

DAMASCUS HIGH SCHOOL PTSA MEETING TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2009

Bettianne Quinn called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m. Kathy Van Hoesen moved the minutes be approved, Mr. Domergue seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved as written.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Our donations to the Buzz and Reverie have been paid and Post Prom donations have been transferred. Our current balance is \$5350. Printing of 3 more newsletters and postage are estimated to be \$1851, staff appreciation \$500. The question before the board was do we reduce the PTSA scholarship line item in the budget to \$1200, and take out the line items for parent handbook and student assistance? Mary Jean Osborne moved that we

1. Make the scholarship \$1200 to be divided by the scholarship committee
2. Do not fund student assistance line item in the budget.
3. Do not fund line item for parent handbook in the budget.

The proposal was voted on and was carried with one member abstaining. Mr. Domergue stated that he will see that any costs over \$400 for each newsletter will be covered by DHS since we only have \$1200 budgeted.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Bettianne introduced Kristin Tribble, the current cluster coordinator, and gave a brief description of her job. Kristin is stepping down from this position, and we will need another cluster coordinator for next year's board. The job involves preparing testimony to the Board of Education regarding budgets, focusing on the needs of the Damascus cluster, advocating for the Damascus cluster and helping PTSA presidents. It is a 1 year term and the coordinator can serve 4 consecutive terms.

There will be a speaker at Walter Johnson HS on 03/19/2009 regarding GT and learning disabled students.

There will be a meeting for Student Service Learning Hours Liaison on 02/19/2009 at Carver Educational Building at 7:30 p.m.

Maryland state educational system is ranked #1 in the country.

Raffles, by state law, must be registered with the state for a fee of \$70.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT: Mr. Andrew Fields is the new assistant principal.

Auto class donated a car to Adventist Hospital Care Center.

There was a jump in ineligibility (below a C average) to 14% (goal is 10% or less).

Registration for 9th, 10th, and 11th grade is ongoing.

If the budget is approved, DHS may have the bathroom renovation start this summer.

Calendar items: Band cluster concert, Annie, and the music boosters dinner fundraiser before one of the shows.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. Curriculum. Middle school programs will be discussed. Louisa Stack suggested a financial literacy course should be offered in high school. There was some discussion about this.
2. NAACP. Date for next meeting not set yet. Carolyn suggested maybe next year the program(s) for black history month could be in the evening to accommodate more parents and families.
3. Newsletter. Deadline for next newsletter is 02/20/2009. We will mail the last 3 issues.
4. Post Prom. Prom is 05/16/2009 at University of Maryland like last year. The committee is half way toward funding. Louisa discussed the ongoing raffle as well as the dress sale 03/14/2009.
5. Scholarship. The board voted to reduce the total amount to \$1200 instead of \$1500, to provide three \$400 scholarships. The due date for the applications from students is 04/17/2009. The scholarship committee will discuss weighting of the essays in the application. The scholarship committee meeting is Monday, 03/16/2009 at 7 p.m.
6. Teacher appreciation. The soup and salad luncheon was very successful. There will be treats for St. Patrick's Day and the end-of-school luncheon.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Graduation ticket requests will be handled by Kathy Van Hoesen. She will be working directly with Mr. Domergue on this.

NEW BUSINESS: A nominating committee was formed to choose a slate for next year's PTSA board for president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer. Lisa Dinsmore, Mary Jean Osborne, and Louisa Stack will serve on this committee.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer McGolrick
Recording Secretary