

CATA PTSO Meeting Minutes

January 13, 2015

Present: Deb Christensen, Alyson Flood, Nancy Bishop, Ms. Fisenne, Adam Tarleton, Michelle McGuire, Susan Montgomery, Kathie McKain, Liz Branca.

Welcome and Introduction: Meeting called to order at 7:04 by Kathie McKain, with New Year greetings, and introductions.

Principal Report: Ms. Fisenne reported that students returned and reviewed for exams for one week, scores from first and second block exams are looking very good. New technology (without scantron) has been used this time and that is going well. Teachers have been doing literacy professional development, and incorporating more literacy in their classrooms. Two-hour delay tomorrow with third block exam still planned. If bad weather ensues, third block exam will be scheduled for Thursday, fourth on Friday. A few kinks with a CTE platform today so the exam had to go paper/pencil. Second semester begins next Thursday after a long weekend. Trying to fill a few vacancies as soon as possible. Kathie requested State Report Card report. Ms. Fisenne shared that our school will be rated by achievement in EOC Biology Math I and English II. Our proficiency on achievement levels was somewhere around 92% and that we are reaching expected growth. Students had high percentage, upper eighties, of reaching the 17 on the ACT exam. ACT Work Keys, we had high percentage in silver level. Rigorous math curriculum level III math or above: above 95%. CATA will have its official grades released on February 5th explaining the letter grading that will be given by the State Report Card. Kathie McKain said that one challenge passed up to the legislators is that the grading is based 80% on achievement 20% on growth. School systems across the state are trying to get the news out to the parents so that parents will be made aware. Ms. Fisenne said deficiencies that she noticed, subgroups might not have achieved expected growth, those things will be addressed on the School Improvement Plan.

President Report: Kathie said the Student Achievement Breakfast went very well and over \$1500 was collected in invest in a student. Many donations from vendors from Ann and Nancy, allowed them to award twelve prizes from the campaign. Alyson Flood expressed thanks to Deb for giving teachers such good communication. PTSO working with performing arts to get finances in order, increased membership, and ongoing challenge of fundraising. Kathie expresses her thanks to all for their support and looks forward to next semester.

Treasurer Report: \$4,657.26

Committee Reports

- Theater and Performing Arts: Michelle McGuire reported that amazing turnout both nights of the Collaborative Concert, concession sales were very good. Junior class had their show this weekend, smaller crowds, but a good show. Next up is Into the Woods, spring musical, Feb 26-28 and March 1. Parent participation meeting to be held soon for painting, set construction, food, etc. This is the play we submit to the Blumey Awards. Mr. Robinson has to finish up his budget and have it approved.
- Hospitality –Alyson Flood reports a good turnout of all supplies for the Student Achievement Breakfast, ninety-one students were recognized. Communication was fantastic with sign-up Genius and Deb Christensen. Nancy Bishop suggested that we follow up with the students who were nominated but did not attend the breakfast, so that they would receive their recognition. Alyson Flood reported a plan to deliver the star and ribbon to the students' classrooms. Ms. Fisenne suggested printing the letter and having the teacher deliver the invitations to the students, but that is extremely time-consuming. The poster was a good way for the students to remind each other. Also Kathie said it was good to have their names in the Cougar Chronicle. Ms. Fisenne said maybe we should post the names in the Chronicle the week before instead of the week after.
 - Student Achievement Breakfast
 - Closet shelving – Kathie thanked Alyson for seeking out and installing shelves for our new closet, and thanked Ms. Fisenne for the funds. Closet is now organized!
 - Valentines/ (combined with fundraiser)
 - Upcoming teacher appreciation – Pi (3.14) falls on Saturday so Pie Day will be the Monday following. Teacher Appreciation Week is the first week in May 5-9. It'll be "Flashback to High School" dinner at the end of the week will be "prom night" during the day. We will find out who was in clubs and any awards the teachers may have received while they were in High School. They can wear their letter jackets or HS duds. There will be a voting process to vote for Prom King and Queen amongst the teachers, and during the luncheon there will be a special place for them to sit. Alyson will be asking for pictures of them in HS, to be scanned in and have a game for others may guess their identity.
 - April 29th will be the next Student Achievement Breakfast, with an additional Senior Breakfast in May, with a Toga Day that week?
- Spirit Wear/ (moved down to Lanyards)

- Membership – Kathie McKain will be working with Ms. Fisenne to send out another recruitment letter for membership into PTSO – it's never too late! (Families must be members of PTSO in order to have their student considered for the scholarship.)
- Fundraising – Valentine's Fundraiser/winter fundraising
 - Monkeys – Nancy Bishop reported that last year we had snow and the delivery of monkeys was much fewer than we expected, have 132 left from last year. No tags are in the box with the monkeys, so they need to be re-created. Nancy proposes that we sell them during lunches the week before Valentine's day, with distribution to fourth block teachers on Friday the 13th. Kathie volunteered to help sell the monkeys on Monday and Tuesday the 9th and 10th. (and also sell lanyards during that time) Nancy proposes that we begin selling the week before, but really needs most help the afternoon before in order to have the delivery prepared by Thursday night. Nancy Bishop also mentioned that we need to discuss Scholarships. May 22 will be Senior Awards Day, during school. After we do the monkeys and lanyards we can determine how much we can apply toward scholarships (currently \$1230) . Applications need to be submitted to our Scholarship Committee: Kathie will work with Ms. Fisenne and Nancy Bishop to set up the calendar dates. Decision should be made by May 1 in order to inform families.
 - Lanyards

Old Business

New Business

Invest in Excellence funding: Kathie McKain discussed how we should disseminate the funds (\$1730) back to the teacher wish lists. Ms. Fisenne discussed the many items on the wish list. Kathie suggested that we divide it evenly by academy, then let them make their decisions. Ms. Fisenne suggests that PTSO purchase the items outright as much as possible, and offers to add part of the funds if necessary. 100% of the money taken in for Invest in Excellence will be returned to the school/classrooms.

Susan Montgomery made a motion, seconded by Michelle McGuire, to divide the money as follows:

- Make a donation toward the Plagiarism Kit \$250
- Five Forensics Kits \$193
- PE Department: Pedometer Kits and Software \$250
- Updated World History Maps \$269

- Performing Arts Department \$250
- the balance to go toward the Scholarships.
- Amounts are approximate because taxes, shipping may be applied.

Motion carried unanimously.

---top priority next year roller slab for Art.

Senior Scholarship – Kathie will meet with Nancy about the application. Deb Christensen supplied the scholarship application from last year..

Planning for Spring events – carry this over to next meeting, start thinking about:

Senior Breakfast

Plan for Senior 2016 t shirt design – give to Juniors before this year is out

Spring Student Achievement Breakfast – early May – discussed above

2nd Semester Membership appeal – discussed above

Kathie requested a sub-committee to discuss possible Senior Packages, she will talk with Ann and add Liz Branca to the Senior 2016 Planning Committee.

Open House is February 2nd, which is also Spring Sport Parent Night, an informal opportunity to meet teachers. Kim Fisenne suggests membership table and lanyards, but does not expect a large turnout.

Kathie McKain appealed for five proctors from nine until one on Thursday Jan 15th.

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 8:14pm via a motion from Nancy Bishop and second by all present.

Next Meeting – February 10, 2015