

**Fairfax High School
PTSA Meeting Minutes
September 15, 2008**

Attendees: Laura Allsopp, Marilyn Taylor-Berry, Scott Braband, Mark Campbell, Carol Chang, Mary DeOrnellas, Barbara Emerson, Lisa Evers, Linda Hancock, Tammy Harper, Heike Harrup, Jacqueline Harvey, Clai Jorgensen, Pearl Johnson, Teresa Liarakos, Lisa MacCammon, Laura May, Renate Manville, Pincel Mazmudar, Erika McGrath, David Meyer, Toni Milmoie, Diane Mortiere, Richard Rubin, Joan Szabo, Clare Talbert, Judy Thurston, Pam Wagner

Director of Student Services: Marcy Miller

- Bullying Prevention Program is in progress
- Oct. 14th- Freshman Parent Night 7:00pm
- Dec. 4th- 10th grade College Night
- Apr. 23rd- Career Day: speakers from all over the area to connect students to careers. Need volunteers and speakers. Contact: Maureen.Kim@fcps.edu
- New student group for students coming in from other schools (starting next week, new group will be assigned a liaison)
- Senior Workshops held in Career Center, Open House during R&R (it will be in Keep In Touch-KIT)
- Pearl Johnson & counselor- have groups for African American students
- Will have Parent Advisory Committee find areas that need improvement
- Will sent calendar in KIT
- Senior Night was a great!!

Principal's Report: Dr Scott Braband

- Last week was a learning experience! Everyone's support is appreciated.
- Ms. Miller has done an amazing job reorganizing student services.
- Video was well done & peer mediators from GMU were here.
- 2205 students are enrolled (record enrollment).
- County enrollment continues to grow.
- Higher class size or face reduction in force
- City/County Budget Meetings beginning (details will be in KIT). Encourages parents to attend. It is going to be a tough budget year.
- Next Weds. is Back to School Night.
- Rebel Round Up is Nov. 11th- Veteran's Day.
- Teacher of the Year applications available in office.
- R&R is adding a career component.
- R&R is starting earlier so kids can take the opportunity to improve before interims.
- Ms. Allen is presenting to National Secondary School Principals- R&R and Hispanic students improving their SOL scores.
- KIT has a new vendor and messages are limited.
- May be hiring someone to enter emails.
- Football team has won 2 games and the band is doing well.

- New grant with Apple Federal Credit Union and another new partner will be announced.
- Sept. 25th 8:40-9:40 in Auditorium- “Creative Leaders 101” with a surprise Keynote Speaker.
- A little staffing may be added, maybe for 9th grade or 10th grade Chemistry.
- Class size may increase. May want to go to community meetings. Class size should be the last thing to be impacted.

President: Clai Jorgensen

- Teacher of the Year- due Oct. 1st & applications are in main office or online.
- Committee is needed to go through these applications
- Gold Card: discounts for academic achievement (3.0 or higher- no F’s) (This year all As & Bs each quarter.)
- Is anyone interested in soliciting businesses? Looking for parents this year. Needed by Oct. 14th (Fx City- food places?)
- Dave Carr- “It’s Academic” is Sept. 20th- come out & cheer the team!
- Mon. Sept. 22nd- All Night Grad meeting at 7:00- Volunteers needed!
- Oct. 10th Homecoming- Help with floats & chaperones for dance needed!
- Oct 15th- Early dismissal at 11:15 after PSAT- 9th, 10th & 11th 12th-college visits/job shadowing
- Oct. 16th Academy’s Back to School Night
- VA PTA- Oct. 6th- Parents to Protect Family

Note: Please send an email to be included on PTA Agenda

Secretary: Clare Talbert

- No May minutes available

Treasurer: Lisa MacCammon

- \$7,888.13 current balance (Membership is down.)

Membership: Toni Milmo

- Delightful note from a teacher & a double donation
- As Sept. 14th- 277 members (33 staff now, higher than last year)
- Will not be sending out a membership card- can request a card if you want one.

Directories: Tammy Harper, Katharine Schultz

- Directories will be available at Back to School.

Orchestra: Tammy Harper

- Selling pizza and cookie dough through Sept. 29th
- Oct. 29th- Masquerade Concert at 7:30

African American Achievers “AAA” (Minority Achievement): Pearl Johnson

- Our name has changed!
- Oct. 9th- “Changing the Mindset” showcasing the A’s, the talents & the Achievers. Families invited: parents & teens.

Academic Boosters: Susan Kuck

- Donations = \$1,015 and will accept late forms.
- Nov. 5th- Lettering Ceremony- help is needed for refreshments.
- Will identify place to hang honor roll, awards, etc.

Band Booster: Joan Szabo

- Sept. 20th- Tag Day- will leave envelopes if no one is home.
- Fundraisers are not available until Oct. (see band web site).
- Will have magnets (Fairfax High School & Fairfax High School Band) for sale

Academy: Heike Harrup

- The Creative Leaders Project will have an entertaining speaker with a message about change.
- Parents are encouraged to attend.
- Oct. 16th- Academy Back to School Night
- Can take a quick tour of the Academy by contacting Heike
- Students were at Wolf Trap's International Children's Festival
- FHS Students are encouraged to take part in Academy Classes
- Academy has received \$30,000 grant from Apple Federal Credit Union for Creative Leaders Project

First Issue of "**Rebel Roar**" is out.

- Encouraged to get subscriptions
- Send in concerns
- People are reading it!
- Purchasing new publications lab
- Grand plan is to have web site, Dr. Brabrand has asked about this & is waiting for answers.

Washington Post Reporter will be in Algebra II class all year and will take the SOL Test. Everyone knows and all approvals have been done.

Creative Classrooms- Students help students during R&R.

SAT- online course is coming. SAT online will be up and all students will have access. (SAT scores have gone down, 150 less students took SATs and the number of students taking ACT has doubled)

Heike Harrup- outreach to middle schools to help students focus in freshman/sophomore year to get into the Academy has used different formats.

Cluster 7 has not met.

Chorus: Laura May

- Chorus fundraisers are out.
- The trip to Disney World will be expensive.
- "Dessert on Broadway" in Jan/Feb

Dance Team: Laura May

- Students who are new to FHS will have a 1 day try out for 2 openings on Sept. 27th
- Partnership with Harley-Davidson
- Homecoming Parade on Oct. 20th

Athletic Boosters: Mary DeOrnellas

- Booster passes can be picked up at Home games or at school.
- Teams are performing well.

Theatre Boosters: Lisa Evers

- "Capitol Steps" coming to FHS

Faculty Rep: Mark Campbell

- Will work on increasing # of staff memberships
- Heike sent flyers.
- Teachers who belong to PTA will get a free directory.

Visitor: Michael Leiberman & daughter- presenting a course to improve scores on SATs

Meeting adjourned at 8:20pm.