

Signature PTSA Meeting Minutes
January 10, 2018
5:30pm Appetizer Reception / 6pm Meeting
Central Library, Browning Rooms A & B

Meeting was called to order by Signature PTSA President Karen Cinelli. Guest Speakers were introduced:

Dr. Tom Kazee, University of Evansville President
Dr. Shane Davidson, University of Evansville VP Enrollment / Marketing
Mrs. Jean Hitchcock, Signature School Executive Director / Principal

Dr. Kazee is the 23rd President of the University of Evansville. He joined UE June 2010 and will retire from his post May 2018.

- Institution “grounded in liberal arts and sciences”
 - Education needs to be broad based (arts, humanities, sciences, social studies)
 - Able to produce citizens who can handle things presented with
 - Producing individuals who are capable of the complexity of understanding – ask questions, interrogate, ask why
 - Required to have a broad foundation of learning
- Hard vs soft skills
 - Hard skills are specific to a discipline or specific area of study, very important, but not the only necessary skill in today’s world
 - Soft skills make a person better able to
 - Problem solve
 - Work with teams (with various races, genders, social economics backgrounds, sexual orientations)
 - Think critically, know what to ask
 - Ability to write
 - Ability to speak to a group
- Value of Education (what does it cost)?
 - Best Value Ranking is a key factor to know
 - Quality of educational experience divided by the net price (after any financial aid)
 - Don’t not apply because of fear you can’t afford.
 - Apply
 - Visit
 - Once admitted and learn your “package” – now you can decide if out of your price range. Sticker Price isn’t what you pay. You pay a discounted rate (merit, financial aid). Most students at UE pay ½ the sticker price.
- In recent years UE has “redesigned” the Career and Development Office.
 - Prospective students can take an online survey and meet with a UE Career Counselor to help find areas of interest to them.
 - Current students work with Career Development office throughout their four years, not just when they are Seniors looking for a job.
 - Alumni can contact the Career Development office for help when looking to change careers.

Mrs. Hitchcock

- Thank you for the holiday luncheon – greatly appreciated by the staff / teachers.
- Lottery for next years incoming class was held January 9th. Currently 34 students on the wait list.
- Class scheduling will begin soon; forms will be due back to school on February 14th.
- Two new electives offered next year – Semester course in Indiana History and semester course in Ethnic Studies.
- Winter Formal very well attended (312, including guests from other schools)
- Clue will be held 1/26/2018
- Singing Valentines in February

- Seniors – very overwhelmed, but hanging tough; most application deadlines have passed, are now in the “waiting game” to see where accepted.
- Juniors – College Info night is coming (is open to other grades, but geared to juniors); timing of when they will take SATs
- Sophomores – excelling with Econ as an elective; continue to impress the staff
- Freshman – great group
- Thank you for the \$1500 donated towards student exam funding. Very much appreciated.

Attendance – 13 members and several students in attendance.

Secretary Report – Jennifer Potter made a motion to approve the December minutes, Amy Hoon seconded. The minutes were approved.

Treasurer Report: The following was reported by Treasurer Amy Hoon

- December ending balance \$18,184.56 in PTSA account.
- No change in the gaming account.
- Azzip give-back: \$192.44

Committee Reports:

- Cook Book Project: Amy Wolf
 - Information has been sent out in an all school email. Recipes may be entered at any time. Targeting Spring for printing / selling of cookbooks.
- February Give Back: LeeAnn Freeman
 - Will be a give back with Panera, stay tuned for the date

Presidents Report:

- Note: 1/2 Day of School on Friday, January 12th. Students dismissed at 11:30 a.m.
- Holiday Teacher/Staff Luncheon: Wonderful event-very much appreciated by everyone
- Hospitality Committee – volunteers always welcome, contact Amy Wolf
- Fun Friday events this semester: January 26th, February 23rd and April 27th
- Committee Chairman Needed for:
 - Student Appreciation Event (Friday during lunch in late April)
 - Teacher and Staff Appreciation (Two events during school day in May)
 - Senior Honors Night (May 21, 2018). Will be held at St. Vincent Manor

School Needs:

They can always use Kleenex and Clorox Wipes going into the cold season. And, if you are willing to donate nutritious foods and snacks, the Student Food Drawer is well used.

Upcoming Activities:

January PTSA Meeting
 Wednesday, February 14th
 Noon – 1:30pm
 Central Library, Browning Room

PTSA Fun Friday
 Casual morning get together for parents
 Friday, January 26th
 8:30am – 9:45am
 Old National Bank – One Main Street, The Deli – 1st Floor

Meeting adjourned
 Respectfully Submitted,
 Secretary – Beth Hafele

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