

## **Signature School PTSA Meeting Minutes**

**August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2011**

**(To be approved at Oct. 13, 2011 Meeting)**

The first PTSA meeting of the school year was called to order at 6:07 pm. Those in attendance were Theresa Chavez, Laura and Katie Ward, Lisa Watson, Julie Erkilla, Rick Cory, Allen and Jacki Murray, Sherri Rosaldo, Corinna Apuan, Shannon Hughes, Kathy Bell, Jack and Wilson Phillips, Polly Hile, Vicki Snyder and Tammy Caldwell.

The minutes from the February 3, 2010 and May 19, 2011 meetings were presented. A motion to approve the Feb. minutes was made by Jack Phillips and seconded by Sherri Rosaldo. A second motion to approve the May minutes was made by Laura Ward and seconded by Jack Phillips. The motions were approved by affirmation.

The Treasurer's Report and Budget were reviewed by Julie Erkilla. Julie and Theresa explained that the audit of last year's activities was not yet complete so the balance shown was an estimate at this point. The audit should be completed in the next one to two weeks.

It was noted that there had been an expense for the anniversary t-shirts that was not shown on the Treasurer report. With the addition, there was a motion made by Katie Ward and seconded by Wilson Phillips to approve the report. The motion carried.

Julie explained the budget is conservative in terms of revenue. If the Drive One 4 UR School goes well, there may be additional funds available to help fund technology or other needs of the school. As presented, the PTSA is budgeting income at \$11,675. This assumes membership of 225, \$3,000 from both the Schnucks eScripts program and Drive One, and fundraiser buyout funds of \$1,700. Spirit wear will be preordered this year to avoid large inventory and expense. The associated revenue to date is from selling last year's inventory.

Expenses are budgeted at \$10,721, leaving a surplus of approximately \$954. Major expense categories include membership (national/state/local dues and mailings) of \$1,871, \$2,100 for Senior Committee, and the Scholarship accounts for another \$1,600 of expenses. Corinna Apuan made a motion to approve the budget as presented. It was seconded by Jack Phillips and the motion carried.

Committee reports were reviewed. Highlights included:

- Currently, our membership number is 133 and the fundraiser buy out contributions are \$1,763. Membership will be open throughout the year so the number is expected to rise to our budgeted figure of 225. It was suggested that membership cards be distributed at school through 7<sup>th</sup> period class rooms.
- Jack Phillips gave an overview of the Schnucks eScripts program and is optimistic that that program can be expanded to contribute additional funds to the school. He hopes to have 150 families actively using the program. He also mentioned the online program where internet purchases from several stores/ merchants are eligible for eScript contributions. Additional information on this program will be shared with the membership at future meetings.
- Spirit wear will be preordered this year to avoid costly inventory. Several samples were presented for consideration. It was suggested that a letter jacket might be an attractive item for

students involved in Signature sports and clubs. Sherri Rosaldo volunteered to help develop the spirit wear program for this coming year.

- The Drive One 4 UR School event will be held Oct. 15 from 9am -5pm. It is hoped that the forms that have to be filled out to participate will be available on line in advance of coming to the event. This will help to expedite the event and hopefully increase the number of drivers that can be accommodated. Laura Ward is looking for committee members and plans a tentative meeting for next Tue.
- A Barnes & Noble fundraiser will be held on Dec. 3, 2011. Purchases may be made at the store or on line for several days prior to and after the event. The event will be posted on the Signature face book page to reach Sig alums who may want to participate in the event.
- To support the teachers and staff, there will be snacks provided by the PTSA at the monthly after school meetings. Patty Murphy will again coordinate the teachers' wish list program. There are some larger items related to technology that are also needed this year. These items are presented in the New Business section.
- The Enrichment Committee will again sponsor an International Dinner night on Sept. 18, 2011 at Aldersgate Church. Volunteers are needed to help set up the event.
- The Senior Honors reception will be held on Monday May 21, 2012 and the Senior luncheon will be on Tuesday May 22, 2012. Volunteers are needed to plan and coordinate these important events.
- Shelly McCormick will co-chair the clothing bank program. Volunteers are needed to staff this activity. Sig has dates to fill in Aug.

Under Old Business, it was reported that the scholarships that were approved for funding at the May meeting were not in fact funded by PTSA. Outside funding was secured. The June 30, 2011 was cancelled after it was determined that dissolving the PTSA to form an alternative structure would curtail our ability to hold raffles for five years. This is due to State gambling regulations. In addition, there is significant paperwork associated with starting up a new corporation that would not have been completed before the beginning of the school year. To be better informed of local PTA activities and to assure that Signature's concerns related to charter school support and funding are communicated, Terry Ward will attend local PTA Area Council meetings. Further, Rick Cory, a Sig parent, currently is president of the council. With such representation at the local meetings, it is hoped that Signature's views related to charter school funding and related issues will be better represented at the local and state levels.

Under New Business, a list of urgent technology needs was presented. The list includes nine lap tops for teachers, three projectors, and two printers for a total of \$8,255. Vicki Snyder has a check from a donor for \$1,500. We are seeking sponsors (individuals, groups, or companies) to secure these items. As related in a recent article in the Evansville Courier & Press, Signature School receives less funding per student than other public high schools in the area and is not given any funds for facilities. More information about the reduction in State funding, its effect on Signature, and the resulting needs for outside funding will be presented at a special meeting to be held on Sept. 8, 2011.

Nov. 18, 2011 will be Signature night at the new Ford Center. There will be a hockey game that Signature students and families can attend (\$18 per ticket on club level). The school's Singers will perform the National Anthem while the instrumental music class will provide entertainment between periods. More information regarding ticket sales will be available soon.

The next regular meeting of the PTSA will be held Oct. 13, 2011. The meeting was adjourned at 7:09pm.