

Wilbur Cross High School PTO Minutes
Conference Room Main Office
October 8, 2008

PTO President Lisa Whitfield called the meeting to order.

In attendance

Lisa Whitfield, Dori Dumas, Sheila Williams, Cathy Meyerson, Cheryl Bergman, Nancy Kafoglis, Tom Hannon, Alberta Scasino, Hella Heydorn, Antoinette Perry, Tracy Blanford, Barbara Pochan, and Angel Medina.

Introductions

Introductions of new and continuing board members in attendance

President: Lisa Whitfield

Secretary: Dori Dumas

Treasurer: Cheryl Bergman

WCHS Liason: Sheila Williams

New Board Members and Officers are needed

The PTO needs to phase in a new treasurer and secretary, and is seeking volunteers for those positions. Anyone who is interested should contact President Lisa Whitfield.

Vision and Goal Statement

Following up on the discussion from the last PTO meeting, everyone was asked what vision and goal they had for the PTO and what areas they felt the PTO should focus on. Below are a few of the suggestions:

- Try to organize parents by grades and get them to support specific activities for that respective grade
- Work on enhancing the diversity in the school and have programs that promote diversity
- Try to encourage more teacher participation with the PTO (The Staff receives notices of PTO meetings)
- Have a PTO Representative go to the Faculty Meetings, which are held every 1st Monday of the Month to share with the Staff the PTO ideas, requests, etc.
- Set up a mix and mingle with the PTO and faculty/Staff
- Work on getting a teacher advisor for each grade, similar to what the seniors have in place.

Report on recent Senior Class meeting

Several fundraising activities are going on to help support the senior class activities. More parent involvement is needed. Some parents shared that they have not been receiving notices about meetings and activities. Comments were

made to try to work on internal and external communication. Seniors received information about Class Rings via mail. A suggestion was made to get the Class Rings in the Junior year in the future. The Seniors were given tentative dates for their Senior Day Outing, and other activities. Information, dates and fees will be posted to the website.

Briefing on Washington DC Trip

President Lisa Whitfield shared information about a wonderful opportunity for students to go to Washington, DC for 3 days in January 09' through Century Tours. The students would be able to attend an inauguration dinner, attend tours and sightseeing activities. The information was first sent in the Summer, but most parents and students did not receive the information packet. The total cost is about \$500. A minimum of 30 students is required and a deposit of \$75 is due by October 15th, but an extension has been requested. Mr. Brendan Quinn (Teacher) is working on the trip and will have more information forthcoming. A suggestion was to have packets at the upcoming College 101 Night and also use other outlets to get the word out to students and parents.

College 101

An important upcoming PTO event is the *College 101 for Parents and Students* presentation by educational consultant Chaka Felder-McEntire scheduled for the evening of October 15th. This presentation is open to parents and students from ninth through twelfth grades. A stipend will be given to Chaka. Other College Prep activities are also going on October 15th, someone will check to confirm what they are.

PTO Bake Sale

Will take place on Election Day, Tuesday, Nov. 4th in the School Lobby 6:00 am – 8:00 pm. Volunteers and baked goods are needed. A sign up sheet was passed around. Also, tickets for the "PTO Lunch Special" are ready. The cost is \$5 for homemade soup and a roll. Everyone has been asked to spread the word. There are 1800 registered voters in the ward. A suggestion was made to contact the Alderperson in the ward to see if he/she can e-mail the PTO bake sale flyer out. The senior class will be asked to assist as they will benefit from the profits. We were told that no teachers would be in the building this year; we will try to reach out to the surrounding schools and post flyers there.

Next PTO Meeting

November 12, 2008 at 6:30 p.m., school lobby or conference room

Respectively submitted
Dori Dumas