

Minutes of the
Point Loma High School PTSA
Wednesday, September 13, 2006

ATTENDANCE: 45

ADMINISTRATION REPORT: Principal Bobbi Samilson reported that this year's enrollment was up creating larger classes and a need to hire more teachers. A new math teacher and a new physics and history teacher are being considered. Over the summer the District gave each new teacher a laptop computer with wireless capabilities. An inheritance the school was bequeathed went to purchase 30 cameras and projectors for classrooms. The District also allotted \$60,000.00 for field improvements and a donor is expected to gift artificial turf to complete the softball field. The PLHS Foundation and the District have raised \$400,000.00 for a new music center for the school. The track is completed. New washing machines and dryers are being installed in the locker rooms. Mobile maintenance has come out to take care of a multitude of issues.

Over the summer there were staff changes and many teachers gathered to plan and change curriculum. Along with academic improvements, the extra-curricular programs of music, arts and drama are thriving. Open House occurs on September 21st. An e-blast will go out to families as a reminder.

TREASURERS REPORT: Darlene Truver presented the updated budget that had been previously approved by the executive board. She reviewed the summer expenses and payments and it was moved by Vickie Shepperd-Chin, seconded by Karen Pinterich and passed by the board to approve the expenditures from the summer. After a brief discussion about the current budget for 2006-2007, Diana Antonini moved to pass the budget, seconded by Beth Coyne and approved by the board.

AUDITORS REPORT: Cheryl Louie reported that all is well with the state of the budget.

MEMBERSHIP: Karen Pinterich reported that PTSA membership is up 335 members from this time last year, making a total of 775 members. A deposit of \$7,600.00 was made to the account, \$3,487.00 of which goes to the national PTA and \$4,000.00 of which goes directly to the PLHS PTSA. There is another \$2,500.00 in checks yet to deposit.

The question was raised as to whether or not students need to be members of the PTSA in order to receive PTA scholarships. Kris will investigate. It was suggested that the ASB needs to promote PTSA membership. It is now to join the PTSA on line.

CLASS SPONSORS REPORT: Class of 2007 sponsor Bridgette Wilson reported that senior class parents are planning the Disneyland Trip and the Grad Night events. Money is still being raised for these events. Class of 2008 sponsor, Kris Barry said that they are making sales of items at football games and looking forward to getting advice from the seniors about planning the senior year. Class of 2009 sponsor Linda Jaros reported successful sales of snacks during Summer School that raised \$1,300.00. They will

continue to sell items during football games. 2010 class sponsor Maureen McGrath said that they are also selling various spirit-clothing items and that this apparel will be available for purchase at the football games.

Homecoming is on October 27th. A call for volunteers to help class sponsors was made. There will be no Homecoming floats because of potential damage to the new track. The ASB, which heads up the Homecoming event is looking for parent volunteers. Kris Barry asked that the class sponsors stay after the regular meeting.

WEB SITE PRESENTATION: Matt Spathas gave a wonderful and informative presentation on the new PLHS Web site. He announced that the Point Loma Cluster is being recognized by the District as one of the premier technology clusters. As a result of the Microsoft legal settlement, Point Loma is in good position to receive more funding to complete the Project Light Speed. This involves Digital Classrooms, Digital Lockers, a user friendly school web site, the ability for teachers to post assignments, notes, and grades on the school's site, and a parent connection application that allows parents to monitor their student's progress. The goal of Project Light Speed is to motivate students to learn by using the technology with which they are so comfortable. It's potential to deliver material digitally rather than through more traditional and outmoded formats is both exciting and promising. A group of teachers at PLHS are part of an Academy piloting 30 freshmen students in how to become digital learners.

Along with the teaching potential of the Light Sped Project, the fund raising potential is huge. Spathas referred to the Correia Web site as an example of the possibilities. Kris Spathas asked parents to encourage teachers to use the new digital format. Parents who need their password to the site should contact the tech support person JoEllen Archer at JoEllenArcher@sandi.net.

There was a brief discussion on how best to inform parents of the Project.

NEW BUSINESS:

KICKOFF: Maureen McGrath and Diana Antonini reported. The JV game is at 1 p.m. and the Varsity game is at 3:30 p.m. Point Loma will be playing Culver City. A dinner dance will follow the game. Tickets are on sale and will be sold throughout the week. Banners have been sold and will need to be hung. Volunteers are needed to help with that. Humphries will supply the desserts, Beth Coyne agreed to pick them up prior to the dinner. Soda and water donations are needed. Maureen is working to place volunteers. There will be a skate ramp and a dunk tank. A discussion about waivers and pricing followed. The cost of tickets is \$8.00 for students and \$10.00 for adults.

OUTREACH: Vicki Shepperd-Chin described the need for an outreach representative to go into the communities farther away from the school to get parents informed and involved. She also reported on the after school handball activity that is overseen by Lou Gatan. She asked for support for the program and for help in transporting students to the handball tournament in Los Angeles.

UNDERGRAD AND SENIOR AWARDS: Tanya Swain agreed to fill this position.

REFLECTIONS: Kris Barry suggested the school get involved with this PTA program that recognized artistic talents of students. Ms. Samilson suggested a contact be made with specific teachers.

COUNSELOR'S REPORT: Laurie Hurl, Head counselor reported that the PSAT will be given on October 18th. All sophomores fees are funded by the school, juniors are required to pay for their own tests. Information is sent to students in many ways.

College Night is on October 12th. Chancellor Fox of UCSD will be speaking about the value of a college education. Laurie asked that everyone attend to show support. People are working on organizing the representatives who come to speak with students. Volunteers will be needed for the event.

Open House is on September 21st. Senior presentations are on October 10th. October 20th is the end of the first grading period. All the counselors went to the UC conference workshop and learned a lot about the admissions and direction of the UCs.

OTHER BUSINESS: Foundation President John Baker and his wife pat Baker made a presentation about escrip and how under utilized it is. They reported that only 245 families are using escrip and that there should be a push to get more enrolled. They handed out fliers to facilitate enrollment.

Gary Rose presented his idea for Adopt A Teacher where families would adopt a teacher and classroom to assist that teacher with academic needs. A long discussion revealed that more thought needs to be put into the idea, but a pilot group of families will give the program a try.

ADJOURN: Kris Barry adjourned the meeting at 8:00 p.m. after thanking everyone for attending.

Respectfully submitted,
Marianne Blackmar, PTSA Recording Secretary