

## June 8, 2010 PTSA Meeting

We began the meeting in at 9:30 am in a new location, Seminar Rooms 1 and 2 in the Media Center, with breakfast treats and conversation.

At 10 am, we welcomed Tom McMorran. In attendance were: Kim Breda, Jean Tompkins, Lauri Harder, Jen Wastrom, Pam Robey, Anne Andrews, Candy Wood, Julie Gorman, Peggy Palmer, Phyllis Rhodes, Bernadette Waterman, Jennifer Bodurtha, Donna-Marie Macchio, Miriam Messe, Kim Ryan, Claire-Anne Meskers, Margot Abrams, Nancy Tomaszewski, Katy Myers, and Mary Pat Cieri. From the Administration: Mr. Tom McMorran and Ms. Gina Pin.

Presentation: Because of a specific interest in a presentation topic requested of him, Tom McMorran spoke about his 3 years as Head of School and gave a handout to the group outlining "50 or so Initiatives, Improvements and Accomplishments at Barlow". He went over each item and gave a brief description. He also spoke about some key components of his philosophy in setting goals for the school: an emphasis on Community; and the 3 "R's" at Barlow being rigor, relevance, and relationships.

Asked about his goals for the future, Mr. McMorran says he hopes to implement all the existing initiatives and go from there.

Bernadette Waterman from ELF thanked the JBHS PTSA for supporting the Trivia Bee, which was a great success. She said that the Barlow community (including cheerleaders, many teams with Barlow people, etc.) had a great presence at the elementary school. She noted that the Barlow presence helps with relationships between schools and towns. Bernadette explained about an error made in the scoring and presented the members (at our meeting today) of this Trivia Bee team with "Integra-B" medals as consolation.

### BUSINESS MEETING:

The first order of business was to review the Board Positions and Committee Chairs for academic year 2010-2011. A few positions remained open. Jen Wastrom volunteered to fill the position of PTSA President. Jean Tompkins will fill Jen's current slot, to serve along with Anne Andrews and Pam Robey as the 3 co-vice presidents. Margot Abrams volunteered to co-chair the Transition Advisory Committee, Get-Out-the-Vote Committee and the newly-named Caring Committee. All other positions were reviewed. Anne Andrews made a motion to accept the slate. This was seconded by Pam Robey and the vote was passed by all.

## Committee Reports:

Post Prom was a great success! Over 150 volunteers, organizations and businesses involved. Kim said thanks to all who helped out, especially Wanda (chair) and Candy (treasurer) and their committees! Candy reported that 314 people attended (56 of which were underclassmen or out-of-town guests). 400 attended the prom (82 were underclassmen or from out-of-town). Candy also mentioned that the event broke even financially. Jean Tompkins strongly encouraged everyone to come and help out in the future. She said that the school underwent "an awesome transformation".

Focus: Kim told us that the Focus is now on-line and printed copies will be available soon. Many thanks to Diane for her hard work!

Beautification: The Sanctuary/Courtyard clean-up is completed, thanks to Cheryl's dedication! A new weed whacker has been purchased with mini-grant funds, and 2 have been donated. Cheryl is seeking volunteers to help maintain the courtyard during the summer to come in to water and weed. A notice will be put out on the PTSA List-Serve to solicit help. The bench has arrived and will be put out as soon as possible. Kim will order a gold "all weather" plaque for the bench and will email the proposed wording to be engraved on it.

Arts Foundation: The Troupe du Jour fundraising event for the purchase of a new piano for the auditorium takes place Saturday, June 12 at 7:30 pm. Kim gave thanks to Phyllis for organizing this event. Phyllis said tickets will be \$5 for students and faculty and \$10 for adults. Reservations are not necessary. An anonymous donor has agreed to match all donations up to \$5,000. Flyers were handed out for anyone who is able to post them around Redding and Easton. Phyllis also said that the Art Foundation gave out \$100 scholarships to 3 students at the Awards Ceremony last week: one each for visual arts, the performing arts, and music.

Reflections: Winners were honored at Awards Night. Gift certificates, instead of plaques, were given out. Kim thanked Claire-Anne for running the program this year. Claire-Anne said she hopes to get more interest next year.

Volunteer Committee: Lisa found volunteers to purchase food and attend the refreshment table during the Barlow Palooza on May 27. Thanks to Lisa and her helpers. Kim found volunteers to chaperone, serve food and provide tents for "Spring Fest", Friday June 4.

Special Event and Evening Meeting: Leslie Cohen-Rubury spoke on "Coping Skills: Stress in the Teen Years and how Parents can Help". Teens from 8<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade and their parents were invited. About 25 attended the talk. There was minimal interest in the following PTSA Meeting (although it wasn't widely promoted).

Mini-Grants: \$89 remains in budget. Thanks to Reghan for all you have done! The mini-grant recipients for the year are noted in the latest edition of the Focus Newsletter.

Staff Luncheon: Thursday, June 17 from 12-2pm. Thank you Steph and Candy for your dedication on both the fall and spring luncheons! Candy said that they are looking good for Thursday. The catering will be done by O'Neill's and volunteers and desserts are all lined up. The theme for the luncheon is "the beach." The PTSA has acknowledged teachers at the luncheon in the past and will plan to do so again this year.

Senior Luncheon: Monday, June 21 from 10:30-11:30am. Thank you Miriam and Donna-Marie! There are 238 seniors this year. The luncheon is all set and the volunteers are in place. They will be serving sandwiches, watermelon slices, bags of chips and drinks and they expect to be right at budget.

Treasurer: Mary Pat gave 2 handouts pertaining to the finances. She went over expenses for the past month and did a quick review of this year's budget. She then did an in depth review of the proposed budget for 2010-2011 and we made a few changes:

\*Administration Requests: From \$400, down to \$0

\*Family University: Taken out of budget, but some money to go to a new line-item by the name of "Parenting Events with ERCC"

\*Hospitality: Increased from \$200 to \$300

\*Palooza Decorations: Decreased from \$300 to \$100 (Palooza received money from Arts Foundation for new banners). This \$100 will not include refreshment purchases. That will come from Hospitality.

\*Parenting Events ERCC: \$500 (from Family University)

\*Referendum: From \$750, down to \$500

We also added the new "Caring Committee" to the budget with amount of zero for next year and we will see what the expenses look like as we go. We talked about ways to raise funds for next year, including the idea of selling ads for the Buzz Book.

After the complete review, Mary Pat made a motion to accept the numbers in the 2010-2011 Budget as discussed/changed. Motion seconded by Pam Robey/Vote passed by all.

Candy Wood made a motion to encumber left over year-end funds from this year to carry into next year for reserve to cover activities costs. Motioned seconded by Peggy Palmer/Vote passed by all.

Thank you Mary Pat for your diligence and conscientious handling of money matters!

Corresponding Secretary: Thank you Madeline Truscott for beautiful letter writing!

PTA Council: Thanks to Bill Gillotti for his years of service!

Pam presented Kim with flowers and announced that we will purchase a plaque in Kim's name from the Arts Foundation for funding of the new piano.

Kim ended the meeting by presenting flower arrangements to the executive board members (vps, treasurer, secretary) ( flowers will also go to retiring chairs Diana and Dana) and thanked all of the Board Members and Committee Chairs for their dedication and hard work this past year. She proclaimed that they made this an enjoyable, fun, successful year for the PTSA!

Thanks to all of our faithful meeting participants, on the board or not.

Adjournment at 12:20

Next Meeting will take place in September 2010. Date to be determined.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lauri Harder

Recording Secretary

ADDENDUM: Following the meeting, email discussions were held and research done on a few issues. (1) The remaining mini-grant money of \$89 will pay for paint for a mural of a falcon to be painted by student Alex Schuurmanns. (2) Increase Palooza Decorations budget funding to \$200. (3) Teacher Appreciation budget item now has the word "Lunch", to differentiate from "Thank You Gifts", a separate line item. (4) Wording for the memorial plaque was decided and plaque was purchased. (5) The May and June 2010 Minutes should be voted on at the September PTSA meeting.

Kim Breda

## **JBHS PTSA Executive Board 2010-2011**

President	Jen Wastrom
Vice-Presidents	Pam Robey Anne Andrews Jean Tompkins
Treasurer	Mary Ellen O'Leary
Rec. Secretary	Lauri Harder
Corr. Secretary	Madeline Truscott
Buzz Book/Membership	Joey Davey Sharon Giannicchi
PTSA Listserv	Anne Andrews
Focus newsletter	Lisa DeVoto
Volunteer Coordinator	Joan Winters Arlene Darrow
Staff Luncheons	Steph Belleveau Candy Wood
Reflections	Claire-Anne Meskers
Arts Foundation	Phyllis Wasko
Mini-Grants	Reghan Diaz
Post Prom	Wanda Augustyn Candy Wood
Hospitality	Peggy Palmer Laura Gibney
Senior Lunch	Kim Ryan Peggy Palmer

Transition Advisory	Colleen Joyce Margot Abrams
Beautification	Cheryl Frier
Caring	Jean Tompkins Margot Abrams
Get-Out-the-Vote	Colleen Joyce Margot Abrams
Publicity	Jen Wastrom
Board of Ed Rep	Mike D'Agostino
PTA Council	Kim Breda