

## May 2009 PTSA Meeting

The May meeting was called to order at 9:40. In attendance were: Jennifer Bodurtha, Miriam Meese, Jean M. Tompkins, Colleen Joyce, Lauri Harder, Kim Breda, Diane Corcoran, Jill DeSalva, Julie Gorman, Cornelia Hurwitz, Pat Berry, Pam Robey, Jean Tompkins, and Jen Wastrom. From the Administration and Staff: Mr. Tom McMorran, Ms. Gina Pin, Ms. Christina Rao, Ms. Anne Kipp, and Ms. Mary Ann Sheehy.

Colleen began the meeting by thanking several people involved in supporting the vote:

Pam Robey for Community Forum

Jen Wastrom for publicity

JRMS and RES PTA's

Kim Breda for signs

Jean Tompkins for tent and students on day of vote

Cary Glynn for getting the word out on Face Book

Mr. McMorran said he thought a great job was done shifting the frame of JBHS from a "service" to an "asset."

### PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Colleen said that Post Prom is well underway. Great group of people working on it. Make sure you have a contract with the limo service and that limo drivers are insured and following the rules. (Drinking is not allowed in the limo.)

Mrs. Rao spoke to the group about the upcoming Barlow Palooza on May 28<sup>th</sup>. This year it will start during the school day. Students will have 3 classes in the morning and then they will rotate through 5 (20 minute) presentations. Also things will be going on in the hallways simultaneously.

Palooza will also run from 4-9PM that same night. We will have a senior student who is a hot dog vendor coming to sell that evening. Just added an EMT class presentation.

Eighth grade students have all been invited as well as local authorities, Board of Ed members, principals of all schools, etc.

There will be a Barlow Palooza team at the Trivia Bee.

Local publicity all over Easton and Redding. Definitely a buzz about it.

PTA is paying for the Palooza banner and will also post flyers around town.

Mrs. Rao said we want to also recognize the building and how nice JBHS looks.

There will be student ushers and programs again this year and also a film crew which will support the video of "Making Palooza."

#### PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Mr. McMorran said he is very grateful that the vote passed and thank you to all involved.

Lots of activities going on as we near the end of the year; graduation, prom, post prom, Family University, AP testing, just had the Taming of the Shrew, Mock Trial made Big 8 and we will have four teams in the Trivia Bee. We need to encourage our seniors to end strong.

Colleen noted that there is not a good turn out so far for Family University this year and asked if we could rally some more support. Very informative evening you don't want to miss.

A question was asked about the price of AP exams. Ms. Kipp said that scholarships are available but all students are expected to pay for themselves. A few people complained that the AP exam schedule was not sent out this year and some members felt this was a problem. Ms. Kipp said she will be sure the guidance department gets the schedule out in the future.

Ms. Pin asked for suggestions as to how she could encourage people to send back the forms in the summer mailing. Lots of suggestions she will follow up on.

Mr. McMorran told us the school is working on emergency response time and really needs to have all the students emergency contact information.

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS

##### POST PROM

Candy Wood gave us an update and says it is looking wonderful. The theme will be 20,000 Leagues under Barlow. Students are really involved and we listened to them in order to promote good participation. Food is all different, healthy and fun. We have Ryan coming for the music since that is what the students wanted. Need help to setup. Also need chaperones from 11:30-3:30. Financial support would be helpful. Contacts:

Deb Herrera-volunteers

Mary Bottero-decorations

Alice Smith-food

Julie Gorman-door prizes

Wanda Augustyn and Candy Wood-co-chairs

## FOCUS

Diane is accepting all information for the next Focus. The deadline was changed from the last week of May to the first week of June.

## FOOD COMMITTEE

Colleen reported that the food contractor has changed and will be effective as of Sept. Some students are concerned about the employees and are trying to get some of the servers to stay.

## REFLECTIONS

New chair people are still needed. Thank you so much to Cornelia and Pat for leading the last 7 years!

## NEW BUSINESS

Colleen talked about positions for next year's officers in the JBHS PTSA. Jean Tompkins will coordinate a date to get all school PTA boards together to see who would like to move forward.

Pam Robey went over her brochure for the past budget vote. She will follow up with it next year and will be happy to take feedback from anyone who is interested. She may coordinate this effort with one student, one person from guidance and one PTSA member to be sure all are included.

Jen Wastrom gave us an update on the Academic Lab. Mr. Manly is on staff and usually a teacher also.

Staff luncheon is coming up. Steph Bellevue will be taking over Lynn's job next year.

Phyllis Wasko will stay on as chair of the Arts Foundation. Yale Alley Cats was awesome, but not a huge turnout, perhaps because the Transition Dance was also being held.

Debbie Farrell in the guidance office is looking to start a bone marrow registry. She gave the group some information and is looking for our help with marketing and food for about 12 people (volunteers) or so. The bone marrow registry will take place at Barlow on June 10<sup>th</sup> from 2:30-7PM

## TREASURER'S REPORT

Colleen for Mary Pat Cieri reported that we have \$800 in discretionary funds. \$180 for bulk mailing permit; this year nothing was used. Question was raised if we should renew it next year. Motion made to unencumber funds for bulk mailing (Tompkins/DeSalva). Motion passed.

Colleen will look into the funds for the Book Binding and report back next meeting.

Motion was made to apply \$100 out of Administration Requests to contribute food for the bone marrow registry (Wood/Bodurtha). Motion passed.

Motion was made to increase our contribution for the Barlow Palooza from \$150 to \$350 (DeSalva/Corcoran). Motion passed.

Kim Breda asked if the PTSA would consider funding a second team for the Trivia Bee. It was decided that we may need to use our money for other year end events.

Candy Wood asked if we were planning to do any year end teacher awards or thank you gifts. Colleen will get flowers for Pat and Cornelia for all their work with Reflections.

## OLD BUSINESS

We went over questions that may be used for a PTSA survey to see what parents are looking for. We reviewed the questions and plan to get the list down to top 10 or so. Colleen and Pam will revise and bring back to next meeting.

Topics for the last meeting we discussed. It was agreed by most that Summer Focus sounded good...what the kids should be doing to stay focused and what is going on at Barlow in the summer.

The meeting adjourned at 12:05. (Gorman/Robey) The next meeting will be June 9, 2009.

Respectfully submitted,

Lauri Harder  
Recording Secretary