

Atholton HS PTSA Executive Board March 24, 2009

7:15 Guidance / Career Center

Objects read by Lisa Bader

Celebration for Caryn Lasser, who received Friend of Education Award.

Introduction of Mary Jo Neil

Circulate various correspondence, including PTA MD nominating committee info; The Answer report (\$997 profit for PTSA); PTA Council scholarship thank you, Phone Tree (confirm our contact info); summer leadership conference registrations

Minutes accepted from February 3, 2009.

Treasurer's Report- Judy Bruce. Budget presented. Spending and income within budget projections.

Administrator's Report- Capacity adjustments are in progress, staff looking at a very accurate revised number (1360), could still go to 110%. AHS was >1500 in 1990's with no back wing!! Staffing is set for 2010: same # of teachers as now, enrollment = 2009 + 15, class size averages <30 (cap at 33). Emphasizing HSA, review level courses for small class sizes. New activity fee changes from Board- will be very different next year, no more checks at beginning of year, still some voluntary fees, may ask for support from county, may ask PTSA for support (after central office & AHS funds). Pizza w/ Principal on Thursday 3/26, we will get an "Atholton by the Numbers" presentation. Senior activities will be slightly different this year- Evening of Excellence for 9 – 11 grade only; senior awards assembly will be in evening, invite only for receivers; all students welcome. Community, scholarships, Wed May 20. Class night will be May 21- this will be in combination w/ senior picnic. May 22 senior breakfast, sponsored by junior class, rehearsal, picture, then afternoon senior awards (school based awards). Still don't know graduation date. Last day = Fri June 19. Sadie Hawkins Dance cancelled by senior class- will concentrate on coffee house instead (April 22). ESchool News has been having problems. Activity fees: work books? Supplemental books? Some will be paid for by curriculum office; if not, AHS could pay for it, or could be voluntary (will not be for grade). Vocabulary ; foreign language; anatomy & physiology: these classes typically use student work books which cost a small fee. Look at Board Docs for background info on new fee policy. Trash- in lobby on floor is disgusting, outside also by front door.

Susan presented Caryn with a scrapbook of the application for Caryn's Friends of Education Award, ceremony will be on April 16. The award captures only a small part of Caryn's dedication to seeking the best possible education for our students,, and there is no greater friend to education than Caryn.

President's Report- (written report submitted). Pizza w/ Principal night on Thursday 3/26 with service project for Grass Roots, will also be general PTA meeting. CL testified to Board on capacity formula and renovation policy. Capacity formulations have been revised- will match state calculation technique. Gilbert Study will be used to count teaching stations, revised will use actual # of teaching stations, some schools will have 80% utilization (older schools such as AHS with smaller infrastructure / common areas) or 85% (newer schools with larger common areas). AHS capacity = 1360 with revised formula. AHS would not need redistricting; overall county wide would not need redistricting until 2016. New feasibility study comes out in June w/ new capacities. County looking for people to serve on attendance area adjustment committee. Thanks to Kayle for updating our website, each committee leader needs to confirm your area's contents. Calendar is also up for all school major events. Officers will meet in April to discuss the following: Spring Student Support requests, currently with teachers (due by spring break); group will vote on April 28; also look at PTA Exec Board tasks, especially President, to support nominating process; amend budget if necessary (teacher support line item). Next PTA Board meeting will be on 4/28, starting at 6 PM- in conjunction with College Selection Process parent panel. General membership will vote on officers on 4/28. Many thanks for nomination for Friends of Education Award. Lobby bulletin board is available. Best Buddies- 4/23- Karen Gaffney will speak (Cultural Arts budget) at 7 PM in auditorium, open to community, school using her as Cultural Arts on 4/24; on disability awareness. Will invite other Best Buddy communities in county, Dept. of Special Ed, also the Arc. Karengaffneyfoundation.com Will advertise in HoCo Times / Columbia Flyer, churches. School publicizing thru feeders, ESchoolNewsletters.

PTA Council Delegate- Gale Fleming, submitted written report. Distributed "16 Tips on Raising Drug Free Students". March is alcohol & drug awareness month. Book drive is underway- SHOP taking over with PTA parents driving books to final destination. New bullying policy coming out. PTA Council seeking nominations for next year.

Committee Reports

SGA- Jackie Sams – Feeder middle schools attending Middle School Leadership Conference in April, schools identify students to participate, most likely by S\ MS SGA participation with activities to teach diversity; various leadership skills. SGA running canned food drive for Grass Roots in March (first period)

After Prom- take forms for prizes & donations, collections going slow. Good response for After Prom chaperones. AHS will be on TV show in April, Giant bulletin board looks good, will need to be filled in once Prom is over- sports boosters camps?

Nominating- still need more people, make sure middle schools are sending out ESchool Newsletters.

Staff Appreciation- Root Beer Float day was Fri 3/20, then sold to students \$2, made most money ever, was lukewarm with staff.

Music Boosters- Music Adjudication went very well, had open house for incoming middle schoolers on 3/23 and 3/30 (also auditions). Jazz performance next Saturday 4/28.

Environmental Committee- considering getting Tshirts for Green Day, ask art students / environmental students hold competition to design, will need funds for Tshirts and tastings on Green Day. 100 shirts; will be given as incentives. Tasting center: Roots & Trader Joes, culinary students; \$2000 for tastings, \$600 for Tshirts. Was not in original budget for year, officers will consider on 4/21. Green Day date is contingent on Graduation Date. 20 agencies / businesses will participate. Same as Career Day (period 5 & 6), between Memorial Day & first week of June.

HCDrug Free- Myth Busters program on 3/31.

Written Reports submitted by the following committees: SIT Team; Volunteer Committee; Directory; Environmental Awareness; Sports Boosters; Music Boosters; CAC; POPS, After Prom; Staff Appreciation; Reflections; Membership.

Old Business- none

New Business-

Meeting ended 9 PM

Attendance: Joy Evans, Kathy Faber, Marcy Leonard, Alka Chandler, Pam Vieser, Sherri Tatum, Patty Abitante, Teresa Wasil, Judy Bruce, Susan Lustbader, Dana Echols, Caryn Lasser, Lisa Bader, Sara Lustbader, Susan Bottomley, Lily Weiss-Lora, Sharon Nussbaum, Gale Fleming, Joan Brittingham, Ellen Makar, Eileen Jones, Barbara Slayton, Jackie Sams, Diane Freedman, Cindy Ochs, Alice Polser, Debbie Meteyer, Mary Ellen Creasey.

Part II: Workshop on Leadership by MaryJo Neill

Results of assessments from last meeting: of board and self assessment. Rated ourselves very well on fiscal matters, working relationship w/ principal; Low score: evaluate programs; provide feedback to state PTA. Review MD PTA goals-growth, diversity, effectiveness, see more at National PTA website. Each table has work sheet of questions on culture of PTA board.