

Sequoia High School PTSA Association Meeting

Tuesday February 3, 2015

Principal Report

- Guidance counselors are meeting with the students to plan classes for next year. They are meeting with 11th graders first. A blue form was given out in 3rd period to help plan classes. They will then meet with 10th graders followed by the 9th graders. All 20-30 minutes one on one meetings should be completed by May 1st. The new program planning book can be found on line. Papers will come home with student for parents to see the classes students have signed up for. The form will need to be signed by parents and returned.
- Please come and support our strong athletics including basketball and soccer going on right now. The girls' varsity soccer team is doing very well. They played a newly formed team from Oceana High School. Following the game an email was sent from the Oceana coach saying how great our girls are with sportsmanship and friendliness. Always nice to get compliments about our students
- The director of the Stanford student teaching program came to visit today bringing with them International leaders. They were very impressed with our school in general. It has great curb appeal. The students also impressed them with how polite, friendly and engaging they are.
- Parent question about bikes being stolen. Her son's bike was stolen this week from the cage. It was reported to the school. Question about how often this happens. It was the third one this month. What is being done about this? The cage has a camera so if it is a student who takes the bike it is usually recovered. It seems to be a non-student most likely who can access the cage prior to it being locked half way through first period. They have increased patrols of the area.
- Question from parent if there is anything we can do for Stephen Ready (IVP). While in the hospital having his first child with his wife his apartment building burnt down. The staff at Sequoia and Menlo-Atherton have stepped in with the basic necessities for now.

Meeting called to order at 7:30 by Alice

In attendance: Alice Henderson, Cecilia Marquez, Lisa Pokorny, Julia Horak, Sue Anderson, Lisa Hane, Beatrice Carrot, Jayne Sungail, Gayle Hoch, Betsy Parkhurst, Lisa Goularte-Wadell, Lisa Prosch, Sian Davies, Julie Grossman, Rebecca Joslin-Davis

Guest Speaker: Mike Claire

Mike is a Sequoia High School graduate of the class of '80. He is currently the President of San Mateo College.

- Doesn't matter where you start just where you finish
- 1 out of every 3 students will not complete their degree from where they enrolled as a freshman
- Over 50% of the students in San Mateo County will go to a community college at some point. They will either take a summer class, state school students will use it to get classes that may have been impacted at their state school
- It is more important to get out of college than getting into the "right" college
- 900-1,000 students will enroll in CSM for the fall
- Four major reasons students go to community college
 - a) They don't know what they want to major in
 - b) They need better grades to enter a 4 year
 - c) The cost of a 4 year is a factor
 - d) High performing students who did not get into their first choice school
- Community college has a guaranteed transfer with the UC (except UCLA, Cal, UCSD) if you maintain a 3.3 GPA and complete 60 units
- More selective schools require a 3.7 GPA to transfer
- Students will perform as well or better than students who start at a University as a freshman

Guest Student Speakers: Lauren Chamberlain and Colston Rienhoff

Lauren (president) and Colston (vice-president) of the California Scholarship Federation came to talk about CSF in general and about what the club is doing. Currently the club has 12 members with Ms. Ignaitis as their advisor. About 100 students are part of the CSF. It is an honors program for students based on grades. Once a member of CSF you can join the club. The club is currently fundraising to put on senior award night where one senior will be given a scholarship for outstanding academics. They are trying to reinvent the award night to be more fun by turning it into a BBQ. Parent input for the club to take on more by looking into college tours and applying for mini grants to help cover costs. Suggestion of raising the dues was also brought up.

December minutes approved as presented

December and January Treasurers Report by Sian

Please see December and January's treasurers report file on PTSA website

Checks written:

Date	Number	Name	Memo/Category	Amount
11/7/14	1098h	Sequoia High School	Fall 2014 Mini Grants - Teachers	\$6,053.63
11/7/14	1099h	Takeshi Kaneko	Reimbursement - New Teacher Grant	\$150.00
11/7/14	1100h	Tim Spence	Reimbursement - New Teacher Grant	\$150.00
11/10/14	1101h	Donna Fiore	Reimbursement - Staff Appreciation	\$54.08
11/17/14	1102h	Sian Davies	Reimbursement - Communication and Organizational Expenses	\$429.55
11/17/14	1103h	PTAEZ	PTAEZ Renewal - Included Webstore	\$319.00
11/20/14	1104h	17th District PTA	Membership Dues - Pass Through	\$84.00
11/20/14	1105h	Sequoia High School Education Foundation	SHS Ed Fund - Webstore Donation	\$675.00
11/20/14	1106h	Sequoia High School Sport and Spirit Booster Club	Sports & Spirit Booster - Webstore Donations	\$250.00
11/20/14	1107h	Sequoia High School	SHS - VPA Webstore Donation	\$100.00
11/20/14	1108h	Dottress Rollins	Reimbursement - Family Support	\$697.70
11/20/14	1109h	17th District PTA	Staff Appreciation - Superintendent's Lunch	\$30.00
12/29/14	1110h	Sherwood Forest Farms	Evergreens Sales - Grad Activities 2017	\$2,645.22
1/15/15	1111h	Sequoia High School Education Foundation	Webstore donations Dec-Jan	\$ 1,000.00
1/15/15	1112h	17th District PTA	Membership & Workers Comp dues	\$144.75
1/15/15	1113h	Sian Davies	Reimbursement - Staff Appreciation	\$197.90

Motion to ratify checks as presented by Rebecca

Motion carries

Nominating committee for the next year's board will be made up of Betsy, Julie and Nancy

Motion to approve nominating committee by Lisa

Motion carries

Mini-grants - Lisa

Second round of mini-grants will be announced soon for applications. We have \$5,600 to give.

Junior scholarships – Beatrice

This year we will have three categories for the scholarships:

- a) Academic excellence
- b) Extracurricular excellence

c) First generation college student

Applications will come out in February and will be due back mid-March. Currently have 4 people on the committee but still need 3 more. Cannot be a parent of a current junior.

Grad Week – Julie

Selling grad night tickets this Friday for the \$65. Last chance to get them for this price. They will increase to \$80 on February 14th. Can also buy them on line. 95 tickets have been sold so far.

Make sure your student has turned in their senior contract (which was due first day of school). Corey (director of student activities) has the list. You may not participate in any student activities until the form is signed and turned in.

International Festival – Cecilia

The committee has met again and plans are falling into place. Nani Friedman and Abby Wong are the student leads. All clubs have been invited to have a booth to showcase what they do and fundraise. Each class has also been invited to have a booth. Alice is working on getting the word out to the community. Save the date April 11th from 2-6 to support our school.

Spring Academic Reception – Alice

Please volunteer if you would like to plan and provide refreshments for the 9-11th graders who are being honored. The PTSA has typically provided refreshments while the students line up and check in prior to the ceremony. Time frame is 6:20-6:50 PM on May 19th.

San Carlos School District Parcel Tax – Julia

San Carlos school board voted unanimously to renew the parcel tax and to increase it by \$58.

The committee will be reaching out to PTSA's for financial and campaign support to get this parcel tax passed on the May 5th mail in ballot. Central Middle School is a feeder school into Sequoia.

Next meeting March 3rd

Meeting adjourned at 9 PM

Respectfully submitted by Jayne Sungail

