

PIEDMONT HIGH SCHOOL PARENTS' CLUB
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2011
DISTRICT BOARD ROOM

ATTENDANCE (2011-2012 BOARD): Ireland, Clifford, Dunlap, Copeland, Burge, Kurkjian, Shaw, Kieraldo, Barstow, L. Adams, Hassan, Hebert, Corvin, MacCarthy, Lahaderne, Heafey, Glazier, Williamson, Low, S. Adams, Docter, McBain, O'Brien, Sinnema, Pfeiffer, Gross, Gadbois, Kim, Retherford, Manolis

GUESTS: Laymon, Bloch, Hunt, Rexrode, Bublitz, Dang, Reichle, Lee, Elliott, Diaz, O'Connor

Mary Ireland called the meeting to order at 9:00.

OLD BUSINESS: Mary Ireland: The Board approved the September minutes as emailed, with a few name changes.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Mary Ireland: Two more flu shot clinics will be held. The first will be on Friday, October 7, from 4-7pm in the Faculty Room at PMS. The second will be on Friday, October 14, from 4-7pm in the multipurpose room at Havens.

Mary encouraged everyone to send all school announcements to Copyok before sending the announcement to the school site. After reviewing the announcement, Copyok will send the announcement to the appropriate school site. The instructions for using Copyok can be found on the district's website (<http://www.piedmont.k12.ca.us/district-info/directory/communications>).

A good number of people responded to the WASC survey: 250 people responded to the general survey, and 115 people responded to the random survey.

EVERY 15 MINUTES: Alexandra Manolis and Kim Hebert: The board applauded the efforts of Kim Hebert and Alexandra Manolis for making the "Every 15 Minutes" program a resounding success. Mary gave them each a gift certificate for a 60-minute massage. Kim and Alexandra encouraged everyone to attend the upcoming Community Education Night on Tuesday, October 11 in the Alan Harvey Theater which will focus on the "Every 15 Minutes" program. Speakers will be present and there will be an opportunity to give a freewill offering to the Wellness Center. Alexandra and Kim made the point that for the "Every 15 Minutes" program to have the greatest impact, families should continue the conversation about drunk driving throughout the year and beyond.

Ting Hsu Engleman: Ting thanked everyone who participated, stating that the event was a huge success with kids taking the crash and assembly events seriously. Some kids were traumatized by what they saw and the members of the Wellness Center were on hand to debrief them. Ting shared that conversations among students are starting as a result of "Every 15 Minutes," and noted that some students have become emboldened as a result of the program to help their friends who are struggling with a range of issues, including drinking and driving. Ting is looking at how there can be a sustained effect from the program by extending it throughout the year and beyond.

Shawnim Kashani, a senior at PHS, shared her perspective as a student of the "Every 15 Minutes" event. She said that when she went back to her class after the car crash, students were initially very quiet. They then talked about what they'd witnessed. One student wondered out loud what it would be like to have a friend in a car crash caused by drunk driving. In one class she and her classmates read an article about texting and driving, a combination, she pointed out, that also leads to distracted driving.

ASB REPORT: David Hosler: ASB is working on plans for the homecoming dance planned for Oct. 29th. The theme for the dance will be Greek (i.e. Toga Party). The school's dress code still applies to the dance. Chaperones are needed. ASB will be handing out spirit gear during homecoming week. ASB is looking ahead towards the Winter Ball. A venue has been set, however the theme of the dance still needs to be determined.

PHS PRINCIPAL'S REPORT: Rich Kitchens: Mr. Kitchens stated that it has indeed been an interesting month. He began by thanking Janna Hollis for updating the school profile which contains detailed information about PHS, including average test scores, for inclusion in college applications. This document is available online at <http://www.piedmont.k12.ca.us/phs/pdf/about-phs/profile.pdf>.

Thank you to Patty Dunlap and Valerie Fahey for their work on the student planning handbook, in which every word has been carefully selected over time. They worked with Karen Shipp on the project.

Thanks to Alexandra and Kim, the "Every 15 Minutes" program was a huge success and has affected the school in a significant way. In anticipation of the impact the program would have on students, Mr. Kitchens met with teachers last Friday (a few days before E15 crash scene) to discuss that during the two days of E15 programming, it may be necessary for teachers to stray from their course outlines to give students an opportunity to discuss what they witnessed.

STAR test results improved in general, and also exposed some areas that need work.

Mr. Kitchens was pleased that so many parents responded to the WASC survey, stating that the results will yield information that will be useful in setting goals. He hopes to post the results online in the future. WASC day is set for Monday, Oct. 10, a school holiday. Most of our PHS staff will come to school that day to work in a focused manner on WASC. They will each be paid a per diem rate.

The library's after-school program takes place from 3:15-4:45pm each day. An average of 17.5 kids attends each day. Mr. Kitchens thanked members of the board for their support of this program.

A fight broke out the other day near campus between kids of PHS, Millennium, and two other schools. Mr. Kitchens said that he can't say much about the event because an investigation is underway and privacy issues are in effect. He registered with board members that the school is dealing with the issue in a very comprehensive manner.

DISTRICT BUDGET AND PARENT CLUB SUPPORT: Mary Ireland: Mary opened the discussion by saying that the question at hand is whether we are going to increase the amount that the PHSPC currently gives to the District from \$200 per student to \$300, noting that in the past the PHSPC never spends what is budgeted, and that the "extra" money has been used for one-time spends. This "extra" money that PHSPC has typically had in the past should help cover the extra \$100 per student donation to the District. Mary shared that the tri-schools approved the proposal yesterday.

Patty Dunlap moved that the board increase the amount that it gives to the District from \$200 per student to \$300.

Cathy Glazier noted that we can't pass the upcoming parcel tax if we're sitting on a bunch of money, and that it is important the PHSPC books be cleared of extra cash.

Terri Burge pointed out that Measure E will be going away in the Spring of 2012 and that the extra donation to the District will help offset that.

Mary noted that fundraising will be more important as we move forward as we will not likely have large reserves in the PHSPC budget.

Ray Gadbois said that the District is deficit spending for the next few years and that the District would like to count on more money from the parent clubs until it determines that the budget will be balanced.

The board unanimously approved the motion to increase the donation to the district from \$200 per student to \$300.

On behalf of the District, Mary Ireland conducted a straw poll asking the board what it would want to reinstate if extra money was found in the District budget. With Ray Gadbois taking notes on a flipchart, the straw poll revealed the following results: 34 people voted to reinstate staff-development days, 4 voted to reinstate student days, 3 voted to put the money towards library support, approximately 20 people voted to use the money as a stipend to increase the pay teachers receive for co-curricular activities, and 10 voted to use the money to hire teachers to help reduce class size.

GIVING CAMPAIGN: Dane Copeland and Terri Burge: Mary and others present applauded Dane Copeland, Kirsten Merrit, and Kristen Malan for putting together an excellent Giving Campaign brochure, citing its easy-to-understand message and format.

Terri Burge presented a check totaling \$421,553 to PHSPC from last year's Giving Campaign. She noted that in just one week, this year's campaign has collected over \$100,000. Upcoming phon-A-thons are scheduled for Oct 18, Oct. 25, and Nov. 9 to help encourage donations.

Mary encouraged board members to donate early to the campaign if possible. Dane Copeland supported this recommendation, noting that there's a perception in the community that high school parents aren't big givers and that this perception needs to change.

Cathy Glazier offered a side note, stating that anyone interested in hosting a community fundraiser must go through the process of getting the event on the District calendar so that the event doesn't conflict with other fundraising efforts.

COLLEGE AND CAREER CENTER: Lisa Kieraldo: PSAT sign ups started Oct. 5 and run through Oct. 12. The PSAT will be held on October 15 at Piedmont High School.

WELLNESS 5K FALL FEST: Cathy Glazier and Donna Williamson: Donna reported that 150 volunteers helped out with this inaugural event and 350 runners and walkers participated. The event felt like a community celebration, and it is estimated that between \$75,000 and \$79,000 was raised. The organizers would like to see the event grow to 1000 runners/walkers next year.

CLASS OF 2011 GIFT: Mary Ireland: On behalf of MJ Dodds, Mary shared that the class of 2011 has an extra \$1000 or so left in its account. She asked if the board would approve putting the extra amount towards the new marquee that the class of 2011 designated as their class gift. It is estimated that the new marquis will cost \$9000. The board voted to approve a motion was to designate the \$ to the 2011 Senior Class gift. Motion carried.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS: Mary Ireland asked for feedback on bulletins that are distributed to high school families, noting that the sports bulletin is now put out by the Boosters. The general consensus was that everyone was pleased with receiving three separate bulletins (high school bulletin, college and career center bulletin, sports bulletin). Dane Copeland suggested that it would be ideal if the three bulletins could go out at the same time.

Marie Retherford: Most of the PHS staff got trained on Oct 10th on what to do with the supplies that are in their Emergency Backpacks. PHS will NOT be participating in the District/State-wide Oct 20 Disaster Preparedness Drill, because its focus is on WASC right now. PHS will hopefully have a drill once WASC is finished, when there will be more time to prepare, and when it can commit to enough time to train and make the drill meaningful. Marie described that included in the first aide training is information on burn care (thermal, chemical, and electrical). For burns, use cool water, never ice, to cool a burn and stop the burning process. All electrical burns require medical attention. Even small appearing electrical burns on the surface can be devastating to the muscles and tissues underneath. 120 volt electrical shocks usually don't cause permanent systemic damage, but the victim/patient still needs to be checked out by a doctor. P.A.R.T.Y. (Preventing Alcohol and Risk Related Trauma in Youth) is a program in British Columbia that takes small groups of kids through hospital ERs and morgues. This might be something we look into to keep the message from Every 15 Minutes fresh and on the front burner throughout the year. Flu Shot Clinics are here. You do not need an appointment. 70 flu shots were given at PHS the first week, and Oct 14 will be the last clinic at the Haven's MPR.

The November 2011 PHS PC meeting will be on Tuesday, November 1 at 9am.

Mary adjourned the meeting at 11:00am.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Clifford