

Minutes of the Northview High School PTSA  
General Membership Meeting  
January 31, 2007

Sandi Rose, Co President, called the meeting to order at 7:20 p.m.

Sandi welcomed the audience to the choral concert and identified the PTSA items needed to be addressed before the concert began.

- 1) The first order of business is to approve the Nominating Committee which has been formed to put together a slate of officers for next year's PTSA Executive Board. The five individuals who would like to serve on this year's committee are: Helen Eng, Margaret Harris, Kim McNaron, Maria Orlando, and Suzanne Warren. A motion was made by Martha Bernstein to approve the Nominating Committee. The motion was seconded and approved. Sandi reported that of the five members of the committee, three will take on active roles and two will serve as alternates.
- 2) Sandi invited the audience to attend a special community event to be held Wednesday, February 7<sup>th</sup> to address SPLOST (Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax). Mr. James Wilson, Fulton County Public Schools Superintendent will be speaking at Northview High School about the proposed continuation of SPLOST for an additional five years. The event will begin at 7:00pm. Sandi explained that SPLOST is a one-cent tax on every dollar spent in Fulton County. The money is used by the school system to fund new schools, provide technology upgrades, purchase equipment and buses, and provide property tax relief. Fulton first approved SPLOST in 1997, with a renewal approved in 2002. Since it began 10 years ago, the penny tax has funded 29 new schools in Fulton County and 18 school additions. SPLOST III, if approved, would fund 14 new schools and classroom additions at 11 schools. All existing buildings including Northview High School would receive infrastructure improvements, renovations and/or modifications. For our school specifically, if SPLOST III passes, we are slated to receive a new 100 yd. practice field, double the number of foreign language labs, improved/enhanced and expanded security cameras throughout the campus, improved external campus lighting & fencing, and updated technology throughout the building. She also noted that if SPLOST III does not pass, new schools will still be built and improvements will still be necessary, but the funding of these capital improvements will still be necessary, but funding of these capital improvements will be sourced through other outlets. The county might need to use bonds for this purpose or they might consider raising the millage rate resulting in property tax increases. The funding will come from some source so continuing the current sales tax results in over 40% of the funding being sourced by visitors to the county (i.e. Georgia Dome, Philips Arena, etc.) as opposed to sole funding from the residents of the county. Sandi reported that Mr. Wilson will be discussing this very important topic so that everyone will have first-hand information in preparation for the special election which will be held on March 20, 2007. She

encouraged everyone to attend the meeting and learn about the SPLOST III with regard to the school system as a whole and for the individual schools as well. Mr. Wilson will entertain questions from the floor following his presentation. For more information about SPLOST, please visit [www.fultonschools.org](http://www.fultonschools.org) website for more information. (Click on the Pennies for Progress button.) Sandi reported that the Northview High School PTSA would like to pass a Resolution stating their support of the SPLOST proposal.

The Resolution reads as follows:

### **Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax Resolution**

Whereas, Fulton County's student population is expected to increase by approximately 25%, or more than 20,000 new students in the next 5 years requiring additional schools and classrooms, and

Whereas, new class size reductions required by the State of Georgia, increased the need for classrooms and

Whereas, in order to provide students with permanent classroom space for the next five years, the school district needs to construct seven new elementary schools, three new middle schools and four new high schools and classroom additions at eleven schools, and

Whereas, some older schools need to be refurbished and brought up to the level of current education specifications for facilities, and

Whereas, technology equipment, such as computers, printers and software, needs to be continually upgraded and refreshed to keep our students leaning on current equipment, and

Whereas, due to HOPE and Pre-K funding requirements, limited funds have been available from the Georgia Lottery to fund K-12 programs or classroom technology, and

Whereas, school buses and other support vehicles are needed to replace older vehicles and to accommodate increased enrollment, and

Whereas, the State does not provide funding for maintenance for existing schools, and,

Whereas, sales tax funding is a "pay as you go" approach that incurs no long term debt with interest payments and allows more tax collections to go directly towards pre-specified classroom capital and technology expenses, and

Whereas, the current Special Purpose local Option Sales Tax (SPLOST) expires on June 30, 2007,

Now, therefore be it

Resolved, that the Northview high School PTSA supports the continued use of the Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (SPLOST) to fund the construction of educational facilities, school renovations, technology and equipment, and other capital outlay needs; and be it further

Resolved, that the Northview High School PTSA urges its members and the community to vote YES on the ballot question March 20, 2007, to reauthorize the SPLOST for the Fulton County and the Atlanta Independent School Systems.

A motion was made by Sharyl Dawes to approve the SPLOST Northview High School PTSA Resolution. The motion was seconded and approved.

Sandi thanked the audience.