

**Fairfax High School  
PTSA Meeting Minutes  
March 16, 2009**

**Attendees:**

Laura Allsopp, Sharon Buttram, Scott Brabrand, Shelly Bechert, Frances Dowd, Linda Hancock, Celeste Kacedan, Maureen Kim, Sharon Kourtz, Lisa MacCammon, Marcy Miller, Toni Milmoie, Diane Mortiere, Paul Singleton, Pam Snyder, Joan Szabo, Clare Talbert, Judy Thurston, Laura Welke

**Student Representative: Frances Dowd**

- Pep Rally on Thurs. and, possibly, a dance
- Finals of “Dancing with the Teachers”
- Baseball game- Donation to Breast Cancer
- Futball Fiesta in April (Trying to get more attendance)
- Spring Dance (probably next year)
- Selling now- Rebel Rags
- Service projects- Sandwiches for Lamb Center, helping with Prom for students in Special Education, VA Tech Remembrance activities

**Career Day: Maureen Kim**

- Career Awareness
- Connect classroom with Career
- Informative and Interactive
- Freshman/Sophomore: Career Awareness & Dress to Impress
- Junior/Senior- 3 (30 mins.) sessions (choose 3 to attend from 65 speakers). (Seniors will get their preferences, juniors may or may not) Ms. Kim will give students questions to ask the speakers. Speakers have been asked to make their presentations interactive. Speakers **may** be willing to be contacted outside of presentation.
- “Rigor, relevance & relationships”
- Thanks to PTA for sponsoring breakfast for these speakers!

**Principal’s Report: Dr. Brabrand**

- No decisions on start time.
- Budget-stimulus will help but not remedy situation
- R&R every day? (might help in the future)
- Class size will be up.
- Jan. 2010-11- No Child Left Behind- must meet proficiencies
- Staffing for next year- tough decisions ahead
- Final budget is not in- clinic aides have been cut.
- R&R: 6-7 schools visited and were impressed with students & staff interacting in hallways
- April- Spring Break
- AP/SOL test prep & testing
- Graduation date is set

- Should know in April- budget, start time, weight & grading scale?
- SOL bonus at FHS- Pass advance= 10% added to final exam grade  
Pass proficient= 5% added to final exam grade
- In school summer school will be for remediation only, fees are charged.
- Grading scale in place for next year?
- Weight of AP has changed, so far valedictorians are 4.0 or higher.
- Honor rolls have stayed the same.
- Waiting for guidance from FCPS
- Honors is different things at different schools
- Honors, Pre-AP, Dual, IP, Technical Ed- How does FCPS decides which courses should get .5?

#### **President's Report: Judy Thurston**

- PTSA Officers for next year- talk to Judy or Diane, consider sending email to volunteers
- Are kids happy? and parents involved – need strong PTSA
- Dr. Brabrand: “The Teachers at FHS feel supported.”
- Teacher Appreciation- send in gift cards to be given out at luncheon

#### **Minutes of February Meeting: Janice Wyatt /Clare Talbert**

- Minutes not available.

#### **Treasurer's Report: Lisa MacCammon**

- Chocolate Lover's Festival donated \$500
- Add \$250 to budget for 3<sup>rd</sup> girl to go to Girl's State

#### **Academy Update:**

- Trip to NY upcoming
- Encourage Academy enrollment

#### **Band Boosters: Joan Szabo**

- At Festival, bands did well. Symphonic band got straight 1's.
- For the first time, FHS bands earned (because of marching and festival scores) “Honor Band.”
- Fundraisers: annuals and candles
- Due to flood, band uniforms are being replaced.

#### **Orchestra Boosters: Tammy Harper/Clare Talbert**

- District Orchestra Festival is at Westfield High on March 21<sup>st</sup>.
- Trip to Orlando is March 25<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup>.
- Best wishes for all their performances!

#### **Chorus Boosters:**

- District Chorus Festival is this weekend at Thomas Jefferson

Faculty/Student Basketball Game is this Weds. at 7pm. The Dance Team and Drum line will perform. Please come to the game!

Meeting adjourned at 8:18pm.