

PTA Executive Board Meeting minutes

January 11, 2012

In attendance Sue Merkel, Alice Wu, Jarra Jang, Vicki Brew, Nora Shang,

7:15 pm meeting called to order

PTA minutes from November 2011 meeting approved.

PTA Treasurers report by Alice Wu

Currently there is a balance of \$9943.

Reminder for Juie Hughes to make sure monies are dispersed for the Fall Mini Grant Teacher Requests.

Membership Report

We are currently at 146 members of the PTSA.

PTA Council

Nora Shang reported about the PTA Council meeting of January 10, 2012. This group meets monthly at the Board of Education Meeting room. District policies on fundraising was discussed, specifically, the methods of fundraising that take place regularly in the district by the different departments, schools, clubs, etc. Dr. Brown said the district policies on fundraising have been overlooked but will be reviewed in the near future in an effort to monitor this issue more effectively. Rachael Richards mentioned that PTA has its own guidelines on fundraising as well. We also talked about major disparities in field trips from elementary school to middle school to high school, and ensuing discussion as to what is fair and academically useful.

EILC (equity and inclusion in leadership community) – continuing the improvement process on bettering the SINI status and working on having a community meeting with Dr. Brown in the near future.

Mini-Grants

There is an AVID teacher that would like to get a subscription to a magazine for the year which helps teachers/students that are involved in this program. This magazine costs \$500 however since the year is half over; the AVID teacher will wait until next year to get a subscription and will submit for a mini-grant at that time. It was suggested that if several

teachers in the AVID program submitted a request, the PTA might be able to grant the request for this group of students/teachers. Minigrants usually are no greater than \$200 for each teacher.

The schedule for Mini-grant offerings is once in the fall and once in the spring.

Discussion was held about the Word – newsletter sent out to get parents/guardians information they need to help guide their children as they navigate the high school years. It seems to be dated by the time it is received, a lot of information is not read and very time consuming to put this document together the way it is currently done. It is dependent on volunteers, IHS resources are tight and teachers have trouble finding time to write up their reports. How can we be more efficient in producing this document and still produce interesting, up to date information for the school community? A proposal for a communications plan for the PTSA was submitted for review by the PTSA Board. These proposals will be discussed and followed up on in the near future.

Upcoming PTA Meetings.

Early March – College Now program, to include Astrid Brueckner

April – High School information about the Board's proposed Budget

May – District wide meeting discussing the Budget

June – Ice cream social – bring in past Ithaca High School graduates to share their college experiences with students.

8:30 p.m. – meeting adjourned.