- Project CRISS for parents
- Ten Traps of Studying
- Cramming Techniques for Exams
- Test Taking Tips for Parents

They also talked briefly about the Academic Center and the Media Center, the budget for next year and a new plan to start an Advisory Program similar to the Mentor Program which is currently in place for our 9th grade students.

REFLECTIONS

Pat Berry reported that for the first time ever we had an entry in each category but we only had 15 entrants in total. (Two years ago we had 60 kids enter.) Pat has agreed to write up some info for the FOCUS on Reflections which will include some examples of great reasons to participate, like the student who received a scholarship after getting first place in Reflections.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Colleen Joyce talked briefly about the idea of an evening PTSA meeting with college students home on break to talk about "how Barlow has prepared you." We decided to set up the evening meeting for March. Colleen will survey a few kids to see what night works best and she will select the date.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

MINI GRANTS

Reghan Diaz received 2 new grant requests:

Beth Bailey asked if we could help fund the supplies for future projects for the X Period Mural Club. Mary Pat made a motion to give the Mural Club \$250 and the request was granted.

Mary Ann Periotti requested \$250 for pay for pizza for the X Period club SADD (Students against Drunk Driving). They will be having 4 presentations and would like to provide pizza to all the students who attend and give the extra money to the pre-prom assembly. Reghan made a motion to pay for the pizza up to \$250 and leave the pre-prom assembly as a separate issue. The motion was accepted by all.

BOARD OF ED

Still discussing tracks and fields.

Starting to discuss budget.

Next meeting: Thursday at JBHS at 7:00

PTA COUNCIL

Colleen attended the December luncheon. The idea is to bring K-12 together and they are hoping to gain momentum.

POST PROM

Wanda would like the volunteer list so she can start organizing.

PTSA FOCUS

Need info for next publication.

Group discussed the idea of including a "Feedback Section" in the FOCUS similar to a "Letter to the Editor" in newspapers.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Mary Pat reports that there was not much activity this past month. She paid out the last mini grant request. We got some interest on the account a few more memberships.

NEW BUSINESS:

Alice Smith would like PTSA support for a food committee to gather input and feedback regarding the cafeteria at Barlow. Alice has only 6 weeks before she needs to present a report. She says that Sodexo may not be able to provide what this report may request. Alice will get info together for the FOCUS asking for parental support with a link to REF with more information. It was also suggested that she put a box by the cafeteria asking for feedback and contact Student Council to see how they may be able to help her get information.

Colleen talked about a parent survey asking the question, "What do you (parents) want from the PTSA?" Perhaps we can get more support if we are able to determine what is wanted.

Colleen suggested that we start a list of all we are currently doing so when the budget needs to be voted on we can show what all is being done.

Next month the topic for the PTSA Meeting will be School Spirit/Student Council. May or June perhaps the topic will be wellness. Future topic suggested: Teachers and how they do or don't use the website for homework.

MINUTES

The December 2008 minutes were read. Change needed in spelling of Skalkos. Approved by all.

The meeting adjourned at 12:00. The next meeting will be February 10, 2009.

Respectfully submitted,

Lauri Harder
Recording Secretary