

Solon High School PTA Minutes

August 28, 2008

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

Recording Secretary, Julia Wainblat: May 27th meeting minutes are available at the table, if you have not picked one up already. If you present information during the PTA meeting, please provide to me at the end of the meeting a written copy of what you said so that I can accurately record your information presented. No corrections or changes to the May PTA minutes. May meeting minutes stand as presented.

Corresponding Secretary, Joni Sand: The black "hours" notebook is being passed around during this meeting. Please note in it two hours in the "service" column to reflect attendance at this meeting. Also note in the black notebook any hours used to prepare for this meeting or committee work. Pass around thank you notes. If you know of anyone who should be sent a note please tell me at the meeting or via e-mail or telephone call. .

Distributed cards: Sent card to Guastella family regarding their son, Michael's, illness. Sent get-well card to Mr. McGuire. Sent congratulations card to Mrs. Sanders, on the birth of her son. Sent condolence card to the Jiang family.

Treasurer, Wendy Young: Presented and reviewed proposed 2008-09 SHS PTA Budget. Next month members will vote on approving proposed budget. In determining the proposed budget we used a couple of years comparison, not just last year's budget. We looked at trends: income going down a bit and expenses up. Explanation of each line item. If your committee expenses will be above 10% of budget, SHS PTA membership must vote and approve the budget increase. Tax-exempt form for purchases; cannot reimburse taxes. If the store you are purchasing from does not accept the SHS tax-exempt letter, request to use the Board of Education, PTA Council or any available Solon PTA tax-exempt number on file. Forms for deposits and reimbursements can be found on the table or in the PTA mailbox at the high school office. If you do put reimbursement forms in the PTA mailbox, please call Wendy to notify her. Each reimbursement request must have a receipt attached. The receipt may be a copy. Need to have receipts as soon as possible to keep budget report accurate. Call if any questions. Just a reminder, cannot reimburse for mileage, cell phone.

Principal, Mr. Steyer:

Great start to the school year. Student population down about 30 students. Approximately 1800 students as of Tuesday. 473 graduated last spring, there are 432 members of the senior class and approximately 460 students in the freshman class. The school is still using 2 trailers as "learning cottages". Renovations during the summer: new windows in back hallway; turned industrial tech's 3rd room into computer lab with 28 computers. The art classes and yearbook will also use the new computer lab. The school purchased 14 laptop computer tables with 16 computers on each table with a printer. All prior existing computer labs received new computers. Twelve LCD projectors were purchased. LCD projectors connect to classroom computers in geometry and

biology classes. It may expand to other classrooms projects. The software can track questions and class responds, and track individual student responses and achievements over time. Great learning tool. This year the Board of Education hired five new teachers (two hired to replace maternity leave teachers): Social Studies, Foreign Language, Math, new ½ MH, and new interventionist. In addition, an Art teacher transferred from middle school to the high school. New Assistant principal is Antoine Campbell.

Vice President, Mrs. Johns:
No Report

Vice President, JoAnn Bransetter: .
No report. Look for future “Spring Fling” reports

President, Barb Shane:

Welcome to our first meeting of the school year. We are a busy, active PTA; please let us know if you are willing to work on any particular committee. We need some additional After Prom chairs – especially for decorating and prizes. We could also use more people on the Craft Fair committee. Craft Fair is **November 8th**. It is a PTA fundraiser. Thanks to the new Executive Committee for meeting with me this summer and preparing for the school year. Thanks also to the hospitality chairs for hosting today’s meeting and to the membership committee chairs for getting off to the good start with our PTA membership. If you are a new committee chair and need any help getting started with your committee, please let us know. We look forward to a successful PTA year.

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

Aug 18th Board of Education meeting: new policy approved regarding acceleration and early graduation. All policies are on line. All handbooks are also posted on line. High school parents should read handbook. Report of governor’s conversation on education. Governor Strickland is trying to reform education in Ohio via regional meetings. Solon’s small group gave our idea that we did not need to throw out the state education system, just tweak at edges. Parents and administrators know what to do; Solon second highest in state. Objective is to take higher end student and keep them going while supporting students who may need extra help..

Solon High School was nominated for Blue Ribbon award. The Board recently received unofficial word that we will be a Blue Ribbon high school. All subgroups have to be achieving (no child left behind) Award is given in October, 2008. SHS is allowed to make a presentation in Washington DC (one of only two nationally)

Football tickets sales – during the school year are only sold on the Friday of game day. Tickets may be purchased from 10:30 AM to 1:30PM in the Spirit Store and also in the Athletic office. The cost is \$4.00 presale for students and \$6.00 at the door. Adults are \$6.00. Senior citizens are free (need to get a card/pass)

If students buy in advance from our Athletic office for AWAY games, we get to keep all money

Wear pink for this week’s game

Jiang family would like to establish a scholarship fund at the Board of Education. If you are interested in contributing to the fund, please send a check to the Board of Education with Stephen Jiang's name on the memo line.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Academic Boosters. oni Sand, Ellen Lim:

Explanation of Committee: Not just about rewarding top students. The committee reaches out to students who are trying through the Rising Stars program (teacher nominates/lunch and presentation); Strive for .5 program and graduating seniors with the exemplary attendance award. Academic scholarships are also awarded to deserving Senior (\$10,000 last year) . Monthly meeting are held. The first is on Sept 16th at 7PM. If you are unable to attend meeting, members can elect to have minutes e-mailed to their home computers. The objective of the committee is to reach as many students as possible.

After Prom. Lynn Ptak

Explained how she will run the overall after-prom committee. There are a few chairperson positions available to be filled: looking for decorations, prizes, and additional publicity chairs. Interested in using junior parents, but open to all grades of parents. Can run the committee in groups.

Budget Bin. Lisa Cohn, Patty Sirna:

No Report. Budget Bin is **Oct 22-28, 2008**. Consignment sale. Get ½ profit, other ½ goes to scholarship fund. Budget Bin sales generate approximately \$20,000 in scholarships. Last year, 28 seniors received \$1,000 scholarships. This year's application will include questions regarding parents (or students) volunteering at Budget Bin and if family is a PTA member. Questions will be used only if there is a tie in scoring.

Laws/ Standing Rules. Beth Bickel:

Copy available at table and on the website. This year SHS PTA will be reviewing standing rules.

Calendar. Lynn Ptak:

Send pictures to board of education for calendar consideration.

Freshman Class Rep., Kathy Kramer:

Freshman mentoring Sept 10th during physical education class. Parent - principal coffee on **Sept. 11th at 9:00 AM**

Sophomore Class Rep.: Sue Steidley:

Parent-principal coffee is on **September 18th at 9:00 AM.**

Junior Class Rep.: Carol Kutsko:

Curriculum night is **Monday, September 8th**, starting at **7:00 PM**. College Fair for the Arts is Tuesday, **September 16th** at 6:30 PM. Several colleges will have representatives attending. Parent/Principal Coffee will be held on Thursday, **September 25th at 9 AM** in the SHS cafeteria. All Juniors should sign up to take the PSAT that will be administered at SHS on Saturday, **October 18th**. Counselors will be in classrooms the week of

September 15th providing registration information to students. The 2008 fee is \$25.00 and will be payable at the bookstore. PSAT tips night for Critical Reading and Writing will be held **Wednesday, September 24th** and for Math on **Wednesday, October 1st**. Both are from 7 PM – 9 PM in the Lecture Hall. All Juniors should take the SAT and ACT at least once in the spring. It is beneficial if both are taken twice, in spring and early summer. Many websites are available to assist the student and parents through planning for college and college visitations. Please view the Guidance Department web page.

Senior Class Rep., Patsy Lapidus:

PrepHQ invaluable – college planning tonight 6:30 auditorium. Sept 4th, Parent - principal coffee at 9:00 AM in the cafeteria.

Craft Fair, Liz Fried:

Craft Fair will be on **November 8, 2008, 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM**. The applications for booth space went out in July and currently the committee is in the process of receiving the applications and sending out confirmation letters to the applicants. 25 people responded so far. We raised prices a small amount for the crafters and opened the craft fair to resale vendors (Tupperware type vendors). Table prices range from \$40.00 to \$50.00 depending on the size.

Directory, Patsy Lapidus:

No report

Health, Safety & Welfare, Debe Klotzman:

Yesterday health PD article – advice to students on staying healthy physically, mentally, and maintaining personal security etc. Article available on table

Honors Breakfast, Debbie Coleman, Lisa Crowl:

No report

Hospitality, Louise Isroff; Sue Navratil, Claudia O'Brien:

Thank you to Barb, Gail, Cindy and Diane for providing food.

Legislation, Rhonda Wien:

No report

Membership, Sue Pohle, Linda Elwing; JoAnn Branstetter:

PTA logo for this year's membership drive is a puzzle. Membership envelopes are available on the table and have been mailed to each student in their packet. \$5.00 membership and accepting general PTA donations and after-prom donations. 134 members paid so far and \$325 for after-prom donations and \$325 in general PTA donations.

All committee chairpersons and committee members must be PTA members.

Newsletter, Lorna Chernomoretz:

Deadline is today. Please e-mail your articles and notices to Lorna in Arial font, pt 11.

Newsletter Collating, Elizabeth Goodin:

One volunteer needed for monthly collating. On **Sept 8th** we will be collating this month's newsletter. It will take approximately 4-5 days to receive newsletter through the mail. If you no longer need a newsletter mailed to your home, please let the office know.

Parent/ Principal Coffees, Kathy Kramer, Marilyn Koschik, Robin Stanton:

Encourage to come to grade level coffee. Please sign up to provide bake goods. Mr. Seyer and guidance counselors are available to answer questions. Informal gathering learn about school and grades.

Senior Honors, Beth Eidnier:

No report.

Senior Awards, Cheryl Kresevic, Monica Turk:

No report

Special Services, Kim Littman, Patty Sirna:

Treats will be distributed to the students for Halloween, Valentine's day, and end of the year.

Staff Appreciation, Beth Bickel, Marla Silberman, Patty Chaitoff.

Fruit and candy were given to the teachers and staff at beginning of the school year. During the winter holidays, PTA provides a holiday cookie buffet. In the spring, during staff appreciation week; PTA provides lunch with unique salads

Underclass Honors, Tammy Strom, Lisa Cartellone:

No report.

COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES:

VPAC, Elizabeth Goodin: This group supports the visual arts, promotion awareness and is a source of information for parents of students interested in art education etc. The College fair for the Arts is a project of this group. It is important to know that the art program is a sequential program with prerequisites for upper level classes. VPAC meets every few months

Athletic Boosters, Patty Chaitoff:

This group provides financial support for all athletic functions not covered by the high school. This group cannot fund anything that students get and keep.

OPEN, Debe Klotzman:

Originally organized to serve special needs family. But the goals have evolved to include not only special needs but all students. This group asks for donations every year

from each school PTA. This group does not do any fundraising. Please refer to the purple sheet listing monthly programs.

Unfinished Business:

Audit committee reported to the SHS PTA membership.

New Business:

We will vote on budget at next months meeting. We'd like someone to step forward to serve as Ways & Means chair.

Meeting adjourned at 10:45 AM.

NEXT SHS PTA MEETING: Tuesday, September 23rd at 9:15 AM in the Board Conference Room. Please join us.

Respectfully submitted,

Julia Wainblat