

**REDWOOD HIGH SCHOOL
PARENT-TEACHER-STUDENT ASSOCIATION MEETING
September 13, 2007**

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 8:35 a.m. by President Barbara Solomon. The minutes of the May 10 meeting were approved as submitted.

OFFICER REPORTS:

President: Barbara Solomon welcomed everyone and reintroduced the 2007-2008 board

Treasurer's Report: Tish Borden reviewed the accounts to date (see handouts) and submitted the budget for this fiscal year. Elaine Bengle motioned to accept the budget as presented, Linda Alm seconded the motion. No opposition, the motion passed.

ADMINISTRATION REPORT:

Superintendent: Bob Ferguson, asked to speak. He told us 1) the Lunch Plaza is on the agenda of the next School Board meeting to be approved by the Board. 2) The Culinary Arts class will begin next year at Redwood 3) An International Baccalaureate program is being targeted for the Redwood campus. It takes two years to get approved. Superintendent Ferguson would like to speak at future PTSA meetings.

Assistant Principal: LaSandra White stood in for Principal, Nancy Neu who was at a North Coast Sectionals meeting in San Ramon. LaSandra introduced New Asst. principal, Keith Murray He will be responsible for the freshman class and overseeing Student Activities. She also noted that with Keith's hire the work load for each of the Asst. Principals has shifted so they will each be responsible for 1¹/₃ classes. The sophomore class was divided alphabetically between the three Assistant Principals. Nancy Neu sent word that the first weeks of school went smoothly. Our enrollment is 1500, (just one more than predicted). There are 773 boys and 727 girls; 3 eighth graders, 400 freshmen, 383 sophomores, 349 juniors, and 365 seniors. Many new teachers were hired for this school year. Look for new teacher bios in the next Post.

LaSandra mentioned the parking lots would have painted markings this week. Someone asked about visitors spots and LaSandra said if any volunteers ever can't get a visitor spot they can come to the office for a temporary pass. Another member said she had gotten a parking pass from the office for a recurring volunteer job.

LaSandra also reported that the administration was so pleased with the STAR test results they gave the kids an ice cream party in the first weeks of school. We had a 29 point increase. LaSandra felt one reason the junior class did well was that last year she and Nancy Neu went around to each of the junior homerooms and explained why good scores would help the school's standings for this year's college applications. Redwood has the highest API in the county.

?s from the membership: 1) Is Eschool Plus available yet? Still being set up, may be accessible for some.

Director Of Facilities: Sarah Schoening told us about her background in teaching, architecture, and engineering that brought her to her current position with TUHSD. She gave us an update on Redwood facilities: 1) The new, improved pool and a new practice gym will be under construction at the back of the campus. The pool has been an engineering challenge because of the high water table. Groundbreaking will be 9/26 and will continue to a year from now, into the 2008 fall semester. There will be two additional tennis courts and the tennis and roller hockey courts will be resurfaced. 2) Over the summer an underwater void was installed under the west parking lot which will hopefully eliminate standing water and flooding except in the most extreme cases. 3) Everything will be completed in 2008. 4) She is pleased with the new parking lot, the process provided an opportunity to fix plumbing issues. Barbara Solomon mentioned she had received reports complaining about the traffic flow in the new parking lot; about the fact that one could not regain access to William Street from the

parking lot; instead, once one entered the parking lot, one had to exit onto Doherty Drive, thus adding to the traffic congestion on that street. Another member mentioned the No Left Turn off Dougherty is a problem for access to William as well. Sarah explained the left hand turn off Dougherty is up to the city of Larkspur and is being revisited with them. 5)The Lunch Plaza is an action item on the 9/25 School Board agenda. They are looking to enhance the area and help complete the task 6)Finally, Sarah Schoening thanked the members for their patience during construction. Barbara Solomon added a note of appreciation for Eladia Leddy, Laura Edwards, Robin Moller, and Sarah McGhie for their work to fund and plan the Lunch Plaza.

OFFICER REPORTS continued:

President: Barbara Solomon thanked Holly Strobel and Danelle Leong for putting on the Back to School Coffee. It was very well attended. Freshman Class coordinators will host a parent get together at Anne Gilberg's home on November 14. An email invite will go out to all freshman parents. Barbara talked about the PTSA email database and the goal to use email more in order to eliminate paper waste. Email messages will be kept to a minimum. We hope to get the Post sent out by email and eliminate some of the expense and waste associated with mailing. The Post is available online but will still be mailed in hardcopy.

Vice President/Parent Ed Jeannie Perry is scheduling the Parent Ed events as a series with the general theme being a positive approach for parents to reach out to kids. The first event, at the next PTSA meeting, will be about internship and job resources. Paula Vantrease, Redwood's College and Career Specialist, and another presenter will speak. October 25th will be an evening presentation by Regan McMahon, author of *Revolution in the Bleachers: How Parents Can Take Back Family in a World Gone Crazy Over Youth Sports*. Jeannie is working on a presentation in January about understanding teenage girls and for the May PTSA meeting, a clinical RN talking about understanding teenage boys. She will have a law enforcement presentation later in the year as well.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Staff Appreciation Drawing: Susan Livingston gave us an update. Last year everyone got a gift. This year's first drawing is coming up, please continue to donate.

Foundation: Sarah McGhie, president of the Foundation gave a brief history of the Foundation. They have raised over \$1.8 million over the last four years. This year their goal is \$700,000 with an emphasis on raising participation numbers. (now just over 30% of parents contribute). The Annual Campaign letter will be mailed the first week of October. The Foundation now has a part time paid staff. Veronica Tunucci has an office on campus where she can be reached for questions or information.

Membership: Carolyn Grey reported we have 448 members representing nearly 1/3 of the student population and 21 staff and teachers. 600 directories will be printed.

Directory: Anne Mahoney reported the wonderful volunteers have already exceeded the budgeted goals for sponsorship and have checks for about \$20,000. They hope to have an envelope stuffing party soon, possibly October 12.

Post: Lauren Howard reported some frustration that the first issue of the Post was finished well before it went out. Our New website manager, Jeff Slavitz, is putting the Post online. Thank you to Jay Gilman for graphic design work; the redesign is great. We need volunteers to coordinate the email distribution; to identify people on the database who want to receive the Post by email. Marinda Lobo volunteered to help.

Deadlines for the future issues of the Post will be the 10th of each month (Oct. 10th for Nov., Nov 10th for Dec., etc.)

Campus Improvement: Lindy Flemming noted that work days are coming up. Dates will be in the Post. They will be working on several areas around campus. She has an email list of 120

people. Please let her know if you would like to be added. Elaine Bengle reminded everyone that students can get double hours credit if they and their parents volunteer.

Grad Night: Barbara described grad night, Susan Morrow encouraged parents of freshmen and sophomores to participate.

Rock and Roll: Eladia Leddy reported the party will be on March 29, 2008. Flyers are going out for volunteers. They continue to sell bricks for the lunch plaza.

?’s from members: Do we have a representative to the Parent2Parent group? Would anyone like to volunteer?

Thanks to Kappy Reed for today’s beautiful breakfast treats.

Meeting adjourned 9:55

Next meeting Oct. 11, Kreps Hall, 8:30 a.m.