

**Menlo Atherton High School PTA
General Board Meeting
April 2, 2008**

Board Members Present: Julie Brody, Pam Stoner, Denise Bullwinkel, Janet Perez, Elizabeth Johnson, Pam Songer, Molly Eason, Stacy Fredericksen, and Patty Burch.

Opening: The meeting was called to order by Pam Stoner at 8:45 am on April 2, 2008, in Room F-15, M-A campus. 22 members were present.

A. Public Comment:

M-A Parent, Mary Hom:

Ms. Hom asked if a school policy could be established in regards to the requirements of TB testing for all volunteers. The policy should apply equitably to not only those that work directly with students but any volunteer on campus.

B. Administrative Speaker: Principal, Matthew Zito

College Placements: were very successful, with many of our students going to smaller and very selective schools. This year was the largest graduating class in CA. Admission directors at some of the top schools are now looking for more dynamic thinkers/intellectually curious students that see 'outside of the box' and are not just 'robot students'. We will continue to glean information from Stanford for next year's student applicants.

The Performing Arts Center: Blach Construction has taken a lot of care in the construction of the building, which will be completed sometime between June '09 and December '09. The Brass Numbers out in front of the school will be relocated on the front wall of the new building facing Middlefield. The last set of facility upgrades will be the music rooms, parking, lighting and the front of the school.

Parent Communication: we are planning teas/cocktail hours for new parents

Hiring: we are looking to hire additional staff to continue to reduce class size, especially in English. Right now the ninth grade has approx 27 students per class including honors, and we would like to extend this across the board. Co-taught classes, in which a Special Ed. Teacher teams with a regular teacher when a Special Ed. Student is in the class, have been successful and will continue. We are looking at approx. 2030 students next year.

D. Treasurer's Report: Molly Eason / Review of Budget

- No Motions at this time.

E. Committee Reports

Parent Education / Charlene Margot: We have just finished our first 'formal' year, and it was a huge success! We held 7 events with the goal of targeting students' health and wellness in the areas of physical, emotional, and academic success. To summarize Denise Pope's talk: 70% of students are engaged and want to learn, however homework continues to be an issue with 61% of the students not finding it valuable. Sleep continues to be a concern, and 9 1/2 hours is the average a high school student needs for optimal physical health. The SDMSC has formed an 'Academic Integrity' group to continue looking into ways to address these issues that face students in the district and students in college.

Nominating Committee / Patty Burch: (Kristin Smith, Teri O'Neel, Denise Bullwinkel, Janet Perez, Patty Burch).

- Co-Presidents / Denise Bullwinkel and Janet Perez
- Vice President / John McMurtry
- Treasurer / Molly Eason
- Secretary / Pam Songer
- Auditor / Kristin Smith
- Parliamentarian / Julie Brody
- SDMSC Representative / Pam Stoner
- Parent at Large Representative / Charlene Margot

Co-VP position is still open

Motion to approve the 2008-2009 PTA Executive Board as presented was made by Judy Hood/Maria Flarety/Unanimous.

PTA volunteer positions still in need of help / please contact Patty Burch @ patty.burch@gmail.com:

- Display Case in pride hall. This is usually done 3X's a year
- 8th Grade Information Night
- Calendar for the Trivocus: co-ordinate w/district websites and past trivocus issues to compile and calendar information once a month.
- Fashion Show
- Grad Night
- Senior Breakfast

Boosters / Michelle Culhane: We have collected \$60,000 towards boosters this year! For the Bear Run, we still need runners! Sign-ups are all over town. We will have the dance team, step team, Jazz Band, hoagies, etc.

Administration Support / Kristin Smith: We are looking for volunteers for arena check in, sorting tests in the fall and sorting star tests. Please contact Kristin Smith @ kttsmith@yahoo.com

Meeting adjourned at 10:36 am. Mary Hom/Charlene Margot/Unanimous

Respectfully submitted,
Pam Songer
M-A PTA Secretary
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