

**Santa Monica High School PTSA
General Meeting
October 21, 2008
Minutes**

Welcome and General PTSA Business

1. **Welcome** – The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM by PTSA President Elizabeth Stearns. Elizabeth welcomed everyone to the College Admissions Education Night
2. **Annual Giving** – Elizabeth stressed the importance of participation by all families in fundraising for Samohi and the goal of 100% participation. She explained once again that teachers have identified technology as their #1 issue, and that the annual giving program this year goes to pay for hardware in the classroom.
3. **PTSA Membership** - Anyone can join for just \$7; we have reached 50% participation and need everyone else to join.
4. **Campus Beautification** - Samo is starting to look cleaner as a result of our emphasis on campus wide clean-up. Saturday is a day for everyone to participate.
5. **Steve Lopez Event** – The December 10 event was discussed briefly, encouraging everyone to come.
6. **Communications** – The new Viking Voice issue is out. Efforts are being focused on on-line distribution. Anyone who wishes to can sign up to be on the PTSA or Samohi Pals websites.
7. **Treasurer's Report** – Debbie Mulvaney gave the report. Patricia Payro-Freeman made a motion to adopt the Treasurer's Report which was seconded by Niaz Hakim. It was approved unanimously.
8. **Grad Nite** – A Monday night meeting was announced. Volunteers are still very much needed.

Principal's Report – Dr. Pedroza

- a. Dr. P shared information about his educational trip to China with Dr. Kelly and Dr. Chao. The trip was funded by the government of Shanghai as part of an exchange of educational ideas and experiences and will perhaps expand to an exchange among families and students.
- b. Dr. P reminded everyone that if their students have issues with grades, they should contact their House principals so that they can help work on issues, get peer tutors, etc.
- c. The first iteration of the CAHSEE for 11th and 12th graders who haven't passed is available for those who need to prepare.
- d. Samohi's football team is undefeated and the homecoming game is Friday against Beverly Hills at Corsair Field at Santa Monica College.

College Admissions Education Night

Dr. Sally Chou, Chief Academic Officer for the District introduced the panel, which included admissions officers from UCLA, Pomona College, Cal State Northridge and Santa Monica College. The panel discussed a range of topics related to admissions at their schools, including the importance of interviews, essays, etc. The night was a tremendous success.

Respectfully submitted,

Laurie Lieberman
Co-recording Secretary