

NewTech High @ Coppell PTSO

February 1, 2009

Minutes

Attendees:

Ranjini Agarwalla	Sylvia Dendy	Michele McClew
Jean Ainsworth	Kelly Durso	Kristy Racz
Bridget Bell	Becky Gross	Donna Ramsey
Laura Bitterman	Sherri Waddey	Anne Tatum
Tabitha Branum	Tina Jenkins	Jamie Turnquist
Connie Braun	Mary Keane	Rene' Watten
Kristen Brown	JoAnn Leach	Mason Leach
Carol Davis	Kathy Lonborg	Riley Anderson

Jean Ainsworth called the meeting to order at 5:30. Minutes of the January meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report

- Cash on hand January 31 was \$12,069. A \$7,500 donation was given to the school for the "Gifts to School" account. An additional \$2,500 gift is still pending waiting feedback from the committee. A final decision on this must be made by the March meeting.

Education Foundation

- Michelle McClew gave an update on the Red Black fundraising campaign currently underway and asked all to consider a donation. The Foundation gave a \$4,000 grant to NTH to purchase video and related equipment. A documentary, using the new equipment, spotlighting Touch A Life efforts is being completed for submission to South By Southwest.
- Michelle also reminded that Board that every Monday Anamia's donates 10% of net proceeds to the Education. Jean asked the Board to please thank Anamia's management for their support.

American Heart Association

- Michelle announced that several events are underway this month throughout Coppell to support the American Heart Association. The February 9 high school basketball game will be a "Hoops for Heart" game. Funds are being raised through T-Shirt sales to support the event. Later this month, NTH carnation sales proceeds will be divided between Haiti and the American Heart Association.

Lock-In

- The lock-in is scheduled for Friday February 12, 10p – 6a. Learners will not be admitted after midnight, and they may leave during the event only if a parent/guardian picks them up.
- A My SignUp will be created for volunteers.

Community Service

- Bridget Bell reported that learners have logged 4,000 hours of community service so far this year.
- The next event community service event will be a Touch A Life update on Wednesday, February 24. Pam Cope and a few people from her staff will be at school to give an update on their recent visit to Africa. The laptops were very well received and worked as well or better than expected. Following the update, learners will break into small groups to discuss items related to running a foundation: fund-raising, presentations/communications and press releases writing.
- Later this year, Touch A Life will be involved in an event with Malak Rock's (Chris Rock) Journey For Change foundation. The event will be documented by CNN (Soledad O'Brien).

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Other Updates

- The Prom / Graduation committee will meet Monday, February 8 at 10:00 at New Tech. Committee members will divide into sub-committees.
- The Coppell Mock Trial team, which is made up primarily of New Tech students (2 from CHS), did well at last week's competition, and will advance to the final round this coming Saturday.
- The Enrichment committee will be sending a My Signup in the next Hot Sync to get volunteers to help with the Super Bowl Challenge.

Director's Update

- Tabitha will be reviewing the registration plan for for 2010-11 at this evening's meeting. One half of spaces (after siblings) will be first come-first served, with line up at the Buddy Echols stadium. No start time will be set. Each family will be issued two armbands for guardians/family members over age 18 to wear while in line. Parents will be required to have attended informational sessions in order for their learner's application to be accepted.
- Middle school shadowing will be February 15-17. Students will spend time at both NTH and CHS. All middle school students will eat lunch at NTH. On February 18, private school students will be invited to visit, as well as any parents wishing to see the school in action.
- Tabitha will be giving an update to the School Board on extra-curricular participation at New Tech, pro-actively underscoring the importance of these activities to New Tech. Last year 49% of freshmen and 40% of sophomores participated in activities at NTH. This year, participation is 60% freshmen, 48% sophomores, and 37% juniors, for total school participation of 49%.
- First semester transcripts and class rankings will be distributed to learners next week.
- Renaissance lunch lists will be ready next week.
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Jean announced that the next meeting will be March 1 at New Tech.

The meeting adjourned at 6:20 PM. .

Becky Gross
Secretary