

## Solon High School PTA Minutes

October 28, 2008

Call to Order: 9:20AM. Recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Recording Secretary, Julia Wainblat:** September, 2008 PTA meeting minutes are on the back table. If you present information at the PTA meeting, please provide me a written copy of your report at the end of the meeting. Discussion whether to include telephone numbers in the minutes, understanding that the minutes are posted on the internet. Decided if a PTA member does not want his/her telephone number in the minutes, he/she will tell the recording secretary. No corrections or changes to minutes. September, 2008 PTA meeting minutes stand as presented.

**Corresponding Secretary, Joni Sand:** Black book for documenting service hours is being passed around. Any volunteer work during the past month and any other committee members hours Please remember to record all hours worked outside of this meeting in the black book. Sent get well card to Joann Kelley. Sent condolence card to Patsy Lapidus for the passing of her brother.

**Treasurer, Wendy Young:** The membership/donations, transfer to After-prom accounts had the most activity this month. Craft Fair underway and showing activity from the vendors' payments. Ending balance of PTA checking account is \$9,565.27 and the After-prom checking account balance is \$9,293.28. Office Max stores only use Solon Board of Education tax exempt number. SHS PTA reimbursement forms are not on line yet. We are still working on it.

**Principal, Mr. Steyer:**

Grade period ends Friday Oct. 31<sup>st</sup> ; report cards distributed Nov. 7<sup>th</sup>. Next Wednesday will be a late start for junior and senior students due to the freshman and sophomore students taking EXPLORE and PLAN tests. Cross Country boys were 2<sup>nd</sup> in regionals and run Saturday in Columbus for states. Fall concerts and drama club play are underway. Alcohol/student problem at school activities and games was raised. Discussion followed.

**Vice President, Mrs. Johns:**

No Report

**Vice President, JoAnn Branstetter:** .

No Report

**President, Barb Shane:**

Thanks to Louise Isroff, Sue Navratil and Claudia O'Brien for organizing hospitality for today. Additional thanks to Budget Bin Chairs for a job well done. Patty Sirna and Lisa Cohn chairs Budget Bin for HS PTA. It was a very successful event. We are still encouraging all HS staff and parents to join HS PTA. HS PTA Fundraiser, the Craft Fair is being held Saturday November 8<sup>th</sup> at the HS from 10 – 4. Please attend this event. Proceeds benefit SHS PTA. Thanks to Liz Fried for chairing this event. After Prom Chair Lynn Ptak and After Prom Decorations Chair Carmelene Jefferson held their first

meeting with After Prom committee chairs. Decisions on After Prom are continuing to be made. We encourage you to assist us in planning After Prom. The more parents involved, the better this event will be. Our After Prom Fundraising letter was recently sent out. Please support this and provide donations to After Prom. Winners of the After Prom Fundraising portion of this fundraiser will be selected at the November SHS PTA meeting. Heinen's is now including the HS PTA for their schools donation. Please consider going online to [www.heinens.com](http://www.heinens.com) and designating HS PTA as your school of choice. I will not be in attendance at the November PTA meeting. VP JoAnn Branstetter will run the meeting in November. Have a good Thanksgiving holiday.

**Council Delegates, Gayle Marks, Cindy Castro, Cindy Koller-Kass, Tammy Strom:**

Last Solon Board of Education meeting lasted only nine (9) minutes. During the meeting was the approval of the 5 year forecast . Always at the foreground are budget considerations in light of changing tax bases. The phasing out of business dollars shows on balance sheet as \$11 million. We will be affected by \$1.8 million less, which translates to 30 teaching positions or 20% of the budget . This is a serious issue. Getting closer to the time that as citizens we need to stand up to make noise. The Board of Education is trying to stretch our budget money so not to have a levy on the ballot until 2010. School districts will still need replacement money when local tax dollars disappear. State legislators are not really involved. Don't want to raise taxes. Put it onto the school districts/levies. Commercial Activity Taxes (CAT) broaden tax base and make it more fair. But CAT funds are going to the state budget and not to schools. In January, 2009, Tammy will publish talking points if you are interested in contacting your state representatives.

**Craft Fair, Liz Fried**

Craft Fair is November 8<sup>th</sup> from 10 AM – 4 PM. We have many vendors (77 vendors at last count. Last year there were 89 vendors). We are trying something different this year by having a holiday cookie sale. Please sign up on the sheet being passed around and bake some cookies. We still need help with set-up on Friday starting at 4:00 PM and take-down at the end of the event.

**STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**After Prom, Lynn Ptak**

Holding first meeting October 28<sup>th</sup> at Barb Shane's home. All committee chair positions have been filled. We have a wonderful group of parents this year. Decorations chair Carmelene Jefferson will meet with Mr. Steyer regarding our ideas.

Fund-raising chairs Susan Castiglione, Joanne Behnke and Barb Shane have been organizing the November After-prom fundraising activity. Letter will be mailed to SHS parents listing cash prized and ticket prices. The drawing will be held during the November PTA meeting. Winners need not be present.

This year we will be using the Solon Storage Zone on Cochran Road to build and store all our decorations.

The prize committee can always use more volunteers. Shopping, organizing and having fun is the motto. Every student who attends After Prom receives a prize, so if you can donate a gift card, money or an actual gift you think our students would like, please contact Barb Smith at [barbsmitha2004@yahoo.com](mailto:barbsmitha2004@yahoo.com).

If you are interested in helping, please call me at 498-1051 or e-mail Lynn Ptak at [parksidemom@sbcglobal.net](mailto:parksidemom@sbcglobal.net).

Budget Bin, Lisa Cohn, Patty Sirna:  
No Report

By-Laws/ Standing Rules, Beth Bickel:  
No Report.

Calendar, Lynn Ptak:  
Pictures for calendar send to Carol Yasher Solon Board of Education

Freshman Class Rep., Kathy Kramer:  
The freshmen student will be taking the EXPLORE test on November 5<sup>th</sup>. On Saturday, November 15<sup>th</sup>, the freshmen students are encouraged to take the free PSAT test being given Solon High School. As a fundraiser, the freshmen class will be selling sweat pants in three (3) different colors with two (2) different slogans. More information will be provided in the future.

Sophomore Class Rep.: Sue Steidley:  
The sophomore students will be taking the PLAN test on November 5<sup>th</sup>, in the morning. Sign-up will be during their English class. The test is a practice test for the ACT exam which is required by many colleges instead of or in addition to the SAT test. It is also used by the guidance department to determine areas that can be developed/improved in the future.

Junior Class Rep.: Carol Kutsko:  
The PSAT test scores will be received in December, 2008, the week before winter break. Guidance department recommends the SAT and ACT to be taken in the second semester. Students must register online. Students can complete a career assessment located on the SHS College Resource Center located in the Guidance Department to research college choices and sign up to meet with college representatives throughout the year. Dates for visiting colleges are listed on the SHS Guidance webpage on their Calendar of Events and also on Prep HQ under Colleges. It is recommended for college searches is [www.princetonreview.com](http://www.princetonreview.com) and Prep HQ. Spring break is an excellent time to tour colleges; check SHS Guidance site under "Downloadable Handouts" for "how the visit a college". Keep your resume updated at Prep HQ.

Senior Class Rep., Patsy Lapidus:  
Senior cap and gown orders should have already been placed at the bookstore by now. College application with a December 1<sup>st</sup> deadline date are due no later than November 11<sup>th</sup>. Make sure that you are registered at Prep HQ on the Solon Schools website. Please read the October SHS PTA newsletter distributed in November, there is very important information from the guidance department.

Directory, Patsy Lapidus:

The SHS off ice is still processing the emergency card information and the directory will hopefully go to print right before Thanksgiving break.

Health, Safety & Welfare, Debe Klotzman:

Domestic violence and teen date violence is at 20%. 15,019 people are abused in dating relationships. It can happen to anyone Resources are available on the internet and in the community to help identify symptoms and possible solutions. "Please Stop Laughing at Us" author speaking in Chagrin Falls tonight 7-9 at St. Joan of Arc school just past Chagrin Falls High School.

Honors Breakfast, Debbie Coleman, Lisa Crowl:  
Breakfast is scheduled for the end of February

Hospitality, Louise Isroff; Sue Navratil, Claudia O'Brien:  
Thank you to all who contributed to today's refreshments. It is appreciated by all members who attend the meeting.

Legislation, Rhonda Wien:  
Instructions on mock elections in the recent copy of Ohio PTA news. Online Ohio PTA advocacy section on website. Tips on contacting legislators available on the Ohio PTA website.

Membership, Sue Pohle, Linda Elwing:  
Currently there are 865 members in the SHS PTA organization. Donations for PTA and After Prom are up. It is not too late to join PTA. Not only are you supporting the SHS PTA organization, but you also receive the opportunity for discounts, such as at Borders book store.

Newsletter Typing, Lorna Chernomorets:  
Will confirm receipt of information received for the newsletter. Send in information you want published via e-mail. Deadline is day of each PTA meeting.

Newsletter Collating, Elizabeth Goodin:  
Nov 10<sup>th</sup> mailing; need only 1 volunteer.

Parent/ Principal Coffees, Kathy Kramer, Marilyn Koschik, Robin Stanton:  
No Report

Senior Honors, Beth Eidnier:  
No Report

Senior Awards, Cheryl Kresevic, Monica Turk:  
No Report

Special Services, Kim Littman, Patty Sirna:  
Halloween treats will be distributed on Oct. 31<sup>st</sup>

Staff Appreciation, Beth Bickel, Marla Silberman, Patty Chaitoff.  
PTA staff cookie buffet will be 12/11. Please let us know if you are able to provide 2-3 dozen cookies. Please have them at school by 8:00 AM that day.

Underclass Honors, Tammy Strom, Lisa Cartellone:  
No Report

**COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES:**

Academic Boosters, Joni Sand, Ellen Lim:

Rewards Solon High School students at all academic levels through our many recognition programs such as: Rising Star, Strive for .5; Academic Teams; Graduation medals; Academic Letter Awards; National Merit scholars; Exemplary Attendance; and Scholarships.

Grocery gift certificate always available for purchase. The mattress sale was successful. 474 academic awards 32 student council awards given at recent assembly. Teacher appreciation luncheon. The Boosters Club would like volunteers to help at different events.

VPAC, Elizabeth Goodin:

Nov 5<sup>th</sup> meeting at 7:00PM at Arabica coffee shop on Bainbridge Road (across from Walgreen's). Agenda includes discussion of future plans and what should continue. Boosters need more adults interested in taking an officer's position. The purpose of the boosters is to keep the arts in the schools and promote student achievements.

Athletic Boosters, Patty Chaitoff:

First phase of football field fence upgrade project is complete. Girls tennis team won regional competition. Sports award dinner for cross country and tennis teams will be announced. Fall sports awards night for all fall sports to be held. Athletic booster dinner/fundraiser to be held in January.

OPEN, Debe Klotzman:

**October 28<sup>th</sup>: S.O.S.: Support, Options and Services from OCALI.** 7:30 – 9:00 PM.  
Solon Board of Education Building, 33800 Inwood Road.

**Unfinished Business:**

None

**New Business:**

None

Meeting adjourned at 10:25 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Julia Wainblat