

Signature PTSA Meeting Minutes

August 11, 2016

Central Library

6:00pm – 7:40pm

Welcome and Pledge of Allegiance

Topics

Vicki Snyder, Signature School Foundation's Development Director was introduced

(also former Signature School Principal and teacher)

- Provided a detailed background of Signature's history
 - Started in 1992 as a part-time school to EVSC
 - 1998 moved to current location
 - 2000 EVSC was looking to cut expenses and Signature was on the chopping block
 - 8/2001 it was decided that Signature needed to apply to become a charter school in order to remain in existence
 - Robert Koch agreed to help financially in creating Signature Charter School
 - 12/2001 the charter application was complete and presented to the EVSC school board where it was met unfavorably, but passed a vote of 6-0
 - 2002 Signature Charter School opened, but with resistance from EVSC, computers were taken back by the school corporation. They threatened to take desks and chairs and also threatened teachers' contracts if they didn't return to EVSC. The threats were all eventually dropped.
- Signature national rankings are important because it helps the school obtain needed funding to operate. The rankings are used to obtain donations from both businesses and private donors.
- The two greatest assets Signature has are its passionate, highly gifted teachers and parent support of the administration.
- 2014 77 seniors earned \$16.3 million in scholarships
2015 75 seniors earned \$13.1 million in scholarships
- When Signature students enter college many enter at a Sophomore or Junior status
- Signature operates on a budget with a deficit between \$200,000-\$300,000
- Signature Foundation works hard behind the scenes to raise needed funds to keep Signature School functional...
 - Board members are constantly looking and contacting new potential donors
 - All board members give financially to Signature School
 - Lobby with state legislature asking for more money for the top ranked school in IN
- Signature currently receives \$6,300/student from the state to pay all of Signature's expenses, unfortunately this does not cover all of it and expenses keep increasing

- Requests of Parents
 - If you know of any businesses or private donors that may be willing to help, send that information to Vicki Snyder snyder.vicki@gmail.com
 - Support Signature financially any way that you can, the parent campaign is coming soon
 - It is better to give to the Signature School Foundation then to Signature School because they have less legal restriction on donations.
 - Be sure to check if your employer has matching donations because Signature School and Signature School Foundation are both not for profit.
- All of this is for the kids! A Sig education prepares them for college!

Minutes – June 1, 2016 minutes were reviewed and approved by Jennifer Potter and Cheryl Brice.

Committee Reports:

Sue Schmidt - Give Back Night Fundraiser Azzip August 17th

Dana Jones - International Night Dinner Saturday August 27, 2016 SWIRCA Ivy Room. Sign up on line. Performances by students. Grandparents are invited too! Room can hold up to 700. Mrs. Doyle will be asked to approve volunteer hours for students who help.

Leticia Merlin - Drive 4UR School Saturday September 24th all day - sign up for time slot on line. Ford added \$2K potential bonus to drive a second car for a percentage of participants. Need 300 drivers - 18 years old - only one per address, can use work address.

Kath St. Pere - Main Street Attraction –Need new Chairman as Brooksie Smith is stepping down. Requests for the auction baskets will go out to parents and to companies by Kathy St. Pere and Leanne Collier. Donation letter is finalized. Several parents are needed to help with auction at the tables.

Leticia Merlin - Macy's Shop for a Cause August 26th - 28th. \$5 coupon fee all goes to Signature PTSA>

Cheryl Brice - Membership 80 paid members. 200 members is goal. Please sign up on line.

Treasurer's Report – Report handed out and discussion is tabled until the September meeting. The PTSA Board is looking for a replacement for Shelley Starks who currently serves as Treasurer. She is stepping down to pursue an advanced degree.

Hangers – Signature's time to volunteer is August 29 - September 1 from 8-12

President's Report: Karen Cinelli

Jean Hitchcock wants us to be aware of:

- 1) Non-perishable food donations are needed for several students who would be on the free and reduced-fee lunch program if they were attending a school with a cafeteria. Items like microwaveable stews, soups, peanut butter, nuts, crackers, protein bars, and cups of fruit would be items that would be useful. Gift cards to approved lunch spots for students would be helpful as well. Please give all items to Beth at the Front Desk.
- 2) Please remember we cannot park in the lot behind the Victory. It is not owned by Signature or the Victory. It is privately owned.
- 3) DO NOT load kids in the left lane on Main Street

Thank you to Shelby Roscoe for leading a successful Back to School Breakfast.

Next Meetings:

Fun Friday Coffee Meeting

Friday, August 27th at 8:30 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.

Old National Bank on Main St.

The Deli- 1st floor.

PTSA Monthly Meeting

Wednesday, September 14

6:30 p.m. -7:45 p.m.

Browning Room Central Library

Speakers will be Jean Hitchcock and Beth Muehlbauer.