

## Quince Orchard PTSA Minutes

Tuesday, January 17, 2012

January's meeting was called to order at 7:08pm.

### President's Report:

The PTSA has begun the process of soliciting chairs for the 2012-2013 school year. Of primary importance is filling the position of the Nominating Committee Chairperson. Several officers and committee members from the 2011-2012 school year will continue in their positions through the next school year.

On behalf of the Treasurer, Christy Freeland distributed the PTSA Budget-to-Actual financials as of 1/16/2012. The PTSA received \$3,250 in corporate sponsorships to support the Academic Achievers Program, in addition to \$2,500 in general donations.

On behalf of the Membership Chair, Christy Freeland noted that the PTSA requires five student members to meet last year's membership.

On behalf of the Mock SAT/ACT Chair, Holly Parker is seeking volunteers to proctor the January 28, 2012 Mock SAT/ACT.

On behalf of the Academic Achievers Chair, over 900 students received Academic Achievers recognition at the November 18, 2011 Academic Achievers Assembly. The next Academic Achievers Event is scheduled for February 10, 2012, to recognize second semester results.

### VP of Events Report:

Kathy Quinlan presented results of the December Fundraising Event at Barnes and Noble, which raised \$830.00 for the PTSA. The next PTSA event is a Fitness Fair to be held on Tuesday, 5:30 to 7:00pm, preceding the PTSA meeting.

### MCCPTA Delegate Report:

Jim Keenan noted that there was no MCCPTA Delegates Assembly held in December 2011. The next scheduled meeting is January 24, 2012. During the past month, the MCCPTA supported the superintendent's proposed FY 2012-FY2013 Operating Budget.

### Principal's Report:

Carol Working noted that Rachel Carson Elementary School was named a "Blue Ribbon School" by the Maryland Department of Education. Rachel Carson's principal, Mr. Lawrence Chep, was also recognized for this achievement.

QOHS counselors will visit the feeder middle schools next week to begin high school registration of current 8<sup>th</sup> grade students.

President's Report (continued)

QOHS is looking forward this year to receiving certification for its pre-engineering program, "Project Lead the Way". This program integrates STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) curriculum. Next school year, four QOHS students will graduate having completed all required "Project Lead the Way" classwork. QOHS has also been recognized, for the second straight year, as a "Top 10 Feeder School" for the University of Maryland Engineering Program. QOHS achieved this accomplishment though the formal program "Lead the Way" is not yet completely in place.

Upcoming this year, the students will participate in the annual process of documenting student and teacher expectations for the following school year. This year, 12<sup>th</sup> graders will participate in a different cohort along with the Counseling Team. The 12<sup>th</sup> graders will tackle the question, "What skills do you want to take to college?"

This month's speaker, Mr. Larry Wong, a supervisor in the MCPS Chief Technology Office, led a presentation entitled, "Teens and Technology". This session dealt with Cyber Security and Cyber Bullying. Mr. Wong provided contact information for assistance in countering cyber bullying and other forms of e-communication harassment. Mr. Wong also discussed Desktop Content Filtering Software, Computer Monitoring Software, and negative consequences of displaying inappropriate behaviors, pictures and activities on Social Media sites such as Facebook. The presentation stressed the risk of sharing personal information online. Mr. Wong also indicated that each student needs to have a "Trusted Adult" to turn to in times of crisis. The "Trusted Adult" does not have to be a parent, and can be an administrator, teacher, neighbor, or other adult.

Following Mr. Wong's presentation, the PTSA Meeting adjourned at 8:15pm.