

Cougar Council : The Parent –Teacher – Student Organization of Central Academy of Technology and Arts General Board Meeting Minutes 30 August 2012

The Executive Board of the Cougar Council, PTSO, of Central Academy of Technology and Arts met in the Media Center on Tuesday, August 30, in order to fill a vacancy in the Presidency. Members present were: Adam Dailey, Christa Dailey, Agnes Florian, Karen Morgal, Bob Bishop, and Teresa Edwards. Vice President Adam Dailey called the meeting to order at 6:45pm and asked for nominations for President. Karen Morgal nominated Deb Christensen, followed by a second by Teresa Edwards. Having no further nominations or discussion, Deb Christensen was unanimously voted President. Meeting adjourned at 6:55 pm.

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The General Board of the Cougar Council, PTSO, of Central Academy of Technology and Arts met in the Media Center on Tuesday, August 30. President Deb Christensen called the meeting to order at 7:07pm, and welcomed everyone back for another year. She thanked Christa Dailey and Agnes Florian for providing refreshments and encouraged everyone to enjoy them. She introduced herself and asked each member to introduce themselves and their focus: Adam Dailey, Vice President; Christa Dailey, Teacher Appreciation Committee; Karen Morgal, Treasurer; Agnes Florian, Hospitality Committee; Teresa Edwards, Secretary; Elissa Sturdivant, Past President; Nancy and Bob Bishop, membership and fund raising. Deb Christensen also welcomed our new members, Susan Montgomery (son Justin in 10th, CISCO); Wendy Duemmler (sons Lukas in 10th Transportation and Marc 9th Pre-Engineering); and Sarah Walker (son Zach in 9th Software Development).

Deb Christensen read the minutes of 2012 May 8, which she had recorded because the Secretary had been absent at that meeting. Teresa Edwards moved to accept the minutes as read. The motion was followed by a second by Susan Montgomery and passed by unanimous vote.

Karen Morgal deferred to Adam Dailey to read the Treasurer’s Report. Adam Dailey reminded the board that the fiscal year runs from August 1 to July 30, therefore he had the information for the last bank statement. The PTSO balance as of 8/28/12 was \$744.34. He briefly described the Student Help Fund for our newest members. Susan Montgomery made a motion to accept the Treasurer’s Report, which was followed by a second by Nancy Bishop, and passed by unanimous vote.

Hospitality Update: Agnes Florian explained that members of the had been providing Birthday Cake for the staff once each month during last school year, but this was not a budgeted item. She asked the board if we should continue with it, and if members wanted to continue to purchase the cakes instead of spending our very limited PTSO funds. Her concern was that last year, some members who signed up found it impossible to deliver the cakes and she didn’t want anything like that to happen this year. The board suggested that she use the Sign Up Genius to ask members to donate a half-sheet cake each month, and that we set the monthly Cake Date for the staff to be the Wednesday following the Tuesday PTSO meeting, so that the member who donated the cake would be able to bring it to our meeting and not have to make an extra trip to CATA. Agnes also described the other activities that the Hospitality and Teacher Appreciation Committee provide for the teachers: an Ice Cream Social in August, Pie Day in

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November, Teacher Luncheon in December, Soup Luncheon in January or February, another Pi ($\pi = 3.14$) Day in March, Bus Driver Appreciation in April, and another Teacher Luncheon in May.

Teacher Appreciation Week: Christa Dailey is planning the Teacher Luncheon in May and found clearance Luau Theme items that we could use, if the board would be willing to work with that theme. She can purchase everything we need, decorations and paper products, for under \$70. Teresa Edwards moved that we allocate \$70 now so that Christa can purchase these items at a discount. Motion passed unanimously after a second by Karen Morgal. Christa is also going to ask Mrs. Pentecost if PTSO can use her room for the Luau.

Old Business: Deb Christensen announced that Open House is September 11 and explained that the PTSO booth was in a difficult position last year, and that maybe it would be better to have two stations this year. Nancy Bishop suggested that we also have foot soldiers with clipboards, mingling with the parents and encouraging memberships. Other suggestions included wearing similar clothing, having unique name tabs, giving out a map and brochure, and having refreshments.

New Business:

- Ideas of ways to support teachers – mini gifts, uplifting messages, notes of thanks, potato bar
- Fundraisers – pumpkin carving contest, selling coffee, raffle
- Memberships & Donations – include membership form in first report card, invite teachers to join by placing membership in their mailbox and providing incentive, presentation by PTSO and interact with parents at Open House, greeting parents in car line
- Opportunities to get involved – link HT card to CATA, use sign up genius to inform parents, web site
- Community Involvement – East Elementary and Benton Heights are our sister schools
- By-laws revision meeting – will discuss more on October 9, Adam Dailey will chair

Many suggestions were brought to the table. UCPS has fund-raising policy which seemed to prohibit raffle-type fund raisers. All fund raising activities must comply with the UCPS policy and be cleared by Dr. Poole. Each will look into fund raising options and bring more details to the next meeting (pumpkin carving, online coffee sale, raffle, etc)

PTSO will participate in Open House on September 11 instead of holding a regularly scheduled meeting.

All interested parents are invited to attend our next General Board meeting, which will be held Tuesday, October 9, at 7pm in the Media Center. It will be preceded by an Executive Board meeting at 6:30 pm for all committee Chairs and Officers.

Respectfully Submitted,

Teresa Edwards, Secretary
Cougar Council, PTSO