

Samohi PTSA
Minutes from January 9, 2007

WELCOME ETC.

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 pm by President Judith Meister. The presentation of the audit was done by Amy VanPelt. The audit was completed and deemed correct. The motion to accept was made by Marty Smith, and seconded by Homa Niroomand, and approved by vote..

The need to keep the direct donations coming in was indicated. There is optimism that our goal will be reached.

The nominating committee for next year's board was elected. It consists of : Nancy Schmidt, Amy Van Pelt, Stacy Scharf, Reiko Alemania, and Marty Smith. Betsy Newell moved to accept the committee, it was seconded by Janice Shapiro, and approved by vote.

Judith reported on the 2 projects that came out of the "Looking for Common Ground" meeting earlier in the year. 1. the DVD and guidebook on the College Application Process. A small focus group of parents is needed, all those interested are encouraged to sign on. 2. How to help students who fall below the 2.0 grade point. Interested parents are also needed here.

The Samohi Directory is currently in process and the hope is for it to be out by the beginning of the second semester. It will contain names, phone numbers and emails of students who have indicated interest, but no addresses.

The PTSA Handbook is about to be mailed, thanks noted to Lynn Sturgis.

There is a Parent Book Club being organized by the Librarians to discuss the books the students are currently reading in their English classes. Parents will be notified with more information.

The Solar Alliance Club will be presenting an "Energy Fair" at the February 13th PTSA Meeting.

The new leadership for the African American Support Group was introduced. Lori Williams and Vienna Hayes, both spoke about wanting the help African American students feel more a part of the school. Both women are alumni of Samohi.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

The report was given by Greg Runyon in the absence of Dr. Predoza due to illness. Greg reported that just prior to winter break all the concerts, plays and event went very well. Winter sports are all "up and running", and there will soon be a 10th grade counseling meeting. Finals are scheduled for Jan. 23-26, with no school on Monday the 29th. The new semester begins Tuesday, Jan. 30th. Report cards will be mailed by February 3rd.

There will also be a need to form a BB Committee to deal with issues related to the campus building needs.

The CAHSEE will be administered to all 10th grade students on February 5th and 6th. An amended schedule will be provided to students and families detailing the changes for those days. The importance of the exam was noted.

PANEL DISCUSSION

Deb Love, Samohi parent and PTSA board member introduced the concept of the Panel, “What I would have done then, if I knew what I know now...” and the panelists, each a Samohi graduate and now a first year freshman at a four year college or university: Casey Corn, Dana Mulvaney, Stephanie

They each participated in a lively and informative discussion/question and answer with the audience members. Each offered a variety of opinions and suggestions based on their experience in the first semester of college. The consensus overall seemed to be that they did feel adequately prepared by their educational experiences at Samohi, similarly felt the College Center is an extremely valuable resource for students, and that extracurricular activities are very important along with academic achievement. The PTSA was most appreciative of Deb Love for arranging this and of the returning students for providing such helpful perspectives.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marty Smith, Co-recording secretary