

WT Woodson PTSO Meeting Summary May 1, 2017

1. Call to Order

In attendance: Alan Anderson, Clare, Baker, Raquel Bishop, Stacey Brahmey, Elizabeth Brigham, Gwen Cameron, Elizabeth Cooley, Kristin Driscoll, Melissa French, Caroline Gates, Shawn Guth, Mary Ellen Horn, Joanne Ladino, Rita Manfredi, Scott Poole, Amy Sine, Kristen Summers, Linda Vasquez, Heather Villavicencio, Paula Vonasek, Bruce Waxman, Kim Waxman

2. Officers' Report

a. President – Raquel Bishop

- i. Raquel thanked the attendees for coming to the meeting and their continued support of the PTSO.

b. 1st VP – Membership – Melissa French

- i. *Screenagers* was shown at Woodson on April 5th (625+ in attendance) and at Robinson on April 27th. This documentary addresses the impact of the digital age on our youth and provides guidance on how to help them minimize harmful effects and find balance. We received significant positive feedback from the attendees. While there wasn't time to facilitate a question/answer session or discussion after the documentary, which was over an hour in length, Community of Solutions hopes to offer follow up sessions, perhaps in partnership with Woodson PTSO, to continue supporting parents and students as they navigate social media.
- ii. Baccalaureate will be held Sunday, June 18th from 2:00-4:00 p.m. in the Woodson auditorium. Woodson Baccalaureate is an interfaith and inspirational event to celebrate our graduating seniors. The students on the planning committee selected "Transcendent," meaning surpassing the ordinary or exceptional, as our theme. The keynote speaker this year is Woodson alum and U.S. Paralympian Jessica Rogers. Thank you to the PTSO for supporting Jessica's participation by assisting with her travel costs. The planning committee has asked for student and parent volunteers – the link to the sign-up genius will be distributed via WeMail. If you have any questions or would like to help, please contact Kelly Gerber and Melissa French at bacc@woodsonptso.org.

c. Treasurer -- Kristin Driscoll

i. Financial Report

Kristin distributed the financial report. The PTSO had minimal income from a few additional memberships in April. In addition, we collected nearly \$275 in donations from Screenager attendees. These donations helped defray the cost of printing the handouts and student technician. Kristin is renewing the PTSO tax exemption and applying for a new certification. She expects significant outflow of cash in May

to cover the cost of several activities, including the Teacher Appreciation luncheon.

- d. Secretary
 - i. Approval of minutes from the April meeting – Shawn Guth moved to approve the minutes, Rita Manfredi Shutler seconded the movement, and all attendees approved the minutes.
3. Faculty Representative's Report – Liz Cooley
 - a. Ms. Cooley reported that the teachers are looking forward to the teacher appreciation lunch this week and thanked the PTSO for sponsoring this event.
4. Student Representatives' Report
 - a. The students reported that they will be celebrating teacher appreciation week by hosting a breakfast on May 2 and will have a raffle with donations from local businesses.
 - b. The students reminded everyone that Stress Less Laugh More (SLLM) week is coming up. SLLM is sponsored by the counselors and supported by the students. SLLM will feature therapy dogs, PJ day, and free ice cream during lunch.
5. Vote for PTSO 2017-2018 Slate for Executive Officers and Standing Committee Chairs *see last page of this meeting summary for full slate*. Kim Waxman opened the floor for additional nominations to serve on the PTSO Board or Standing Committee. No additional nominations were received. Stacey Brahmey moved to approve the slate as presented and Rita Manfredi Shutler seconded the motion. The motion to accept the slate as presented passed.
6. Principal's Report – Dr. Scott Poole

Dr. Poole shared information about the recent death of WT Woodson student. Dr. Poole noted that he and the Woodson administration have been in close and frequent contact with the family. In addition, a crisis team was available to support students at school after the tragedy. Dr. Poole reiterated his commitment to making Woodson a safe place of hope for all students. He explained that the administration and staff are working to honor the student, but do it in a way that keeps school a physically and psychologically safe place for all students. A member of the Young Republicans student group organized an event to honor the student. The PTSO meeting attendees discussed various ways to encourage students to reach out when they are feeling depressed, overwhelmed, etc., including a proposal from student representative of the Environmental Club who offered financial support to create a "safe place" for students to go outside and take a break. Dr. Poole committed to continuing the discussion with the interested students to explore this idea further.

Dr. Poole also discussed the upcoming Woodson graduation. He announced that Dr. Dan Domenech, Executive Director of the American Association of School

Administrators and Dr. Cabrera, Professor at George Mason University's Center for the Advancement of Well-Being will speak at graduation. Dr. Poole also noted that several of Woodson's spring athletic teams have had a very successful season.

7. Other Reports

a. **Communications** (Kim Waxman)

- i. Mail submissions are due by Friday of each week, especially now with the new format. We may no longer attachment documents to the WeMail.
- ii. Trying a new organization of News and Repeat News to help readers navigate, especially with longer WeMails.
- iii. WeMail Delivery "Issues" – there are some concerns that not everyone is receiving the WeMail via the new News You Can Choose delivery system. Instructions were provided on how to confirm your delivery status. Interesting statistics: 3,234 email recipients have signed up to receive PTSO news. As of yesterday, 834 of those have opened last Monday's WeMail message.
- iv. Planning a Spring Issue of *Cavalier Chronicles Newsletter*. Anticipate articles about Baccalaureate and Cav Cruise information. Liaisons and clubs can include any end-of-year information and vacancies they'd like to fill for next year. The deadline will be May 19, with a week to pull it together.

b. **Fundraising**

c. **Hospitality**

- i. Milk-n-Cookies will be held one more time this year. The sign up for volunteers will be available soon.
- ii. The Teacher Appreciation Luncheon will take place this Wednesday, May 3rd. Thank you very much to all the families who have already signed up to volunteer and/or contribute food and beverage items! Only a few slots remain. Please go to: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050e4cabae2b0-teacher3> to provide the item of your choice or to volunteer. If you have any questions, contact Stacey Brahmey at brahmeys@yahoo.com.

d. **Cavalier Cruise** –

- i. Registration Prices Go Up to \$100 May 1.
- ii. Do you have questions about what the All Night Grad Party is all about? View this video for some answers: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4yguQ_Oaur0 .
- iii. Visit <http://woodsonptso.org/cavalier-cruise.html> often for updates.
- iv. Volunteer Signup! It takes over 300 volunteers to make Cav Cruise a success. Sign-up at <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0a4aafaf2ca20-woodson> There are a wide variety of volunteer opportunities the day before, during, and after the Cav Cruise for senior and underclass parents, and underclass students (earn your community service hours). Additional

details regarding each opportunity as well as points of contact are included within the Sign-up Genius.

- v. Burke Nursery Gift Cards Fundraiser April 1–May 15 - Spring is here. Please consider purchasing your spring flowers, Teacher Appreciation gifts and Mother's Day gifts by purchasing Burke Nursery Gift Cards! Gift Certificates will be sold in increments of \$25 and 20% of each purchase goes to the Cav Cruise. Purchase your certificates via PayPal at <http://woodsonptso.org/cavalier-cruise.html>. We will mail certificates weekly to your home address.
 - vi. Chipotle Restaurant fundraiser was held Monday, April 24th and the Coyote Grill Restaurant fundraiser was held Tuesday, May 2 with a percentage of sales to support Cav Cruise.
 - vii. Photos Needed For Senior Video - We are looking for candid photos from winter and spring sports senior nights, band, drama, homecoming, spirit days, etc, and want photos that contain multiple Woodson seniors. You should not include any copyrighted photos such as official Lifetouch or other school yearbook photos. Please also identify everyone in the photos, and the event. Please send photos (.jpg format) and questions to Maribeth Luftglass at cavcruisephotos@woodsonptso.org.
- e. Off Cycle Grant Request – Shawn Guth
- i. Shawn explained that Dr. Poole requested that the Grant Committee consider an honorarium for three students who created the schedule simulator. These three students submitted a proposal to create a computer program that expands on Dr. Poole’s initial idea of the simulator. After discussion regarding intellectual property issues and whether it is appropriate to pay the students for their time, Joann Ladino made a motion to award each student a \$300 Amazon gift card to recognize their time. The attendees voted as follows:
11 in favor; 0 opposed; 4 abstentions. The motion carried.

8. Old Business

9. New Business

10. Announcements

- a. Next Meeting: June 5, 2017 at 7pm

11. Adjournment

**2017-2018 W.T. Woodson High School
PTSO Slate**

Position	Candidates
Executive Board: Vice President 2—Fundraising	Alan Anderson <i>Father of a rising Junior and Senior</i>
Executive Board: Recording Secretary	Amy Sine <i>Mother of a rising Freshman</i>
Baccalaureate	Pam Hardin <i>Mother of a rising Senior and Sophomore</i>
Cav Cruise Director	Anne Akers-Smith <i>Mother of a rising Senior</i>
Parent Enrichment	VACANT
Student Directory (<i>Coordinating data and publishing</i>)	Bruce Waxman <i>Father of a rising Junior</i>
Welcome to Woodson Chair	Monica Cameron <i>Mother of a 2017 graduating senior and rising Junior</i>

Positions Where Volunteers Have Agreed to Continue for an Additional Year

Executive Board

- President: Raquel Bishop
- 1st Vice President--Membership: Melissa French
- Treasurer: Kristin Driscoll

Standing Committees

- Communications Director: Kim Waxman
- Hospitality: Meri Farling and Teresa LeMair
- Membership: Melissa French
- Special Education: Joanne Ladino
- Student-to-Student (S-2-S): Jennifer Forney (teacher) and Dan Joo (teacher)
- Volunteer Coordinator: Stacey Brahmey
- WeMail Editor: Kim Waxman
- WTW PTSO Grant Program: Shawn Guth

Fundraising Committees

- Engraved Bricks: Linda Vasquez
- Mock College Exams: Yelena Jones
- Student Directory Ads: Meri Farling
- Student Driver Magnets: Cathy Swanton