

NTH@C PTSO Minutes

January Meeting - 1/18/2010

Board Members in Attendance: Jean Ainsworth, Sandi Tanner, Nancy Jenner, Krista Finnegan, LuAnn Kamstra, Anne Tatum, Alison Durkee, Connie Braun, Kathy Lonborg, Sandy Williamson, JoAnn Leach, Carol Davis, Rene Watten, Kristy Racz, Laura Bitterman, Tina Jenkins, Ragina Agamal, Sharon Mankin, Marci Hiller, Also in Attendance: Tabitha Branum, Gretchen Pace, Kristin Brown, Niko Racz - Learner Representative

Jean Ainsworth called the meeting to order at 5:34 pm. A motion to approve the minutes from the December meeting was made by Anne Tatum and seconded by LuAnn Kamstra. Minutes from the December meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report

- Cash on hand at the first of the month was \$21,000. We now have \$20,000 in the bank. Alison said that Tabitha would discuss gifts to school later in the meeting. Alison also reported that we have received the first corporate matching funds donation from Write-A-Check. She will send information to HotSync to let others know to pursue matching funds from their companies.

Committee Reports

- Learner Activities - Alison reported on behalf of Sylvia Dendy that the lock-in that was scheduled for December has been moved to New Tech on February 12th. Learners will be charged \$5 to recoup the cost of the Interskate cancellation fee that was incurred in December.
- Communications - LuAnn Kamstra reminded board members of the January 22 deadline for the upcoming issue of HotSync. They hope to send it out the first week of February.
- Enrichment - Sandy Williamson updated the board on the Super Bowl Snacker Challenge that will allow learners to create a business plan, product development, and marketing strategy for a snack food competition on January 27 that will culminate on February 10th with sales, tasting, judging and an awards ceremony. This event has been planned by Sharon Walker.
- Volunteer Committee - Connie Braun reported that Tabitha is evaluating the office volunteer schedule to determine the best use of time & day for the volunteers.

Staff Report

- Gretchen Pace, counselor, reported that the mid-term exams went well - smoother than last year. The electronic overloading that occurred at NTH & CHS last year was eliminated by the use of paper and pencil testing. Learner Leadership representative Niko Racz agreed that the paper and pencil was a better system.

Director's Update

- Registration for 2010-11 will begin with meetings the third week in January - detailed schedule is in the CISD Express. The school board will determine the selection process at the upcoming school board meeting on February 1. A process similar to last year's first-come, first-served for half the spots is under consideration, with the line to be off site (possibly at the football stadium although a home soccer game may be a conflict). She has been investigating how other schools do first come-first served (Arlington & Stringfellow). There will be a lottery for the remaining spots. She is proposing that 130 freshmen be admitted for the 2010-2011 school year. All details will be confirmed at the 2/1 school board meeting.
 - There will be requirement that parents of students applying attend information meetings to attend 2 of the 4 meetings. (i.e., no last minute applications from families who have not attended sessions).
 - This year, all middle school students will shadow at both CHS and NTH@C. They are looking at the shadowing experience to make it informative and relevant.
- Going into the third year, Tabitha said that they are looking at a different approach to math based on the objective of understanding resources and references. They are looking at many different options that will be relevant and global. They are also looking at the science classes and the senior curriculum. She encouraged learners and parents to contact her if they have suggestions on what the upcoming course choices might be.

- The first induction into the NTH@C National Honor Society will be held on February 1st at 6:30 pm at New Tech. There will also be an application opportunity in the spring for sophomores and juniors.
- Gifts to School were discussed according to a list that Tabitha, Jean and Alison had compiled based on facilitator requests. Sharon Mankin and Sandy Williamson were concerned about the amount of money for a one-time use ropes course. They will look for possible options for a spring team building event (including incoming freshmen) to present to Tabitha that might prove more cost effective - deadline: March PTSO meeting. A motion was made by Kristy Racz to approve the gifts to school with the change from "Ropes Course" to "Spring Team Building Event." Sandi Tanner seconded the motion. The motion passed.
- Tabitha announced that she and Brad Hunt would be presenting the next "Discussion" on February 3 at 12:30 and 7:00. The topic is Secondary Education in Coppell.

President's Report

- Jean Ainsworth encouraged everyone to go to the CHS website to volunteer to judge the BPA competition this weekend.

Other Announcements

- JoAnn Leach announced a fundraiser for the Coppell engineering program to be held at Main Event in Lewisville on January 23 from 4-9 pm. \$20 includes unlimited activities and a \$10 gift card.

February Meeting

- The date for the next meeting is Monday, February 1 at 5:30 at New Tech.

Anne Tatum made a motion to adjourn. Alison Durkee seconded. The meeting adjourned at 6:55 PM

Sandy Williamson
Substitute Secretary