

Fairfax High School  
PTSA Board Meeting Minutes  
Monday, November 16, 2009

**Attendees:**

Wayne Applewhite, Shelly Bechert, Mark Campbell, Inge Gedo, Dave Goldfarb, Tammy Harper, Clai Jorgenson, Susan Kuck, Lisa MacCammon, Laurie Ross, Katherine Schultz, Pam Snyder, Joan Szabo, Ann Voss, Janice Wyatt

Clai welcomed everyone at 7:10.

**Guest Speaker: Eric Kinne and one of his students**

Mr. Kinne teaches AVID 9 and AVID 12 and pre-AP English.

To become an AVID student, students are interviewed in 8<sup>th</sup> grade.

The student said that AVID helped her learn to organize and enabled her to take Honors Classes and AP classes. Neither of her parents went to college, so she will be the first to go to college. It is a supportive group. She tells others that AVID pushes you that extra mile.

It would be a great addition to their schedules. She enjoyed the college visits.

AVID's goal is to get students into and through college. The focus is students in the academic middle. "We teach them the game of school." Enrollment this year is 96. AVID students out performed FHS students in SOL pass rates. More AVID students enrolled in advanced courses.

Great professional development opportunities in AVID are available for teachers. AVID wants to get students to achieve at a greater level.

AVID encourages inquiry based education which leads to independence.

Mrs. Voss has started an AVID librarians group.

For more information, contact: Mr. Kinne 703-219-4091

**Principal's Report: Dave Goldfarb**

- Rebel Round Up- Insightful comments from parents: it is worth coming, more crowded & a good way to do it.
- Teacher comments: grade reports going out more often is better,

It is better to know earlier than later, had more parents than ever, glad that we do it and very valuable.

- Got surveys from parents waiting in line
- Going to recognize Teacher of the Year tomorrow
- Fall sports season ended- tremendous seasons- football, field hockey, cross country (Kevin Dowd), cheerleading (beat Stone Bridge by 3 points & overcame an injury).
  - Tremendous good news!
  - Academic awards tomorrow (recognizing 600 students)
  - New student services interim director will begin tomorrow. Candy Contristan will fill in until Spring (then FCPS will advertise position).
  - Mr. Goldfarb will share his vision at a later meeting.

**President's Report: Clai Jorgensen**

- 5 music composition and 2 visual arts entries were submitted to the Reflections competition. It would be nice to do it in an organized effort next year. She is working on a coordinator for next year.
- It is worth your time to go to one of the budget meetings.

**Minutes of October Meeting: Clare Talbert**

- The October minutes were approved. (Motion- Lisa, Second- Tammy)

**Treasurer's Report: Susan Kuck**

The current budget total: \$11,379.46

There is a change to budget for AAA to \$100.

**Newsletter- Laurie Ross/Joan Szabo**

- They are ready with next newsletter.
- No letter in Dec., so will do an early January newsletter (articles will be due in December).
- Can they track how many open the newsletter?
- Please include Fairfax High School in subject line when newsletter is emailed.

**Academic Booster: Susan Kuck**

- Need help for reception at 10:30am. (9:10 is ceremony)

**Band: Joan Szabo**

- Winter Drum line, Jazz Band and Guard are beginning

- Will have a booth at craft fair- raffling off gift cards and having a bake sale.
- Great season for Marching Band- completed first step to making Virginia Honor Band.
- Dec. 15<sup>th</sup> is the Winter Concert.

**Chorus: Laurie Ross**

- Great masquerade concert
- Many tried out for District chorus
- Selling White House ornaments
- Dec. 17<sup>th</sup> Winter Music Dept.
- Caberet Night in Jan.

**Orchestra-Tammy Harper**

- Tuesday before Thanksgiving delivery of pies

**Parent Advisory Committee Meeting**

- Redesigning Gifted program
- FCPS website- budget/community dialogs, opportunities to input-comments that you want to provide (charging for athletics, charging for AP tests, eliminating elem. band and strings, etc.)

The meeting was adjourned at 8:29pm.