

NewTech High @ Coppell PTSO

March 1, 2009

Minutes

Attendees:

Jean Ainsworth	Kelly Durso	Gretchen Pace
Bridget Bell	Krista Finnegan	Karen Pearsall
Tabitha Branum	Becky Gross	Donna Ramsey
Connie Braun	Marca Hiller	Carrie Spannagel
Kristen Brown	Tina Jenkins	Sandi Tanner
Roxanne Cannon	Nancy Jensen	Anne Tatum
Sylvia Dendy	Lu Ann Kamstra	Students:
Carol Davis	Mary Keane	Kaleigh Irvin
Laura Davis	Randy Lisbona	Robbie Cannon
Alison Durkee	Michele McClew	

Jean Ainsworth called the meeting to order at 5:02. Minutes of the February meeting were approved. LLC student reps Kaleigh Irvin and Robbie Cannon were introduced and welcomed. Carrie Spannagel was also in attendance. She'll be serving as a long-term substitute while Kristen Brown is on maternity leave.

Treasurer's Report

- Cash on hand January 31 was \$12,364. The only disbursement during the month was \$245 for PTO Connect subscription fees.
- Tabitha is still finalizing bids for the \$2,500 expenditure approved for team-building. She will send details of the final proposal which will include all students. The event is planned for the same day as Spring Fling (April 23). Since the proposed plan is within the guidelines previously approved by the Board, no additional vote/approval will be required.

Director's Update

- The lock-in has been re-scheduled for this Friday, March 5 from 10p – 6a. Learners will not be admitted after midnight, and they may leave during the event only if a parent/guardian picks them up. A My SignUp will be created for volunteers.
- Tabitha thanked parents who volunteered for the Q&A session for prospective NTH families. She said the responses, particularly from the students, were well presented, and well received by those in attendance.
- Registration went smoothly. Families were at the stadium Tuesday morning. The final slot in the line for first-come,first-served was filled Friday morning. The lottery drawing will be Thursday, March 4. So far, 35 applications have been received for the remaining 51 slots.
- English TAKS will be Wednesday. There will be no late arrival. Learners who typically report to CHS or dual credit classes first period should report directly to NTH.
- Red/Gold Renaissance lunch will be Friday, March 5. Qualified learners may leave campus from 11:20 – 12:45. Any learner who returns late will not be able to participate next semester.
- Tabitha asked parents to reinforce St. Ann parking procedures. In the future, parents will be notified if learners are assigned Saturday school.
- Open House will be Tuesday, March 9 from 6:00 – 7:30. The format will be come and go, so parents can also visit middle schools that same night for open house if necessary.

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LLC Update

- The LLC is working on a video to introduce LLC officers. A t-shirt design for learner recognition has been approved.
- Tabitha recognized Kaleigh Irvin for being recognized by the school board for cross country. Several other NTH were recognized for wrestling, All-State Choir, band, CGA contests, and the South by Southwest video.

Committee Updates

- The graduation committee will meet following the PTSO meeting. Sub-committees are forming. Committee members will be attending other small school graduations this spring to get ideas.
- Deadline for the next issue of Hot Sync is March 15 for an April 1 publication.
- Spring Fling will be held April 23 5:00 – 9:00. The event is community/all-school event, and not a fundraiser. New incoming 8th graders/freshmen will be included. There will be intramurals, inflatables, a dunking booth and much more. Tickets for dinner will be on sale during open house.
- The spring car wash/fundraiser is planned for May 15.

Other Updates

- The Education Foundation Red/Black campaign concludes Friday. Donations are down versus last year.
- Gretchen has been meeting with all Junior learners and parents to review the college application process. A software application called Naviance is being introduced as a facility for storing learner information that will be necessary for submission with college applications. Additionally, the software provides college search tools, including personality profiles and other analytic data that compares a learner's scores and interests with various college profiles.
- CISD will also begin participating in a new program that will track where Coppell students go to college, as well as graduation rates. This information will help the District identify opportunities to improve college graduation performance for CISD graduates.
- Tabitha is in the process of planning course offerings, etc. for next year. Junior and Senior classes may be single subject, rather than integrated as in freshman/sophomore years, to all more in depth instruction. Students have recently completed a survey to identify preferences for additional science course options.
- Tabitha asked for feedback from anyone with ideas for change/improvement next year.

Jean announced that the next meeting will be April 5 at New Tech.

The meeting adjourned at 6:05 PM. .

Becky Gross
Secretary