

## Cougar Council Meeting Minutes September 14, 2010 General Board Meeting

The General Board Meeting of the Cougar Council PTSO of Central Academy High School was called to order by President Luisa Morrone at 7:10pm on Tuesday September 14, 2010, in the Media Center. Members Present were: Susan Cronley, Luisa Morrone, Agnes Florian, Rod Miller, Adam Dailey, Christa Dailey, Deb Watts, Teresa Edwards, Deb Christensen, and Laura Minsk.

The Secretary's Report was reviewed and accepted, following a motion from Agnes Florian, a second from Deb Christensen and unanimous vote from the board members present.

The Treasurer's Report was distributed by Adam Dailey. Teresa Edwards made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report, the motion was carried following a Second by Adam Dailey, and unanimous vote from the board members present. He also distributed an Audit Report of the 2009-2010 books, dated 09-01-2010, which was required by Cougar Council By-laws, as well as UCPS. The audit was performed by Weddington High School PTSO and reviewed by our audit committee as well.

President Luisa Morrone gave members the opportunity to chair any of the open committees. Volunteers were:

Teacher Appreciation Committee	- Christa Dailey
Hospitality Committee	- Agnes Florian
Beautification Committee	- Teresa Edwards
Newsletter Committee	- Deb Christensen
Senior Committee	- Deb Watts, Jane Carpenter, Heather Hill, Susan Cronley
Fund Raising Committee	- no volunteers at this time

Luisa Morrone mentioned that she was getting prototypes made of yard signs that the Senior Committee could sell which read "Home of CATA Senior." Luisa also made a motion that all proceeds from sale of Senior Yard Signs be allocated in a line item in the budget designated for Seniors. The motion passed after a second by Susan Cronley and unanimous vote by members.

Luisa also mentioned that she applied for a link for Food Lion MVP Cards to CATA, and will post that link on the CATA website, so that the school might receive support from Food Lion.

Rod Miller, Principal, gave the following "State of CATA" report: Graduation: Set for Sunday June 12 at Life Point Church in Rock Hill. We have 187 students to graduate and had to find a larger venue than last year. There is some difficulty in getting UCPS to allow graduation so close to last day of exams. More to follow at next meeting. Senior Week: Wants Senior Week to be inexpensive for students. (Cougar Council agrees strongly.) CATA received a Global Distinction award, as well as Honor School of Excellence. Our graduation rate is 97.2%. CATA had the #1 highest Algebra scores of any other high school in Union County. School-wide read of Three Cups of Tea was another indication of how CATA is raising the bar on education. The Advisor/Advisee program is being administered during Pride Period, a 10-minute session each Thursday that covers Character Education, Communication, upcoming Class registration, and gives teachers a chance to know students' goals. We have more Distance Learning classes this year, as well as BC Calculus. Enrollment: 822 (850 = maximum), 75 total staff, 50 certified teachers.

Mr. Miller also shared a phrase coined by Dr. Davis (school superintendent) regarding the state of the 2010-2011 budget: "If folks think it's bad now, it's just an appetizer to a meal." ← UCPS stands to lose \$20 million in next year's budget. Because of this, his priorities are to do what he can for the students first, and then for the staff second. He thanked Cougar Council for the way we support the teachers.

Laura Minsk reminded members to do research on the School Board Candidates, as the school board will vote on four new members this year.

Luisa Morrone made a motion that 25% of the current balance be allocated for “Student Funds” that can be donated to students, so that when the Guidance department determines there is a need that the school cannot fulfill, possibly Cougar Council will be able to help the students in need. Motion passed after a second by Deb Watts and unanimous vote by members. Discussion included the explanation that Cougar Council was called on several times last year to help out when Guidance could not. Luisa would like to see a line item in the budget, with current funds allocated for that relief, and then to possibly deposit funds into that line item as the year goes on, as our budget allows, by a future vote.

Luisa Morrone asked for input regarding teacher gifts. After the suggestion of a teacher breakfast, it was decided that Cougar Council provide breakfast or some food for the teachers at their next required Staff meeting, which will be Wednesday, October 6.

Deb Watts made a motion that we adjourn our meeting, which passed unanimously, after a second by virtually all other members and unanimous vote; therefore, the meeting was adjourned at 8:25pm.

Next Meeting Tuesday October 12, Media Center 7pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Teresa Edwards, PTSO Secretary