

**Fairfax High School  
PTSA Meeting Minutes  
April 20, 2009**

**Attendees:**

Laura Allsopp, Scott Brabrand, Mark Campbell, Linda Hancock, Heike Harrup, Tammy Harper, Clai Jorgensen, Susan Kuck, Teresa Liarakos, Lisa MacCammon, Katharine Schultz, Paul Singleton, Pam Snyder, Joan Szabo, Clare Talbert, Judy Thurston, Pam Wagner and Janice Wyatt

**AVID Program: Eric Kinne**

- Want to put on banquet for AVID graduates @ PJ Skidoos w/a catered dinner w/ speakers and plaques.
- AVID gives academic support for students to succeed in advanced courses
- There are 9 graduates this year
- Just under 100 students for next year
- All have been accepted to 4 year colleges
- Asking for some financial support from the PTSA
- Last year- 14 graduates and 11 have come back to visit
- AVID is an elective and students must meet the requirements of the program

**MADD/SADD**

- 1980- 12,998 fatalities from Drunk Driving
- Told story about Desiree and the life changing injuries that she sustained after being hit by a drunk driver
- This year's SADD Program "I Have a Choice to be Safe & Sober"
- May 1<sup>st</sup>-June 5<sup>th</sup> (high risk time with graduation & prom)
- MADD also provides victim services (court services, support groups, informed support services and ongoing support)

**Principal's Report: Dr. Brabrand**

- 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter is here
- Today had a drill with canines. The canines made a few hits but nothing was found. Families were called
- Depression Screenings were done this year. Some students gave answers that required follow up.
- Career Day was this week- 99% of students their 1<sup>st</sup> choice
- RAMPT- Counselors have gotten an award
- 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter grades are better
- May = SOL/AP Review Sessions
- Staffing is going on: (class size will go up .5)  
Fully staff Fine Arts  
Fully staff Languages  
A few cuts in Business & ESOL  
Last years data- Level 2 ESOL did better than any other school

Some cuts are pending

- Stimulus package affects Special Education and Title I
- Slight changes to elem. & middle time schedules
- TJ students will be dropped at base schools
- Bright spot- clinic aides reinstated, SROs at Lanier will be kept
- Everyone at FHS appreciate the community support- the upcoming luncheon will be greatly appreciated
- “I am very, very grateful!”
- 71% increase in AP enrollment
- Fs are going down
- “I am proud of the students.”
- Government class visits upcoming.
- Remind your child to make good choices!
- Champions practice to get good (Bill Gates “practiced on the super computer at his high school”)
- “School is going great.”
- PTSA needs to be strong next year!
- Still need to make up 2-3 million dollars in deficit
- 4<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court ruled about 3 unexcused absences cannot remain as they are, will need new regulations
- The group demonstrated as planned, but students at FHS went to class and ignored them. Dr. Brabrand was very appreciative!
- A rival principal was impressed with R&R
- Things are good...may June come easily!

#### **President’s Report: Clai Jorgensen**

- Clai was invited to panel discussing what makes a good principal. (It was fascinating but difficult.)
- Personal connection to students (#1)
- Communication was also considered very important.
- Volunteer opportunities for the next few weeks: Teacher Appreciation, Proctoring AP exams (**Please Sign Up!**)
- Highest Honors Luncheon- May 18<sup>th</sup> (over 200 students)

#### **Minutes of March Meeting: Clare Talbert**

- March minutes were approved.

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

- @ \$7,0000 in gift cards and money has been collected for Teacher Appreciation (enough for everyone to get one)
- Teachers really appreciate that everyone gets a gift card!
- Teachers were surprised and touched at the generosity! Teachers feel supported!
- AVID asking for money (\$1400 for 9 students)
- It was recommended that we pay \$50 per student or \$450 this year to AVID.
- This needs to be revisited each year depending on the availability of funds.

**Academic Boosters:**

- Highest Honor Role Luncheon is May 18<sup>th</sup> (4.0 for the first 3 quarters) in the Library (**Help is Needed**)
- Rebels on the Rise is April 30<sup>th</sup> (**Help is Needed**)

**All Night Grad**

- PTSA closet was cleaned out by Pam Wagner. It took 3 hours!!
- Kind of behind- did not raise the amount of money we wanted
- 30 tickets have been sold
- **NEED VOLUNTEERS!** Yellow sheets were available at meeting and all forms are online! We would greatly appreciate any help!
- May 4<sup>th</sup> – “Seniors 490”

**Band Boosters: Joan Szabo**

- Drumline/Winter Guard made it to semi-finals.
- Disney Trip- band was .5 away from 1<sup>st</sup> place!
- Chorus and Orchestra did well too!

**Theater-**

The play “A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum” is May 1, 2, 3, 8 and 9.

Meeting adjourned at 8:48pm.