

New Tech High @ Coppell PTSO

February 7, 2011

Minutes

Attendees:

Bridget Bell	Krista Finnegan	JoAnn Leach	Anne Tatum
Tabitha Branum	Becky Gross	Mary Porter	Amanda Zaier
Connie Braun	JoAnn Hill	Robin Pulford	Brandy Osterberger
Karen Burgman	Marcia Hiller	Debra Roundtree	LLC Members:
Kelly Durso	LuAnn Kamstra	Dana Shay	Laura Harris
Jacqueline Eslick	Mary Keane	Sandi Tanner	Kayli Carlton

Anne Tatum called the meeting to order at 5:33 PM. Dana Shay made a motion to approve the Minutes for January and Debra Rountree Seconded. All approved and the motion was passed.

Treasurer's Report

- Dana Shay provided an overview of the treasurer's report that was distributed via e-mail. Available funds are approximately \$22,000. There will be expenses this month for the Race to Nowhere screening.

LLC

- LLC is in the black on Mardi Gras t-shirts sales
- CupidGrams are on sale and will be delivered by Senior boys dressed as Cupid

Director's Report

- Tabitha recognized Matt Hymer for the arbor built for his Eagle Scout project
- Make-up days for snow days on the school calendar are Good Friday and June 3. The District will be applying for a waiver for two of the four snow days. A final decision will be announced by the District
- Eighth Grade shadow days begin February 8. Turn-out at parent informational meetings has been strong (about 120 families at the first meeting and 60 at the second).
- There will no late arrival this Wednesday, February 9 due to 8th grade shadowing
- There will be 135 spots for freshmen at NTH next year. Siblings of current students (including seniors) will be offered spots first. Siblings must make a commitment by February 18. First come-First Serve will be awarded to half the spots, and the balance will be filled via lottery
- A Sophomore PSAT parent meeting will be Tuesday evening, February 8 at 6:30
- Juniors will visit University of Texas-Dallas on February 24 for a behind-the-scenes tour
- Progress reports will be distributed on February 11
- There will be a private NTH screening of Race to Nowhere at NTH on Monday, February 21. Please come and encourage others to attend. The film will be shown 6:30-8:00, followed by one-hour break-out sessions. The screening is open to both parents and learners. RSVP (not required) is available via Hot Sync

Mardi Gras

- Brandy Osterberger attended and gave an update on the Mardi Gras event. She gave special thanks to all who have volunteered and supported the event so far.
- Ticket sales for dinner (Deliman's burgers) are open. See Hot Sync for details. A dinner ticket is not required to attend
- Donations are still coming in. Any and all donations are welcome. Networking groups will be creating theme baskets. Ask you learner's what their group is doing and how you can help! Gift card donations (small, less than \$20) would be a very welcome donation.
- A list of donated items will be sent in next week's Hot Sync
- Kelly Durso will help secure a donation of paint stirrer sticks
- There is a need for 8 ½" x 11' frames to display various certificates. If you can donate, please contact Brandy

Mardi Gras (cont'd)

- Board members advised Brandy that we have previously used M-Signs to create outdoor signs. A city permit is also required to place signs in Coppell
- Brandy will work with the PTSO publicity committee to get information in the Coppell newspapers soon
- Two blankets, created from squares made by geometry students, will be assembled. One will be in the live auction and the other will be donated to the Habitat family
- In addition to dinner and the auction, there will be booths set up around the school
- This week's HotSync has volunteer sign-up links
- Tabitha stressed that while the Mardi Gras event will raise funds, it's also about having fun. She encouraged everyone to attend, regardless of whether they plan to participate in the fund-raising activities. It will be a fun, community event

Shattered Dreams

- On April 1, CHS and NTH will jointly host a Shattered Dreams event for juniors and seniors to increase awareness of alcohol and drug abuse. The event will feature a fictitious party scene followed by a demonstration of potential follow-on consequences. Learners volunteering for special participation in the event are to have their signed parental consent forms returned by Friday.
- Please let Tabitha or Connie Braun know if you know of a tall male who might be willing to play the role of grim reaper for the event. The selected individual should be unidentifiable (even in costume) to juniors/seniors. He will not talk, but must have a "presence" to underscore the importance and purpose of the event

Service Learning

- JoAnn Hill provided an overview of work to-date on the New Tech Habitat for Humanity house. Thanks to all the parents and learners who have volunteered thus far. The Habitat team has been very pleased and impressed with NTH learners
- Last weekend's activities were cancelled due to weather. We are still waiting for information on whether there will be a re-scheduled work day
- On volunteer days, learners and parents should meet at NTH at 7:00 AM and travel as a group to the house. Tabitha prefers to not have students driving to the site when not with the group.
- Pot Belly's will be donating food for the event, thanks to positive word of mouth about the event

Fundraising

- Jackie Eslick reported that New Tech won \$2,500 for Phase I of Our School's Cool at Vista Ridge. Please continue to submit receipts as an additional \$7,500 will be awarded in May
- All Vista Ridge receipts are eligible (food, movie, etc.). Large purchases such as appliances from Sears are fantastic! Wednesday receipts are awarded double value

Gifts to School

- At the March meeting, we will be reviewing the next set of gifts-to-school requests. Up to \$3,800 will be available. The committee will meet prior to the next meeting to review requests from facilitators

Other Business

- The nominating committee will need to be established by the next meeting. Two at-large members are needed. Please let Anne Tatum know if you are interested
- The next meeting will be Tuesday, March 7

Anne closed the meeting with a quote by Ronald Reagan: "There is no limit to what a man can do or where he can go if he doesn't mind who gets the credit."

Bridget Bell made the motion to adjourn the meeting and Dana Shay seconded. The meeting adjourned at 6:34 PM

Becky Gross
for Tressa Wolford, secretary