

Signature PTSA Meeting Minutes
November 9, 2016 6:00-7:45pm
Evansville Central Library

Attendance – Allison Shira, Jahara Tapal, Karen Cinelli, Beth Hafele, Jennifer Potter, Jayne Allerellie, Shannon Hughes, Jennifer and Daniel Green, Shelley Starks, Kim Wahl, Cheryl Brice, Kashif Iqbal, Aldo Goilo, Sue Schmidt

Guest Speaker

Shannon Hughes, IB Coordinator, Curriculum Coordinator, Chair: Math, Science, Tech Chairman

- The first attempt to implement the IB program at Signature failed back in 2002. EVSC was not happy with this initiative, because they felt that it would create competition and draw “smart” kids away from other schools.
- After the charter law passed in 2006 we reapplied and Signature was accepted into the IB program. Both the AP and IB programs are part of our school charter, making Signature accountable to both EVSC and the public.
- The IB program pushes teachers to stick to the curriculum, because there is an external assessment. It makes the teachers better at their job and motivates students to perform well. Doing well in the IB program not only benefits the school, but also the students.
- Signature applied and was accepted to be a pilot school for the AP Capstone program. Students must complete at least four AP classes with a final test score of 3.5 or higher. The program also introduced an AP Seminar class to the sophomores this year, where they will have to do a presentation and complete a research paper. This class will prepare them for IB Theory of Knowledge which they will have to take in the IB program.
- IB Diploma Candidates have to complete the following requirements...
 - ✓ Extended Essay (assigned a mentor) – ideally worked on between junior and senior year, analyzing a topic from different perspectives.
 - ✓ Theory of Knowledge – presentation and essay
 - ✓ Creativity, Action, Service (CAS) – 50 hours in each area, group project required
 - community service
 - activity (exercise)
 - creativity (art/music)
 - ✓ One class from five different groups (Language, Second Language, Individuals and Societies, Experimental Sciences, and Math) and one elective (can be a class from the five above groups or from a sixth group – The Arts). At least 3 of these 6 classes have to be Higher Level (HL) and 3 at Standard Level (SL).
- IB Diploma – Why? – Great for college scholarships and college applications. IB candidates help kids get into college above the general population.

- IB diplomas are received in December of following school year. When applying for college, students apply as an IB candidate. The IB graduation serves as a reunion for college freshmen to come back to Signature.
- The IB program requires faculty to act as a team, they must be aware of what each student is doing in their total studies.
- IB diplomas are recognized highly everywhere, but are greatly looked upon in Florida, Texas, Virginia and Canada
- AP and IB work together. On average Signature students enter college with 36 AP credit hours (2nd semester college sophomore).
- To learn more about the IB program there will be a meeting an informational meeting for all interested parents and students at the end of January or beginning of February.

Secretary Report – Jennifer Potter made a motion to approve October’s minutes, Kim Wahl seconded. The minutes were approved.

Treasurer Report – The balance in the checking account was about \$12,000. Jahara is meeting with Shelley for the transfer of all of the treasurer documents and PTSA account information. The checking account has been transferred, but the raffle account still needs to be done.

Topics and Committee Reports

Teacher Meeting Snacks – The teachers enjoyed the November food that was provided.

Give Back Night Fundraisers – hand outs will be available at the front desk

October – Freddy’s Steakburgers – proceeds are not in yet

Wednesday, November 30th – Panera Bread 4-8pm

Tuesday, December 6th – Azzip Pizza (All 3 locations, all day) – Ladies’ Lunch that day at Green River location

Proposed in January 2017 – McCalister’s Deli

Teacher Wish List – Jennifer Potter published the list on October 4th, reminder with volunteer link will go out again. Second list will go out in February.

Main Street Attraction and Auction

-the auction brought in \$3800, but with expenses totaling around \$1300, the net profit was about \$2500

-suggestion for next year was to try to get donations sooner and try for bigger ticket items. Also, a suggestion was made to either have pre-bid items or advertise some of the items that would be at the event.

Barnes and Noble Fundraiser – Kim Wahl – November 20-26 (online and in-store)

-12:00 – 6:00pm on Sunday, November 20

-event was advertized in the newspaper on 11/5 (Tri-State Today)

-need parent and student volunteers

-need performers and book readers

-teachers have submitted their spring book lists and these books will be available for sale

Teacher/Staff Holiday Luncheon – Kim Rashada – Monday, December 19th

Trivia Night – Sue Schmidt - Confirmed for Saturday, February 25 at Ivy Room

Signature Car Decals – Jennifer Potter – PTSA will take over this fundraiser. The motion was made by Cheryl Bryce to purchase 500 decals at \$1/sticker and sell them for \$5/each. Allison Shira seconded.

Mascot – we want to make the penguin Signature’s official mascot. The students will decide upon a design and a name.

Courier and Press – Outstanding Educators in Vanderburgh County - \$1,000 prize
-suggestion made to have student council nominate Signature teachers

Membership Report – Cheryl Bryce reported that we are at 109 members, but hopes to recruit more, including some teachers.

President’s Report

Westside Office Depot: Store Manager Laurie Shehorn will make copies for non-profits
812-425-0803

Amazon Smile – click on Signature PTSA

Coming Up...

Fun Friday – none in November and December due to the holidays

Next Meeting – Wednesday, December 14th at the Central Library – Browning Room – 12:00-1:30pm
200 SE Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.

Reminder

Like us on Facebook – Signature School PTSA – to hear about upcoming events and happenings!