

Meeting was called to order at 6:00PM on Wednesday, August 14th, 2019 by Signature PTSA Presidents Serena Laroia and Kim Wahl.

Attendance – A total of 18 members were present.

Secretary Report – Amy Wolf made a motion to approve the May minutes, LeAnn Freeman seconded. The minutes were approved.

Treasurer Report – No year end report was given. The 2019-2020 budget was presented with a bottom line of \$3,650 net at year end. It was noted that this year's Senior Luncheon takes into account the significant increase in class size. Linda Sartore and the Finance Committee made a motion to approve, Beth Hafele seconded. The 2019-2020 budget was approved.

Committee Reports

- International Dinner (Saturday, August 17th): It was noted that Kim Rashada is seeking cultural music to play at the event and that submissions could be sent to Kim's email on Sign-up Genius. She is also still looking for cultural ambassadors to man some of the tables. Set up is on Friday 3:30-5:00PM and Saturday 9-11AM. Donations can be made by those not cooking. Linda is planning to take the extra cookbooks from last year to offer for sale. The PTSA will hire two off-duty police officers to be present as required by CK Newsome Center.
- Lincoln Driven to Give (Saturday, Sept. 21st). For every person who drives (one per address), Sig PTSA gets \$20, up to a total of \$6,000 (bonus cars up to \$8,000). Each person can also do a bonus drive for \$10. It will be 8AM-5PM in front of the school.
- Main Street Attraction (Friday, October 18th 5-8PM). Beth Hafele explained that we're waiting on the city to approve permit to close the road between 2:30 and 3:00 to begin to set up. This is a key fundraiser for school clubs and the PTSA, and it is a super-fun event. We may repeat the 'marketing your booth' seminar given last year by Tracy McEuen and Bob Renock and then give cash prizes to the top booths.
- Main Street Attraction Silent Auction (Fri., October 18th): LeAnn Freeman asked for help in securing donations, whether gift cards or other items.
- Monthly Faculty Meeting Snacks: Emily Elsea explained that setup is usually at 2:30PM to be ready right after school on the 1st Wednesday of each month. Typically, finger foods are provided (veggie, meat, fruit, etc.) with bottles of water. The teachers really appreciate it. They are looking for people to bring food in each month.

President's Report: Serena Laroia and Kim Wahl

- PTSA Gift to School – Last year this was \$5,000 for the new student lounge furniture
- School Enrollment – There are 397 total students; 97 seniors. All of the initial waiting list made it in.
- Memberships – Some signed up during the meeting but we only had 34 members at the start of the meeting so definitely hoping more will sign up.
- Speaker Series suggestions – We had two local top college interviewers speak in May. We are hoping to have a medical professional from NYC speak on anxiety. People should feel free to submit ideas for topics and speakers for throughout the year.

- Thanks to everyone who helped with the Senior & Year End activities, Teacher & Student Appreciation days, Freshmen summer activities, Teacher Back-to-School Breakfast, and Bookstore helpers. We appreciate your help and donations!

Chairmen Needed for 2019-2020 School Year:

- Give Back Fundraisers (All School Year) – We hold these events throughout the year at different restaurants around town. They are usually fairly easy to coordinate with the restaurants and need Mrs. Hitchcock’s approval to ensure no conflict with other school events.
- Teacher & Staff Holiday Luncheon (December) – This has been at Party Central in the past. The owners had a child who was a Signature student, and we got a good rate. It has been sold, and we haven’t yet confirmed with new management if they will honor the old rate. Someone suggested if need be, we might be able to look into using the new YMCA. It is usually the last day before Winter Break after a ½ day of finals.
- Additional Volunteer Opportunities listed on Sign-up Sheet – Help is needed on all the committees throughout the year.

General Q&A Session for Parents

- PTSA Fun Friday, August 30, 8:30-9:45AM (Old National Bank, 1st Floor Deli): This is an informal time to discuss upcoming events and to just learn more from more seasoned parents about workload and teachers at Signature School, how to navigate our time here, the college application process, and more.
- Next PTSA Meeting, Wednesday, September 11th, 6:00PM (Central Library, Browning Room) – after this meeting, meetings will alternate between noon and 6:00PM by month. Often October is used to prepare for the Main Street auction and December is used to help with Christmas.
- School Open House, Thursday, Sept. 5th, 6:00PM – This is a time to attend each of your kids’ classes for a short time to learn about the syllabus and the teacher as well as expectations. It is not a time for 1:1 conversations with the teachers, which should be scheduled separately. It gives great insights into what your kids are doing in each class.
- Additional comments were made during Q&A about during the freshmen summer socials trying to find ways for the parents to interact and not just sit outside of the kids observing what they’re doing. It was also discussed that there may just be one summer event next year instead of two.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Secretary – Tracy McEuen