

## October 2008 PTSA Meeting

The October meeting was called to order at 9:35. In attendance were: Colleen Joyce, Pam Robey, Lauri Harder, Kim Breda, Jill DeSalva, Mary Pat Cieri, Steph Belleveau, Peggy Palmer, Julie Gorman, Diane Corcoran, Candy Wood, Pat Berry, Cornelia Hurwitz, and Reghan Diaz. From the Administration and Staff: Mr. Tom McMorrان, Ms. Gina Pin, Ms. MaryAnn Sheehy, Mr. John Crowley and Mr. Fred Gervasoni.

### PRESENTATION:

Mr. McMorrان thanked everyone for coming and suggested we start with our walk through of the website. He introduced Fred Gervasoni, Barlow's Instructional Tech Coordinator and John Crowley, who is Barlow's "tech of everything." Mr. Fred Gervasoni spent time going over many different aspects of the Joel Barlow website, including the main page, special notices, process of setting up the site, explanation of the way the site was developed, explanation of how the info gets put on the site. Additionally he spent a large portion of time going over the Guidance link including the college info and forms link, eboard, newsletter, college scholarships as well as the search box. We also received information on different tags that are used, the listserve link and various calendars. Mr. Crowley and Mr. Gervasoni graciously answered questions from the group as well as took suggestions for improvement. They have offered to look into making a few changes and coming back to our next meeting to give us an update.

### HEAD OF SCHOOL REPORT

\*Eight to ten volunteers have been trained for the Academic Lab and have already set up a schedule. Angela Staron and Maggie Adamakos could use more volunteers. There will be another opportunity to sign up and be trained. Mr. McMorrان said he may also need career volunteers to come into school and share with the students.

\*A parent survey was also discussed where we choose 6-7 topics of interest to Barlow parents and go from there. JBHS will also be doing a science program survey as part of the Tri-State Performance visitation.

\*Mr. McMorrان stated that the parking fee comes to approximately .82 cents per day which is not a bad rate.

\*He was also grateful for Open House I which was well attended and very upbeat.

### PRESIDENT'S REPORT

\*Colleen Joyce suggested that when a parent volunteer system gets put into place perhaps we could provide the school with a list of what we would be willing to do and post a "menu of services" link on the JBHS website.

\*Colleen also thanked Peggy Palmer for organizing the food at the Open House.

\*Additionally she asked Mr. McMorrان to make another PTA announcement at Open House II to try to increase our membership.

\*Colleen reviewed the topics for the next few PTSA meetings. The group discussed school spirit and how we can increase it. A suggestion was made to have a student representative come to a PTSA meeting or perhaps a PTSA member go to a student council meeting.

\*We voted to send a card to the family of Michael Freidman and Jeff Lanehart as well as Mr. Breault and the freshman football coach.

## MINUTES

The September 2008 minutes were read and approved. (Berry/Palmer)

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### REFLECTIONS

Pat Berry handed out forms for "Reflections" and said there are a few different rules this year. She also reported that she and Cornelia will both be stepping down next year and we need someone to take over as chair for the following year. Pat will write up a description of the position and send it to Dana for the next Newsletter.

### TREASURER

JBHS PTSA has 426 members this year compared to 471 last year so we are down \$3,458.63. We received \$1400.00 in donations and we will have just enough money to make our budget but all budgets should streamline if possible. It was suggested that we put flyers in the teacher's mailboxes to get a few more members.

### FOCUS NEWSLETTER

Diane Corcoran said the newest issue is on the website and she is taking submissions for the next issue. Indoor Track Fundraiser info was taken. Diane has posted the FOCUS in Easton and Pat Berry volunteered to post it in Redding.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

There will be a breast cancer walk this Sunday at Sherwin Island. They are selling t-shirts for Mr. Breault.

The meeting adjourned at 11:45 pm. (Berry/Robey). The next meeting will be November 18<sup>th</sup> where we hope to have the guidance department speak to us about the college process by grade.

Respectfully submitted,

Lauri Harder  
Recording Secretary