

**Walt Whitman High School
PTSA Meeting Minutes
October 19, 2010**

Welcome

PTSA Co-President Robin Rosenblum welcomed everyone. (Agenda Attached)

Approval of September Minutes

September 2010 Minutes were approved.

Student Government Report

Zach Schloss, SGA President, described the successful Homecoming week activities which included the Battle of the Classes, a Pep Rally, and Dance.

Schloss announced that February is Leukemia/Lymphoma month. SGA is also exploring other possibilities for events including Movie Night with a canned food donation component and a Powder Puff football game. The possibility of keeping the school library open later is also being explored as well as developing strategies to reduce trash in the hallways. *Every 15 Minutes* which is a program to raise awareness of drunk driving that is shown every 4 years will be held in March, 2011.

A General Assembly Meeting was held and each delegate voted and then informed their 3rd period class of the vote. Fund requests were voted on with the sum of \$1300 to send two children to the camp attended by former Whitman student, Tim King, who lost his battle to leukemia.

Principal's Report

Dr. Alan Goodwin congratulated Schloss and the leadership team on a successful Homecoming and noted that there were no incidents of alcohol abuse at the events.

Computer Purchase. Goodwin thanked the PTSA for the purchase of five computers for the new staff. He also thanked the Walt Whitman Foundation for their purchase of 18 computers for the library. The additional 18 computers will support two classes using the library simultaneously.

PSAT, SAT and ACT Testing. 93% of Juniors and 94% of Sophomores to take the PSAT. Freshmen take a practice PSAT. The scores are to arrive the first week in December. Students and their parents should meet with their counselor to determine which test, the ACT or SAT, is better suited for their student. Whitman offers a SAT preparation class. Sports Boosters offers practice ACT and SAT tests. Naviance is a program that allows students to investigate, research, and plan for the college admission process and the colleges the students may be best suited for by Grade Point Average (GPA) and SAT scores.

Book Club. The meetings will be held the first Wednesday of every month with a different speaker. The first meeting on October 5 with Helen Simonson leading a discussion on *Major Pettigrew's Last Stand* was very engaging and humorous.

News Literacy Project. The lecture on October 7 by Gwen Ifill, PBS Newshour, on *Race and Politics in the Age of Obama* was well attended with approximately 400 attendees. The next in the series will be held on November 4 with Michael McCurry and Dana Perino, former White House press secretaries, on *Briefing the Press*.

International Outreach. Goodwin feels strongly that Whitman should build global understanding and make a connection across the world. Students from Great Britain will be visiting Whitman the week of October 25, 2010. Whitman Russian class is skyping with a class in Russia.

Baldrige Award. Whitman is a finalist for the Baldrige Award which recognizes organizations for performance excellence. A team of ten people visited Whitman for a two hour period.

Marking Period. The marking period ends on October 29. Students may be under more stress due to this. Teachers are no longer required to be in attendance at school on scheduled Professional Days. However, teachers are required to submit their grades electronically by 12:30 pm if they are not at school and by 3:30 pm if they are present at school. Historically, students' GPA is 3.3 at the end of the first marking period. At graduation over 200 students are recognized for having at least a 3.5 GPA.

Sports and School Officer Eligibility. Students must be academically eligible by maintaining a 2.0 GPA to participate on a varsity sports team or as a school officer.

Math Classes. Sequences of math classes may change. The issue is whether students are ready at younger ages for more advanced math classes. Over acceleration has resulted in the loss of basic skills.

Presidents' Report

Jay Kaufman, Co-President, gave the Presidents' Report.

Networking Meetings. Meetings may be grade specific but they are open to all students and their families. The 10th Grade Networking meeting on Safe Driving is to be held on October 21 with speakers from I Drive Smart and Geico. Information on the Six Most Common Accidents for Teens will be discussed. The 9th Grade Networking Meeting is to be held on November 9 at 7 pm with Mike Gimble presenting a program on Drug and Alcohol Abuse. In order to facilitate open communication, only parents are preferred to attend this meeting.

Capital Improvement Plan and Operating Budget. There is a limited amount of funds, therefore, it is anticipated that there will be an increase in class size and more cuts in funding. Websites offer more information.

Board of Education Elections. The election is to be held on Tuesday, November 2. Four voting seats will be elected. Those elected will be voting on budgets and will participate in the selection of a new Superintendent of MCPS to replace Jerry Weast who is retiring.

Viking Voice. Issues in November and April and will be distributed on-line unless specific request for it to be mailed. The Viking Voice will consist of more information and not as date sensitive.

Treasurer's Report

Mario Finelli gave a brief presentation of the current budget and the funds spent and received to date. (Attached)

Membership Report

Debbie Flack, Co-VP Membership, announced that approximately \$29,750 from membership dues and contributions has been collected. There are currently 752 members and 408 student members. A directed email is to be sent to non-members and following that, a direct mailing will be sent to those Whitman families who have not joined the PTSA.

Volunteer Report

Wendy Kuhn, Co-VP Volunteers, announced that a Co-Chair for Post Prom is needed. The Festival of the Arts is in need of committee members. Assistance is needed on a monthly basis for Staff appreciation. Volunteers should contact either Kuhn or Melinda Rubin, Co-VP Volunteers.

There was no new business and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine A. McMullen, Recording Secretary

Walt Whitman High School PTSA

Treasurer's Report

July 1, 2010 to October 19, 2010

| Income | Jul '10 - Jun '11 | Budget | \$ Over Budget | % of Budget |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|------------------|--------------------|---------------|
| Cash on Hand | 6,159.05 | | | |
| Dues and Contributions | | | | |
| Contributions & Donations | 4,990.00 | 13,000.00 | (8,010.00) | 38.38% |
| Parent Membership | 12,225.00 | 23,500.00 | (11,275.00) | 52.02% |
| Student Membership | 1,380.00 | 2,000.00 | (620.00) | 69.00% |
| Teacher Membership | 0.00 | 0.00 | (0.00) | 0.00% |
| Dues and Contributions - other | 0.00 | 0.00 | (0.00) | 0.00% |
| Interest | 0.00 | 10.00 | (10.00) | 0.00% |
| Income From PTSA | 24,754.05 | 38,510.00 | (13,755.95) | 64.28% |
| Pass Through Income | | | | |
| Post Prom | 2,500.00 | 36,000.00 | (33,500.00) | 6.94% |
| Speech & Debate | 3,081.71 | 10,000.00 | (6,918.29) | 30.82% |
| Total Pass Through Income | | 46,000.00 | (46,000.00) | |
| Total Income | 24,754.05 | 84,510.00 | (59,755.95) | |
| Expense | | | | |
| Administration | 0.00 | 550.00 | (550.00) | 0.00% |
| Bank Fees | 0.00 | 286.00 | (286.00) | 0.00% |
| Building Appearance & Security | 0.00 | 3,000.00 | (3,000.00) | 0.00% |
| Dues (County MCCPTA) | 0.00 | 1,340.00 | (1,340.00) | 0.00% |
| Dues (State and National MDPTA) | 0.00 | 4,355.00 | (4,355.00) | 0.00% |
| Counseling Advisory Committee (CAC) | | 1,300.00 | (1,090.35) | 16.13% |
| Stressbuster speakers | 0.00 | | | |
| Other | 209.65 | | | |
| Insurance (Liability/D&O) | 179.00 | 179.00 | 0.00 | 100.00% |
| Whitworld (intercultural) | 0.00 | 250.00 | (250.00) | 0.00% |
| Library Book Fund (Media Center) | 0.00 | 1,000.00 | (1,000.00) | 0.00% |
| Membership | 0.00 | 500.00 | (500.00) | 0.00% |
| Networking | 0.00 | 250.00 | (250.00) | 0.00% |
| Newcomers | 66.42 | 400.00 | (333.58) | 16.61% |
| Newsletter (Printing) | 0.00 | 2,500.00 | (2,500.00) | 0.00% |
| One Time Grants | | 2,500.00 | (2,500.00) | 0.00% |
| Poetry Books | 0.00 | | | |
| Other | 0.00 | | | |
| Organizational Gifts | 0.00 | 750.00 | (750.00) | 0.00% |
| Postage | 0.00 | 1,000.00 | (1,000.00) | 0.00% |
| Principal's Fund | 0.00 | 6,000.00 | (6,000.00) | 0.00% |
| Professional Enhancement Grants | 305.00 | 2,500.00 | (2,195.00) | 12.20% |
| Program and Classroom Grants | 0.00 | 1,500.00 | (1,500.00) | 0.00% |
| PTSA Presidents Fund | 0.00 | 500.00 | (500.00) | 0.00% |
| Staff Appreciation | | 3,800.00 | (3,800.00) | 0.00% |
| End of Year Luncheon | 0.00 | | | |
| Other | 0.00 | | | |
| Student Activities | 0.00 | 500.00 | (500.00) | 0.00% |
| Technology | 0.00 | 2,800.00 | (2,800.00) | 0.00% |
| Whitman Clubs | 655.00 | 750.00 | (95.00) | 87.33% |
| Total PTSA Expenses | 1,415.07 | 38,510.00 | (37,094.93) | |
| Pass Through Expenses | | | | |
| Post Prom | 2,530.00 | 36,000.00 | (33,470.00) | |
| Speech & Debate | 3,081.71 | 10,000.00 | (6,918.29) | |
| Total Pass Through Expenses | 5,611.71 | 46,000.00 | (40,388.29) | |
| Totals | 19,142.34 | 84,510.00 | (77,483.22) | |

Agenda
WWHS PTSA Meeting
October 19, 2010
7:30 pm, Media Center

- 1) Welcome – Robin Rosenblum
- 2) Approval of September Minutes
- 3) SGA Report – Zach Schloss
- 4) Principal’s Report -- Dr. Alan Goodwin
- 5) Presidents’ Report – Jay Kaufman
 - i) Upcoming networking nights
 - ii) CIP /Operating Budget
 - iii) BOE Elections
 - iv) Viking Voice
- 6) Treasurer’s Report – Mario Finelli
- 7) Membership Report – Debbie Flack
- 8) Executive Committee Reports
- 9) New Business
- 10) Adjournment

Upcoming dates:

October

- | | |
|----|---|
| 21 | 10 th Grade Networking Night (Driving) |
| 29 | 1 st Marking Period ends |

NOVEMBER

- | | |
|---------|---|
| 1 | No School – Professional Day |
| 2 | No School – Election Day |
| 9 | 9 th Grade Networking Night (Drugs & Alcohol) |
| 9 | Literary Series (Book Club) Meeting 7pm (Date change from Nov. 2) |
| 11 | Report Cards Distributed |
| 16 | PTSA Meeting 7:30 pm |
| 18-20 | Fall Musical 7:30 pm |
| 24 | Early Release |
| 25 & 26 | No School – Thanksgiving |