

PTSA Meeting Minutes September 11, 2023

Attendees: Principal Helena Thomas, John Hite, Tracy Wesley, Patti Martzloff, Celeste Bromberger, Stacie Savage, Carolina Avary, Tess Wesley, Beth Hoos, Catherine Neal

Meeting called to order at 4:32 PM.

Introductions and Hopes for PTSA: each of us introduced ourselves, and some mentioned their thoughts about PTSA goals for 2023-2024:

- Love on teachers (Patti M.)
- Diversity (Carolina A.)
- Engage community; wants to increase student and staff involvement
- John H. appreciates PTSA support of staff & student

Voting on PTSA Officers:

Tracy made a motion to approve this slate:

- Tracy Wesley – President
- Carolina Avary & Emily Nicholson – Co-Vice Presidents
- Tess Wesley – Treasurer
- Catherine Neal – Secretary

Stacie S. seconded the motion, and the board slate was unanimously approved.

Budget Discussion: (Tess Wesley)

- Glenn G. (former Treasurer) & Tess W. worked over the summer to create a budget based on last year's spending. Some cuts have been made, and we also will need to use some funds from reserves. Cuts made include hospitality and campus beautification funding. (Grants can be used for campus beautification. CHS families also offer supplies.)
- Most income is from membership/donations. Weaver Street program also helps.
- We have ~\$15k in the reserve account, we would like to see \$18k, so we need to raise \$3k.
- Class council had no specific category in the budget, but we are combining SGA & Class Council.
- CHS does limited fund-raising throughout the year. We will make specific asks for funding throughout the year. Any money raised for a specific purpose (like Hospitality events) must go directly to that purpose.
- CHS Booster Club did silent auction that brought in a LOT of money (>\$30k). John Hite has experience running silent auctions and is happy to assist.
- Principal Thomas suggested also doing Spirit Nights at local restaurants. *Volunteer needed to organize/facilitate.*
- Patti moved to approve the budget, Beth H. seconded. It was unanimously approved. Amendments can be made to the budget throughout the year.

Review of Budget vs. Actuals:

President Thomas asked what the process is for teachers to request funds. There is a form on the website. Teachers consult Department Heads & Principal before funds are given, in case funding is already available for the need.

We need donations in advance of the block party! Great news: Our website allows donations via credit card now!! (Thanks to Marty Wesley assisting Tess.)

Principal's Update:

First, thank you! For supporting basket of gifts upon arrival.

First week of school had grade-level assemblies to stress student safety and student learning. (Video is available in her Jaguar Jot).

- Three positions open: Engineering – a recommendation has been made to the School Board, ML (???) – waiting for Central Office, EC position (vacant for past 2 years)
- Teachers have had ~4 babies born since January, so some long-term subs are helping
- Jaguar Jump-In will be this Friday, 9/16.
- Excited about partnering w/PTSA for Open House Block Party.
- Parking is an issue; CHS is at capacity. Administration is working with Central Office to help with this problem.
- Any issues? PM asked for better mobile visibility for Jaguar Jots

President's Update:

- Thanks to hospitality for first day food for teachers
- 12 new pickleball racquets, great for RealTalk, Wellness days
- Looking for mobile white boards for math department
- Open House Block Party: Free popcorn, Kona Ice free for first 500 people. PTSA will be selling pizza & water, Tracy wondering how many pizzas & how much water should be purchased? (800 students, maybe half come? Last year ~500 people attended, including parents.) Asst. Principal Diego M. will be DJ!
- Vegetarian Teacher luncheon and Adopt a Plant: plants are donated, teachers get to choose one to keep
- Homecoming on 10/6. Jen Hunt requests PTSA support, so Tracy will follow up.
- Open PTSA positions: Membership recruitment & PTA Council
- Lynn Hirsch & Patti M. leading Secret Pals initiative for teachers later this fall
- Beth Hoos will again lead student workshops. Juniors will meet and get some info from guidance counselors sometime; maybe Beth will coordinate with them. Perhaps students will be required to attend 1-3 sessions. Collaboration with teachers & counselors is key.

Every month PTSA will meet at 4:30 pm on the first Monday of the month!

Adjourned at 5:35 PM.