

MINUTES

West Seattle PTSA Meeting Minutes

Date | time 9/25/2012 7:00 PM | Meeting called to order by Tracy Burrows

In Attendance

See attached sign in sheet

Welcome and Board Introductions

Tracy opened the meeting with a general welcome; the PTSA Board members introduced themselves. Jen Shaughnessy, Janet Jones, Lisa Clark, Janne Endreo, Deni Mensing and Catha Elder represented the Board.

General Items

November 15th is the **school auction**. Tracy displayed a poster with items to donate. Registration forms were on the back table and also available online. See attached registration form.

November 11th is **Open House**.

Guest Speaker - Tim Burgess

WSHS Funding from Families and Education Levy

Councilmember Tim Burgess thanked everyone for supporting the Family Education Levy which passed with a 64% approval. The Levy provides money to Seattle public schools with struggling student and school performance. The money provides extended learning and after school activities. This year, the money was spent at WSHS for university tutors, YMCA, and Asian Counseling Services.

Councilmember Burgess said the Mayor gave his budget proposal yesterday and a survey is available online to enable you to express your opinion regarding the budget.

WSHS PTSA Goals

Tracy pointed the audience to the PTSA Membership applications and reviewed the year's goals.

Principal's Report

Principal Ruth Medsker is in her 3rd year as WSHS principal. She mentioned the Open House on the 11th, reviewed the previous year's academic goals and school improvement plan, and reported on the past year's results. Ruth explained the format of a pilot program with Public Health to provide intake, accountability and crisis intervention for students needing support beyond what the school can offer.

The school year is off to an excellent start. There are 3 open positions, 2 in Special Education, 1 in Language Arts. We have 980 students, which is small but on target. Ruth wants 100-200 more students to facilitate scheduling.

Committee Reports

West Seattle 5K

- Jeff Mensing gave the crowd a tentative date of May 19th for the race. The city permit will be granted in November and determines the race date. The race raised \$50K in 5 years.

Guest Speakers – Serena Wastman and Gwen Fraser

Reducing Underage Drinking and Substance Abuse

Janet Jones introduced Serena Wastman and Gwen Fraser. Serena is a pastor at the Skate Church and Gwen is an intern at the Attorney General's Office. Both are from West Seattle. They spoke to the audience about underage drinking and drug use. The role of faith based organizations in a state coalition has yielded some best practices, but a sustainable funding source is needed to create infrastructure to support 'what works'. Previous funding was provided by a 2006 grant in West Seattle. Programs at Nathan Hale, Eckstein and Madison have been successful in decreasing underage drinking by 10%.

Announcements

10/1 – Auction planning meeting at Uptown Espresso

10/11 – Open House

11/15 – Auction

11/7 – next PTSA Meeting

Next Meeting

11/7/2012 7:00 PM, West Seattle High School Library

Meeting adjourned at 8:24 PM