

Atholton PTSA Board Meeting Feb. 3, 2009 (rescheduled from Jan. 27 due to snow)

7: 00 PM AHS Media Center

7:08 call to order, Beth Sellers read objects, introductions: Mary Jo Neil MD State PTA; Hitesh Nigam (Environmental Committee). Minutes approved from November, December 2008.

Treasurer's Report- Judy Bruce shared 12/15 –1/24/09 reports. After Prom donations have almost met budget. Staff Appreciation luncheon was major December expense. Budget on track for year.

Principal's Report- Ms. Leonard is co-teaching a McDaniel College class on Tuesdays in Feb. AHS now fully staffed (Rebecca Close left to be a masseuse, we hired Danielle Martinez). Staffing guided by enrollment, course requests. Students getting counseling during Social Studies re: graduation requirements; 90-95% meeting with their proper counselor. Expect stable enrollment: 341 freshmen, same # of JROTC out of district kids.

ESOL starting next year: Fritz / Kriner / World Languages, will hire 1.5 teachers for this + full time para-educator. 17 ESOL students expected next year (some from WLHS, some from middle school) Students will take ESOL Language, ESOL US History, then regular classes. Multiple ethnicities expected: South America, Russia, Ghana. Terry Alban visited campus today w/ Joel Gallihue re: teaching stations, verify #'s from Gilbert study. Study was fairly accurate; 2 changes, will become 70 or 69 classrooms (no wrestling room or early childhood learning / academic life skills room). Redistricting? Less of an issue from capacity standpoint. Renovation- less impetus since larger capacity? Entirely separate process, so new capacity calculation will not delay renovation. Age, quality programs are guiding factors, not related to capacity study. Economy will play bigger role. Hall size? Cafeteria size? Projections indicate 1500 max over next 10 years. Group looked at crossroads near media- noticed crowding. Central Office staff listens to our concerns. Pizza with Principal- use opportunity for fellowship & service- GrassRoots? Sunrise? Harmony Hall? Less introspection, still offer opportunity for feedback. Ms. Leonard asks for responses from board re: how to structure the evening? Quarterly assessments- some are part of midterms, varies by curriculum area. Waiver forms- now called course placement review forms (CPRs).

President's Report- written report`. Testimony on school operating budget emailed to County Council with feedback from PTSA members (hearing is tonight). Nominating Committee must start in preparation for April 28 elections. Health Room asking for \$50 for feminine hygiene products. 3/12 night w/principal...what next? PTSA website redesign is outstanding- thanks to Kaylie, please review your area's content. Jan. 22 Bd of Ed mtg introduced revised HS capacity calculation (1332 is current standard); revising capacities will eliminate redistricting (find 2100 seats). Public hearing on new capacity calculation on Feb 26. Also renovation guidelines shared at Bd of Ed, accepting public comment. First documented renovation standards (vice construction standards per COMAR / standards of education); equity issues addressed. Will impact AHS since FY12 starts major renovation here (first HS in queue). PTSA will testify and submit comments on renovation guidelines. Update contact list / phone tree for inclement weather.

PTA Council Meeting- written report submitted. Bridge to Excellence report highlighting results, met objectives. HoCo well presented. New race categories / self identification form described. Discussion of new HS seat count. Wellness Committee started Facebook group to encourage sharing ideas & information. 33 schools participated in Reflections. Md PTA looking for nominees for their committees. AFPO on Turf Valley, PTAC will support no exemptions to APFO. \$5 million shortfall in budget. Book Drive- does AHS want to participate? Ask Dana Meledick (SHOP)

CAC-new seat calculation will allow schools to add academic programs, delay renovations, cut cosmetic renovations, keep systemic renovations on track. Presentation by Ken Roey. CAC presenting budget testimony. Be aware of stimulus package- ready projects will get first funding, funds must be spent in three years. County is still lobbying state for construction funding for shovel ready projects. Sandra French presented student behavior survey: HoCo students admit to lower drug use than natl avg, but same alcohol use. Dates of policy meetings not well publicized or open to public.

Corresponding Secretary- multiple thank you's shared. Feedback / info from "The Answer" shared: 13 students, \$346, 4.9/5 rating for teacher.

(no student rep present)

Committee Reports:

Written reports submitted by: Environmental, Community Connections, Snack Shop, website, sports boosters, music / drama boosters, HC Drug Free (3/31, Myth Busters); membership; grocery receipts; POPS; Drivers Ed; College Prep committee

Snack Shop: Fri 3/20 Snack Shop will sell root beer floats instead of usual fare to welcome spring. Gift cards went very well- offer "Spring is in the Air" gift card offering. No compatibility with boosters on gift cards.

Hospitality: thank you to Sherri and Alka for hospitality tonight. Corrections on Festival Schmestival date. No refreshments necessary for HC Drug Free.

Volunteer / After Prom- student recognition time slots have been filled for helping on Feb. 23. After Prom has become very huge around the county- busing kids to & from Dave & Busters; Annapolis city dock; Baltimore Aquarium. AHS needs help getting prizes, donations. May 2 = prom, next after prom planning meeting = 2/11

BSAP- Feb. Is Black History Month, assembly will occur this month. Black Student Family Network sent brochure, school system requesting two reps at each school, will get manual of resources for families. Coordination between school system, community, families.

Career Day / Green Day- May 26 – June 4, exact date depends on graduation date. Many businesses / organizations setting up on Green Day. Culinary students may offer organic / local fare, will need funding. Will need to discuss parent participation.

Community Connections- 2nd math nigh in Feb w/ Mr. Piche, identify students that may need extra help. Offer social networking panel discussion- snooping vs. monitoring, sometime in spring, targeted to students and parents.

Staff Appreciation: Chocolate Day 2/13 is next, still looking for dessert donations, ask all volunteers because it is such a big tradition. Offer root beer floats to staff on 3/20

New Business- Nominating Committee- Judy, Eileen, Susan, Lisa, volunteered, need people from Lime Kiln, Kathy Faber!!!, Hammond, Murray Hill. **Motion from Sara L, second Alka, motion passed.**

Health Services requests \$50 for feminine hygiene products to keep in stock for student use, **motion from Susan L, second Sara, motion passes.**

Workshop from MaryJo Neil- self assessment of this board and our individual leadership styles / strengths.

Next PTSA Board meeting =Feb. 24, Media Center, 7 PM.

Adjourn 9:13PM