

WT Woodson PTSO Meeting
October 10, 2017, 7:00 PM in Library

In Attendance:

Dr. Carlyn Floyd, Mr. Yarborough, Raquel Bishop, Melissa French, Alan Anderson, Kristin Driscoll, Amy Sine, Kim Waxman, Bruce Waxman, SRO Mash, SRO Randazzo, Elena Theobald, Karen Heyda Jackson, Susan Burger, Rebecca Wright, Jennifer Pryor-Abraham, Shannon Murphy, Joanne Ladino, Stacey Brahmey, Michele Johnson, Michelle Lucas, Pam Hardin, Heather Villavicencio, Shawn Guth, Sara Mastro, Michelle Lucas, Felicia Friedly, Celeste Felsburg, Georgette Diezlea, Kathy McGarey, Cathy Swanton, Jennifer Epley, Joan Fisher

1. Call to order

2. Officer's Report

- a. **Principal's Report – Dr. Carlyn Floyd** introduced herself and acknowledged the full parking lot. She is working on moving the buses out of the parking lot in the evening. She said that she had a fun, busy week. She met with the student leadership and they had good ideas. She mentioned homecoming week with the variety of Disney themed days. They are working on hiring, specifically the role of Director of Student Services and noted that they are not fully staffed in the counselors' office. She stated that the suicide screenings were going on with the 11th graders as well as working on the Community Resources for seniors' wellness screenings after that. In November, they will be conducting the 9th grade signs of suicide screenings. One parent asked if staff meet one on one with students. Dr. Floyd explained that after students complete the surveys, staff will follow up based on the information on the surveys. In response to an inquiry on screening sophomores, Dr. Floyd noted that Health Depression Unit and written screenings will happen throughout the year. Concerning Community Resources: The importance of proper forms signed by the student for parents to also get the information.
- b. **AP Yarborough**—Mr. Yarborough introduced SRO Mash and SRO Randazzo to talk about the trend in drug use in the county. We will be following up on this subject at the next PTSO meeting. We will be putting the information in the WeMail to make sure we can get parents to the next PTSO meeting to discuss this topic.
- c. **2nd VP—Fundraising—**
 - i. Directories: Alan expressed his appreciation to Bruce Waxman, Kim Waxman and Meri Farling for their work on the student directories. He reminded parents to please pre-order directories so we don't underestimate the order. Join tonight or online for \$5 savings. Kristin Driscoll mentioned that if any parents wanted to talk her tonight, she could get them one for \$5. She mentioned that there are typically only a few left over once they are ordered if you don't order one now.
 - ii. Mock Exams: Mock Exams will take place on October 28th. The price is \$15 if you pre-register and \$20 if you sign up the day of. Karen Heyda Jackson asked how to sign up for the Mock Exams. Kristin Driscoll said that the WeMail has directions on how to sign up. Shawn Guth stated that only 17 had signed up and asked if there is a disconnect between who has paid and who has signed up. Karen Heyda Jackson said that in the past, there had been an email to note when the Mock Exams were happening. Shawn Guth stated to just send in the check on go online. The uptake

number is small. Stacey Brahmey said that there were Mock Exam sign ups in the PTSO box. A parent stated that if you don't know about the Mock Exams or where to find information, a separate email would be a good idea. Dr. Floyd said that she can tweet the Mock Exam information out on the Woodson Twitter account. Melissa French stated that we need to try to balance how often we can send emails out and she appreciated the feedback. Raquel Bishop asked Kim Waxman to look into sending out a special KIT. Kim Waxman stated that some students can't make the October Exams so they put it off, but that Juniors may want to think about taking them in the fall.

- d. **1st VP—Membership**—Melissa French mentioned our push to the faculty to encourage them to join the PTSO with the supply closet idea. We are still working out the logistics about whether to use the PTSO budget or have parents buy the supplies. There will be a flyer going out to staff to inform them of the supply closet to inform who are PTSO members. If anyone knows of someone getting rid of shelves, we can use them. Two parents have already volunteered, but we could use more. Shawn Guth mentioned using the rolling carts at Costco if we were getting supplies there.
- e. **Treasurer**-- Kristin Driscoll stated to keep in mind that we tend to have a lot of fundraising at the beginning of the year. Cathy stated that the money so far for driver magnets and the course as well as online sales is \$213. Another course will be coming up and there will be more sales there. The parking is an issue for the course and parents will not buy magnets if they are running late since the students cannot be late. Melissa French asked Kim Waxman if we can give people a heads up about the parking situation.
- f. **Secretary**—Amy Sine asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Sarah Mastro motioned to approve the minutes and Jennifer Pryor was the second. Minutes from September are approved.

3. Other Reports

a. **Teacher Representative**—Lisa Cooley—

- i. Lisa Cooley is encouraging the teachers to join the PTSO, turn in grants and collect shoes. She has told the teachers she has forms in her room and one teacher has joined.
- ii. **Activity Fee**—A parent asked about the new activity fee. Dr. Floyd stated that it was approved by the School Board to obtain extra funds. Collection is going to be difficult so it may not be a fee we have next year. Shawn Guth asked if the Activities Director is worried about this. Dr. Floyd said that no one is really worried about it. People are finding work arounds. Shawn Guth asked about the fees for the AP/IB issue. Dr. Floyd stated that area is more important because it is easier to monitor because it involves a smaller number of students. Stacey Brahmey asked if taking AP is optional and Dr. Floyd stated that it is completely optional. She also said that you have to start paying for the exams after the 6th test. The School Board is expending a lot of energy over AP/IB activity fees. They will look for feedback in the spring to see if is effective. Shawn Guth mentioned that we could get Megan McLaughlin to come talk to the Woodson community about the pros and cons of the fees. Stacey Brahmey asked if there was just one \$50 fee for all activities. Dr. Floyd said that is correct and you will get billed through the mail or you can pay through my school bucks.

- iii. **Shoe Donation**—Lisa Cooley asked if the PTSO would be willing sponsor a challenge to teachers who collect the most shoes. Kristin Driscoll asked if there was someone is willing to manage that on the teachers' end. Lisa Cooley said that we could place a box somewhere and give the teachers a ticket when shoes are brought in. Dr. Floyd said that this would be a great way for the new office assistant to get to know the teachers if they are bringing their donations to the office. We will take action to follow up with the teachers.
- b. **Communications**—Kim Waxman asks everyone to read the WeMail. Melissa suggested we place a trivia question on the WeMail and have people send in their answers if they are really reading it.
- c. **Grants**—Shawn Guth said that three grant applications have been submitted so far. We would like to have 10 and they are due by the 10/27. Shawn would prefer to receive the applications electronically. Karen Heyda Jackson asked who the grants were for. Shawn stated that any active member of the PTSO can submit an application. You have to be a parent or teacher running an organization. Most of the grants are awarded in the fall, but there are some issued in the spring. The participant fills out the grant application, then it goes to a committee and the PTSO is informed of all the grants we have. Then the general membership votes. The organizations have 3 months to spend the money. Karen Heyda Jackson asked what the spring due date is and whether the Art Show can use the grants. Shawn said that we are aware of the Art Show and Jane will submit the application soon.
- d. **Driver Magnets**—Cathy Swanton stated that parking was an issue getting to the course and since this is the second year selling the magnets, we may be flooding the market. Some of the new students have older siblings, so we may not sell as many magnets this year.
- e. **Family/Student Enrichment**—Elena Theobald mentioned that she is working on a couple of projects that she has talked to Dr. Floyd about.
 - i. **Positivity Project**—A program rolled out at other schools to brighten students' day. The website to find more info is www.posproject.org. This program helps to strengthen self confidence in students.
 - ii. **Character Strength**- teaching kindness and involving the teachers and administrators. We could put up material in the hallways and see if we can get free material for our school for this. This program started k-8, but other schools and grades have picked it up. We still need more committee members. Raquel Bishop asked if Elena had reached out to Dan Schaefer. Shawn mentioned that Dan could help with this project. Michelle Lucas said to talk to Sharyn Prindle, principal at Wakefield Forest ES. The program is working well there and getting good support. Elena said the program will teach the kids character and how to deal with stressors. Georgette stated that it will teach the kids to deal with stress before they leave us. Michelle mentioned it should be age appropriate. Elena said there is a movie that Dr. Floyd can screen before everyone watches it. What can we do to make school a good experience for the kids? Elena is looking for a speaker for the spring. Kim Waxman mentioned that leadership is a great resource and they get a lot of cool stuff. In the past, there has been confusion about service hours and volunteering. Need to get the word out or have class counsels run with it. Dr. Floyd said we can work through clubs (e.g. Key club, NHS), counselors, and teachers to find kids that are "quiet leaders" with ideas. These students can do lunch with new students new to FCPS and private schools to help

them find their niche. We have several military we can pull from as well. Melissa French said the auditorium gets booked early for speakers so keep that in mind. Georgette mentioned that several theaters will show movies on behalf of the schools.

3. Old Business-- None

4. New Business

- a. Joanne Ladino mentioned the Woodson Crew Chick Fil A Fundraiser
- b. Stacey Brahmey is looking for someone to shadow her for Teacher Appreciation. She also asked if she reserves the dance studio through the new system. Melissa French said it is a different system and sent Stacey an email.
- c. Karen Heyda Jackson introduced herself as taking over Art Boosters with Rebecca Wright.

5. Announcements—Next meeting is Tuesday, November 14th in the library at 7:00 pm.

6. Adjournment—8:30