

**Menlo Atherton High School PTA  
General Board Meeting  
March 3, 2009**

**Board Members Present:** Denise Bullwinkel, Lisa McNamara, John McMurtry, Molly Eason, Kristin Smith, Pam Stoner, Julie Brody, and Pam Songer.

**Opening:** Janet Perez called the meeting to order at 8:44 am on March 3, 2009, in the Old Dance Studio, M-A campus, 19 members were present.

**A. Public Comment:**

**Parent Ambassadors / Leslie Murveit**

- The Parent Ambassador program is going forward. A flyer will be distributed along with an M-A website submission.

**Big Band Dance / Mary Hom**

The Big Band Dance is March 6<sup>th</sup> in the Ayers Gym! This is the biggest fundraiser for the band, come and dance! 8-11:30pm, \$20 each or reserve a table for 10.

**Big Bear Run/Suzanne Amato/ May 3<sup>rd</sup>**

Registration forms are out on the booster's website and will be handed out at the sports night.

**SOS / Eileen Vanrheenan**

- 600 freshman, 60 Stanford Students and 15 M-A ambassadors took part in the sleep program.

**B. Committee Reports:**

**Charlene Margot, Parent Education:**

- Dr. Denise Pope, will be at M-A Thursday, March 19<sup>th</sup> to discuss the final survey results from the Stressed Out Students Survey (SOS).
- April / Clare Roberts from ACS will talk about Eating Disorders/Body image.
- May 13<sup>th</sup> / Dorothy Burnside, from the district office will head up 'M-A Across Cultures'

**Julie Brody/Nominating Committee:**

- There will be a tour of the Performing Arts Center \_\_\_\_\_. Wear leather ankle high boots.

**C Speaker(s) / Adolescent Counseling Service (ACS): Dr. Philippe Rey, Executive Director, Margaret Merchant and Claire Roberts, our M-A representative:**

ACS, an on-campus counseling program that provides individual, family and group counseling at not cost to students and their families, has been at M-A for 12 years. The goal of ACS "... has been to provide life-saving early intervention for teens dealing with challenging issues of adolescence. With accessible, compassionate therapists available on school campuses, teens have a safety net of professionals with whom to confront their issues." Student issues seen at all sites are comprised of: academic stress; peer conflict; parent/child communication; self-esteem; school transition; depression/ anxiety; suicidal thoughts; grief/loss; and substance abuse. This year so far, 1,121 students from 8 different schools have been seen, 500 of which were at M-A. 'After School Counseling' is now offered for low-income students and their families, from Monday thru Thursday at Cubberly Community Center and ACS offers bilingual counseling in a variety of languages. We conduct a healthy kids survey every two years and preventative measures are taken for example, thru depression screening. 'The more you know, the more you can be effective' This spring we hold our 'Spring Sounds' fundraising auction, held on May 16, 2009 @ Sharon Heights Golf and Country Club. To purchase tickets or to read more about ACS please visit: [www.acsteens.org](http://www.acsteens.org). This summer we will also be launching a blog!

**E. Treasurer's Report: Molly Eason:**

- Up to date.  
PTA Service Award, awarded on May 20<sup>th</sup> / Nomination deadline, April 10<sup>th</sup> / Nomination form in Bearnotes, Trivocus and on the PTA website.  
Principal's Award / in Trivocus / for freshman and juniors only / 12 recipients receive a \$50 certificate / self-nominating and only for community service outside of school.

**F. Upcoming Events:**

Big Band Dance: Friday, March 6, 8pm  
Big Bear Run: Sunday, May 3  
Staff Appreciation Luncheon: Wednesday, May 20, 2-3:30pm

*Meeting adjourned at 10:40 am.*

Respectfully submitted,  
Pam Songer  
M-A PTA Secretary  
psonger@comcast.net