

Signature PTSA Meeting Minutes
September 14, 2016, 6:30–8:10pm
Evansville Central Library

Attendance – Allison Shira, Shelley Starks, Jahara Tapel, Karen Cinelli, Beth Hafele, Leticia Merlin, Beth Muehlbauer, Jean Hitchcock, Jennifer Potter, Shannon Barchett, Amy Higgins, Sue Schmidt, Cheryl Brice

Speakers

Jean Hitchcock, Signature Principal since 2008 (all 3 of her children graduated from Signature)

- expressed appreciation to the PTSA and all that is done for the staff, students and the school
- stated that we have had a smooth start to the school year
- Signature received \$2.5 million dollars from the State of Indiana through the Regional City's money, which was granted based on an area's ability to attract millennials. Signature has helped attract families to the Evansville area with its national recognitions.
 - Phase I is complete with a new Biology lab and lounge space replacing the Commons area.
 - Phase II is yet to be determined, but will probably include new classrooms
- The 5th floor of the Victory is serving as the temporary lunch area for the students
- Enrollment increased for this school year, 109 freshmen, 93 sophomores, 75 juniors and 86 seniors for a total of 363 students, compared to 343 students at this time last year.
- Freshmen – taking a little time for them to gel and realize the amount of work involved at Signature, but trying to use the Resource class to help them get acclimated. They have an upcoming field trip to Angel Mounds.
- Sophomores – more confident this year and becoming leaders at the school.
 - AP Capstone is new this year and is requiring the Sophomores to take AP Seminar and then later AP Research, along with 4 other AP courses to receive an AP Diploma. It is the hopes of the administration that this will complement the IB Theory of Knowledge, not replace it. It will help the student's become more critical thinkers.
 - They have an Interfaith field trip coming on September 23rd
 - PSAT on October 19th (just practice, doesn't count towards anything)
- Juniors – very confident as they enter this school year
 - PSAT is practice, but does determine National Merit eligibility
 - entered IB program, with extended essay topics
 - Lotus field trip on September 16
 - this year is geared toward looking at colleges, especially in the spring
 - should take SAT or ACT in the spring
 - College Night will be in either January or February
- Seniors – very busy looking at and applying to colleges, can be overwhelming
 - Signature offers lots of guidance to help get kids into college and applying for financial assistance; process can be confusing
 - Lotus field trip with the Juniors

Beth Muehlbauer – Director of Operations

-Power School – discussed the benefits to the program for checking grades, attendance and announcements; there is an App also for your phone.

PTSA Donations (2015-2016)

The following were presented to Mrs. Hitchcock...

- \$2,430 was raised last year to purchase 2 AEDs for Signature School through the Heart Saver program at Deaconess and the Heart Hospital. They were on Signature's wish list, but were too expensive to purchase. There is now one located in the Signature's main building and one in the Science Center.
- \$1,450 was raised last year to contribute to the Signature's test financial assistance program.
- \$7,074 was donated to assist with improving Signature's technology throughout the school

Way to go PTSA and all who gave last year in all of our many fundraisers!!!

Musical

-Mrs. Hitchcock confirmed that the spring musical would take place and that there would many parts available.

Treasurer

-Shelley Starks handed out the 2016-2017 budget and estimated that we hope to raise \$9,000 for the school this year. Jennifer Potter made a motion to approve the budget and Cheryl Brice seconded, the motion was approved.

-2015-2016 audit has taken place and we will submit it to the state PTA by the November 15 deadline.

-Shelley Starks is stepping down from her role as treasurer. Thanks Shelley!!!

-Jahara Tapal was nominated by Cheryl Brice, Sue Schmidt seconded and all agreed that she would serve as the new treasurer.

Secretary

-Amy Higgins made a motion to approve last month's minutes, Shelley Starks seconded. The minutes were approved.

Give Back Nights

-Sue Schmidt reported that we made \$236.42 from Azzip's August Give Back

-the next scheduled night is tentatively planned for Jason's Deli on Wednesday, Sept. 28th from 5-9pm

-looking into future give backs to be at Azzip, McDonalds, McAlister's, Acropolis, Chick-Fil-A

Teacher Wish List

-Jennifer Potter has finalized the list and waiting on final approval from the administration.

-A list will come out soon to parents along with the website for all to sign up for individual items.

Ink Cartridge Recycle

-Jennifer Potter encouraged everyone to turn in all used ink cartridges to the school. The money earned from turning these in help pay for supplies the school needs, but can't afford.

Ford Drive 4UR School (Leticia Merlin)

September 24th from 8am – 5pm

- needs volunteers, can sign up on Facebook or through emails sent from school
- big fundraiser for Signature PTSA, can earn \$20 per driver
- no pressure to buy, no follow up phone calls or contact
- just need to drive a car and fill out a survey
- please share with Facebook friends or hang handout at work

Main Street Attraction

-October 21st from 5-8pm

- Karen Cinelli working on getting permits and licenses from city
- Auction – donation sheets need to be sent out; contacting Kathy St. Pere/Leanne Collier about progress

Barnes and Noble Fundraiser

-Kim Wahl set the dates - November 20 will be for in-store purchases and November 20-26 will be for online purchases. The more purchases, the higher percentage of return they pay to us. Gift cards do not count, but café purchases do. We will need parent volunteers and students to perform at this event. We also need students to pass out the coupons, service hours will be awarded. Look for more information to come in October.

Trivia Night

-Sue Schmidt is the chair for this event, however she needs help because of the magnitude of all that needs to be done. If anyone wishes to help with this event, please contact the PTSA. It is scheduled for the night of Saturday, February 25 and proves to be a very fun and entertaining evening!

Membership

- Cheryl Brice has reported that we are currently at 92 members; we hope to increase our numbers in the coming months.
- Membership reward cards will be coming home soon.

Teacher Christmas Party

-Kim Rashada will be chairing this event

Next Meetings

Fun Friday – casual morning get together for parents and friends of Signature

Friday, September 30th 8:30-9:45am at Old National Bank Deli, One Main St, 1st Floor

October PTSA Meeting – Wednesday, October 12th 12:00-1:30pm

Evansville Central Library (Browning Room) 200 SE Martin Luther King Jr.