**PTO General Meeting**

**September 9, 2019**

**Attendees**

Kathy Stallings, Michel Hinton, Sheila Williamson, Cossette Hurtado, Nella Morales, Sarah Castro, Gypsy Morinelli, Jennifer Butler, Marisol Reyes, Maria Edie, Alex McConnell, Suzanne van Sanse, Aisha Wright, Michelle Ceaney, Emma Burns, Mery Camaclio, Toneal Petty, Rena Mobley, Jennifer Roden, Marianella Salazar, Tina Booty, Anne Pietramale, Kantajeni Chapman, Carrie Frain, Kay Schneider, Sabrina Nedwed, Shahla Hajialiang, Sanka Tennakoon, Favia Zapata, Sujata R, Karen Games, Pamela McCullough, Sharon Biek, Kate Zavala, Peggi Stewart, Zahmere Alazzawi, Laura McDuffie, Kehinde Awagabriel, Emmanuel Reinoso, Janet Daghri, Anne Oglesby

**Meeting began at 7:02 pm**

**Welcome and Introductions Michel Hinton**

Michel introduced senior parents and board for 2019-20. Senior 2019 volunteers – Ingrid and Kathy Stallings – were recognized with a gift card. Carrie Frain and Kay Schneider won Chick-Fil-A gift cards for volunteering during the month of August.

**Approve Minutes from last General Meeting Sarah Castro**

Minutes were reviewed and approved. “Donations are” needs to be deleted. Or add “are appreciated.”

Gypsy motioned to approve. Sheila second.

**PTO Updates**

General PTO Board Vote

* 3 people are staying on – Michel, Sheila, Frosy Graf, and Jennifer Butler. Marisol motioned to approve. Sarah second.
* Executive Board 2019-20 –

*Michel Hinton, President*

*Sheila Williamson, 1st VP Membership*

 *Frosy Graf, 2nd VP Fundraising*

*Cossette Hurtado, Treasurer*

*Nella Morales, Assistant Treasurer*

*Sarah Castro, Recording Secretary*

*Gypsy Morinelli, Corresponding Secretary*

*Jennifer Butler, VIPS Coordinator*

*Marisol Reyes, Parliamentarian*

Carrie Frain motioned to approve. Kay Schneider second.

**Principal’s Report Peggi Stewart**

--District changed grade cycle dates/ reports. Updates are available.

--Great to see so many parents here tonight because high school students need parent involvement.

--Guidance period is worked into the weekly schedule (Wednesdays and Thursdays) to give assistance to students who might need more academic support and is an opportunity for enrichment for students involved in advanced level courses as well as academic competitions. We also cater to those students who need personal development through Ascending to Men mentor program. We have a College, Career, Military readiness office and program for students. Attendance is counted and can affect the student’s record. We are currently placing students in the most appropriate guidance class. Grade level assemblies will take place in the upcoming weeks.

--Cell phone policy copies are available. Cell phone use can be very disruptive in the classrooms. They are only accessible before school, during lunch, or after school. Phones might be confiscated if in use in the academic hallways. Parents will need to come on campus to pay the $15, if the phone is picked up.

**Budget / 2019-2020 Cossette Hurtado**

Budget will be voted on in next month’s meeting as we are updated the membership/PayPal information.

**Fundraising Frosy Graf**

Looking for people to assist with Westside Wishes (our Spring Fundraiser) and Westside Success (current check-writing campaign).

**Membership Sheila Williamson**

1. Access the website – <https://westsidehighpto.wixsite.com/whspto>

2. Click on the Join Link

3. Scroll down the page to complete the survey and go back to pay on PayPal (family donation is $20; Leader of the Pack is $50).

4. Finally, to volunteer, please go to the volunteer link and complete the survey.

Seniors will only be eligible for the scholarship if the parents are members of the PTO by December 1.

Decals will be sent out after we finish membership drive. There is a place on the membership survey to indicate if you do not want a decal.

**Volunteers in Public Schools (VIPS) Jennifer Butler**

Need assistance in the following areas:

* College Night October 3.
* Looking for bilingual parents to help with magnet tours and other welcoming events.
* Also need library volunteers.

HISD requires all adults to register through the district website. After a few weeks, parents will be approved to volunteer. There is no charge for the background check. They ask for the driver’s license.

First Day packets can be dropped off at the house offices.

**Senior Parent Pam McCullough**

There is a Senior Parent meeting on September 10. We need volunteers.

**Homecoming Elizabeth Henson**

Sign-Up sheet for Homecoming:

October 25 – Parade (1PM) and Game (7PM vs. Bellaire);

October 26 – Dance

We need a volunteer willing to type up the list from the Homecoming Contracts.

We need more volunteers, especially freshman and sophomore parents – it’s fun and a great way to meet other parents.

**Teacher Appreciation Report Kay Schneider**

Need assistance with teacher appreciation – breakfast, holiday breakfast or lunch at Christmastime, ice cream social, last day of school lunch, Teacher Appreciation Week in April. Usually do a Sign-Up Genius to volunteer.

**Corresponding Secretary Report Gypsy Morinelli**

Can use the QR code to enroll in PTO. Looking at linking up PayPal to the survey, so there is no second step. We are working on receipts for parents who submit on PayPal for company match (need tax ID information).

**New Business**

Please send any items to whsvolunteers@gmail.com, if you have any questions or want to add something to the agenda.

Agenda has important dates.

**Meeting adjourned at 7:54 pm.**