

# Walt Whitman High School

## PTSA Meeting Minutes

May 17, 2011

### Welcome

PTSA Co-President Robin Rosenblum welcomed everyone.

### Approval of March Minutes

March Minutes were approved.

### Student Government Report

Outgoing SGA President Zach Schloss introduced incoming SGA President Ari Kapner who gave the SGA Report.

- SGA sponsored the Spring Fair on May 13 that was enjoyed by the students and the local community. The Powder Puff Derby was part of the Spring Fair and was won by the Junior girls.
- Mr. Whitman will be held on May 21. Admission is \$10 and the proceeds will benefit cancer research.
- Prom is on May 27 and Post Prom is from 1 until 5 AM on May 28. The sale of prom tickets has increased.
- Freshman Orientation will be held in June.

### Principal's Report presented by Dr. Goodwin

**Moment of Silence.** A moment of silence was held for the three Magruder High School students who died in a car accident on May 15. A moment of silence was also held during the school day and flowers were sent to each funeral. Dr. Goodwin noted that anxiety is heightened during prom and graduation season.

**Skipping.** There has been an increased amount of skipping not only by Seniors. Students may experience a loss of credit depending on the circumstances. High School Assessments have contributed to skipping classes. Many Seniors are in danger of not graduating due to insufficient student service learning hours, failing grades, and fees owed. Seven Seniors are currently serving an in-school suspension and one student was unable to compete in Mr. Whitman.

**Arson.** The three students involved in the arson of the classrooms are not returning to WWHS. \$50,000 worth of damage resulted from the arson.

**Presidential Scholar.** Clara McCreery was awarded the prestigious Presidential Scholar that recognizes and honors some of the Nation's most distinguished high school seniors.

**Spring Fair.** Many middle school students were in attendance while not as many elementary school students attended this year. The Spring Fair usually breaks even and any proceeds will go towards a charity.

**Arts Festival.** The Fashion Show will be held on Friday, May 20, with One Act Plays being held on Tuesday, May 24. The Arts Festival will continue on May 25 and May 26 with art and photography exhibits along with a silent auction and food sales.

**Prom.** If a student is caught drinking at Prom, they will not be permitted to walk at Graduation with no exceptions. This determination has previously been help up on appeal. It does not matter whether the student has a number of out of town guests or any other extenuating circumstances, they will not be allowed to attend Graduation if they drink during Prom. Dr. Goodwin thanked the Post Prom Committee and the volunteers for their efforts.

**Cell Phone Policy Change.** MCPS may be changing the cell phone policy so that students will be permitted to use their cell phones during lunch. If cell phone usage impacts behavior and/or learning, Dr. Goodwin has the discretion to withdraw the use of cell phones.

**Graduation.** Graduation is Tuesday, June 14, at 2:30 pm, at DAR Constitution Hall. Maryland Lieutenant Governor Anthony Brown is the speaker. There will be no school on that day.

**Art Department.** Mrs. Marjorie Scott is retiring as the Art Resource Teacher at the conclusion of the 2010-2011 school year. Mrs. Nancy Mornini has been selected to replace Mrs. Scott.

**Community Superintendent.** Sean Bulson is relocating to North Carolina. Dr. Christopher Garron, former Walter Johnson principal, will assume the Community Superintendant position.

**Weight Room.** The current weight room will be expanded by removing the back wall and placing aerobic equipment in that area. This will afford female students an opportunity to participate in weight lifting class. A former coaches office was converted to a third female team room.

## **President's Report**

Co-PTSA President Jay Kaufman gave the President's Report.

- The position of Ex Officio has been added to the PTSA Executive Board. It will be necessary to amend the by-laws to incorporate this change. A motion was passed to amend the by-laws.
- The PTSA Executive Board Members nominees were introduced and passed by unanimous vote for the following 2011-2012 Board members:

President: Robin Rosenblum

Executive Vice President: Cindy Campbell

VPs for Membership: Jodie Rasch and Sheryl Steinberg

VPs for Volunteers: Wendy Kuhn and Lynn Wegman

Treasurer: Mario Finelli

Corresponding Secretary: Jodi McGill

Recording Secretary: Susie Zimmerman

MCCPTA Representative/Cluster Coordinators: Deb Lange and Jean Schlesinger

- School directories will now be associated with the PTSA membership. WWHS is the only school in the cluster that has not included the directories as part of the PTSA membership dues. The profit from the directories will continue to go to the Senior Class with the Seniors selling advertisements and assisting in the distribution. In order to accommodate the cost of the directories, PTSA membership dues will be raised to \$35. Jay Kaufman will be in charge of the directories.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Mario Finelli, Treasurer, reported that the Stress Busters committee made a profit. The budget continues to be in line with its projection and \$5,000 remaining in the Operating Fund for the next school year.

### **Vice-Presidents' Report**

- Post Prom and Festival of the Arts Chair positions need to be filled for next year.
- Chair for Pizza Party on August 28, 2011, needs 2 Co-Chairs.
- Networking Chairs have been merged with Stress Busters in order to reduce the number of duplicate programs.
- Ms. Trulio, Media Specialist, is in need of assistants to assist students with research, reshelving books, and monitor library.

There was no new business and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine A. McMullen, Recording Secretary