

**MINUTES OF THE NORTHVIEW HIGH SCHOOL PTSA  
EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2008**

The meeting was called to order by Martha Bernstein, PTSA Co-President, at 7:10 p.m. welcomed everyone to the meeting, and distributed the meeting agenda.

**MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE**

Martha Bernstein, Sharyl Dawes, Gail Dowling, Marti Elliott (Faculty Representative), Helen Eng, Freda Hardage, Kim McNaron, Judy Marcopulos, Ruth Petrillo, Julie Pitman, Nancy Starks, Meaghan Thomas (Student Council VP), Susanne Warren, and Mr. Zervakos.

Martha Bernstein asked for a motion to approve the Executive Board Meeting minutes held on January 15, 2008 and the General PTSA Meeting held on February 5, 2008. Copies were distributed for those who did not receive the minutes prior to the meeting. Susanne asked if there were any questions regarding the minutes from either meeting. Susanne then asked for a motion for approval of the minutes which was made by Ruth Petrillo and Marti Elliott seconded the motion and the minutes were approved.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

Freda Hardage distributed the "NHS PTSA January '08 Budget Report" dated February 19, 2008. Freda stated that we are in good shape in every area and asked the attendees -- if we need to change anything or reallocate any money to a committee. Martha stated that everyone needs to discuss their budgets with their Committee Chairs by the next Executive Board Meeting to be held on March 18, 2008 so that we can discuss the changes and be ready to approve these at the General PTSA Meeting to be held on April 17, 2008 (Susanne later stated that there will not be another General PTSA Meeting after April so this is our chance to approve the changes at this meeting.)

Martha stated that for example, Health and Safety had a late start this year due to a change in the Committee Chairperson so therefore, they may have surplus money that we can reallocate to another committee such as Hospitality, the Seniors, etc. Martha stated that this should not affect the amount of money that Health and Safety would receive next year because of this year's usage of the monies.

Susanne stated that everyone should discuss this with their Committee Chairs and make sure that receipts have been submitted. At this point, we are assuming that for certain committees such as PSAT -- that receipts have been submitted and there may be a surplus left to reallocate

to another area. Also, ask the Committee Chairs their plans to spend the remainder of funds and if a certain area is over in their budget -- we could reallocate the money to this area.

Freda stated that School Services has the largest amount of money left in the budget which is \$12,544.19. Gail Dowling stated that the Career Center will take some of this money to purchase a computer or a copier. Gail stated money will be need for Orientation. She also stated that the area that needs money for next year would be Hospitality so that they will have funding for College Night. Gail stated that they had to work very hard to have food provided for the College Representatives present on College Night held on February 11, 2008. Everyone agreed that this should not come out of the Career Center funding.

Susanne stated that Facilities Enhancement is an area that we can still add money to for this year. This money could be used for additional banners for the parking lot.

Freda asked Gail if there are still projects left for this year by Facilities Enhancement and Campus Beautification. Gail Dowling stated that there were projects remaining such as "Hands on Northview."

Gail Dowling is presently trying to setup a meeting with the Campus Beautification Committee to discuss "Hands on Northview." Mr. Zervakos stated the committee needs to provide volunteers for the day and tables that are manned with first aid, water, food, etc. Mr. Zervakos stated that Northview will receive everything needed from John Deere and they will plan accordingly due to the drought that Georgia is facing this year. John Deere is assisting with the long range landscaping plan for Northview.

Freda stated that there are outstanding Mini-Grant reimbursements but the faculty has until April 25, 2008 to submit the receipts for reimbursement.

## **PRINCIPAL'S REPORT**

Mr. Zervakos stated that VIP Night will be held on April 24, 2008. Honors Night will be held on Thursday, May 1, 2008 and there will be approximately 150 students receiving awards and scholarships -- parents are encouraged to attend. The Academic Honors Banquet will be held on April 1, 2008.

There will be a Senior Breakfast held on Friday, May 23, 2008. The Seniors will receive Senior Recognition Awards and items such as pins, cords and stoles to wear on Graduation Day. In addition to the breakfast, there will be a rehearsal for Graduation. Graduation Day will be held on Sunday, May 25, 2008 at the Georgia Dome.

Mr. Zervakos reported that Northview is 1 out of 23 schools in Georgia that is designated an AP school - 8 of the schools are located in Fulton County.

## **TEACHER REPRESENTATIVE REPORT**

Marti Elliott stated that things are going very well.

The teachers have enjoyed all the things that the PTSA has done and that the faculty appreciates all the efforts for the desserts, luncheons, mini-grants, etc.

Sharyl Dawes stated that she served the teachers on the day of the BBQ luncheon for the Faculty and Staff and that they were so appreciative and thankful to the PTSA.

Marti stated that the PTSA has personally made her first year at Northview more enjoyable and everyone has been so helpful.

## **STUDENT COUNCIL**

Meaghan Thomas stated that they are working on the Service Project at Mimosa Elementary School. Last week, several Northview students went to Mimosa ES and videoed some of the children at lunch and interviewed several of the students. The school is under construction adding 18 rooms which is funded by Fulton County but has taken the place of the playground.

Fulton County will fund a new playground but funding will not be provided for a playground for the Special Needs students. This new playground would include such things as swings for wheelchair students. The Student Council will be showing the students of Northview the video that they filmed at Mimosa ES.

Student Council has a goal of \$20,000 to be raised by contributors and fund raisers and the slogan for this campaign is called "Get in the Game." The fourth period classes at Northview will be asked to donate recess equipment such as basketballs, soccer balls, Frisbees, jump ropes, etc. and raise money. It could possibly be a competition between the classes. Freda suggested that the Student Council talk with Lowe's and Home Depot in regards to contributing funding for this campaign. Freda stated that Lowe's and Home Depot both donated money towards a playground for the Drake House last year that went towards the assembly of the playground. Freda stated that the Student Council should present to the contributors that a sign will be placed at the playground site with the list of contributors.

It was suggested that the North Fulton Council of Rotaries - they are one of the largest service organizations in the country and should be contacted as possibly being a contributor. They recently provided 4,000 dictionaries to 3rd graders in Fulton County. Freda suggested that the Student Council write up something to present to the North Fulton Council and to present to National Organizations that have grants available. Freda offered to help the Student Council write something to present.

Meaghan stated that there was a nature trail at Mimosa ES but at the time it is not accessible due to the construction and it is in poor condition. It was suggested that Boy Scout Leaders be contacted and that they may know someone that is working on his Eagle Scout and may take this on as their project.

Susanne Warren suggested that local soccer and baseball clubs be contacted to contribute items that the school could use for recess.

Martha Bernstein suggested to Meaghan that the Student Council place an article in the Johns Creek Herald, The Titan View, and other local publications stating that they are looking for sponsorships, grants, and contributors for the "Get in the Game" campaign.

Meaghan stated that she would discuss these items with members of the Student Council at tomorrow's meeting.

## **CO-PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Martha discussed the "Give the Gift of Vision" program that provides unused eyeglasses that are collected and donated for the underprivileged areas such as Cambodia.

Today, Martha met with a reporter, Christine Braden from the Johns Creek Herald and Jon Beaton from a local Lenscrafter Store. Christine took a picture that included several PTSA members to appear in the Johns Creek Herald to receive more exposure of this program to the local community which includes churches, synagogues, other schools, etc. Jon travels all over the world on mission trips and will be going to Cambodia soon on another mission trip. Jon told Martha that they need 30,000 pairs of eyeglasses but usually receive 18,000. Jon expressed to Martha that the need is so great.

Martha stated that at the present time we have collected 400 pairs of eyeglasses. Although this is gratifying -- it is a drop in the bucket. We need to place boxes anywhere possible (such as nursing homes; other schools) with the brochure that explains the program to help reach our goal of 1,000. Wilson Creek ES, Shakerag ES, and the "Unite Us" organization have joined us in this effort. Martha stated that an April 1, 2008 deadline has been set due to the amount of time it takes to prepare the eyeglasses to go overseas.

Jon Beaton had expressed to Martha that the children he visits on the mission trips do not have anything. Martha suggested to the board that we look into sending something to the children that John could give to them -- such as beanie babies.

## **LEGISLATIVE REPORT**

Sharyl Dawes (Legislative Representative) stated that she and Judy Marcopulos attended the "PTA Day at the Capitol" on February 13, 2008. Judy stated that David Shafer of the Georgia

Senate (represents Fulton and Gwinnett Counties) spoke with her and Sharyl for several minutes. David discussed the Georgia water dispute with Tennessee with Judy and Sharyl. This year the water drought is one of the main issues facing the Senate.

Sharyl stated that Mark Burkhalter of the Georgia House of Representatives (represents Fulton County), introduced a bill to eliminate ad valorem taxes paid on motor vehicles annually by Georgia citizens. Sharyl stated that if you disagree with this bill -- that you should write or Email to Mark Burkhalter. Sharyl stated that she had a list of bills introduced this year which included tax cuts.

Sharyl stated that J. Thom Morgan (speaker - focus on the rights of pre-teens and teens; author - "Ignorance is No Defense") recently spoke to students and parents at Chattahoochee HS. Mr. Morgan does not charge for the Session but would like to sell at least 100 books. The book cost \$8.00.

Martha and Susanne had earlier discussed with Mr. Zervakos about having Mr. Morgan at Northview. Mr. Zervakos asked Sharyl if Mr. Morgan could possibly have two (2) back-to-back sessions during the day for the students and target the junior class. The parents would attend in the evening. Mr. Zervakos will send an Email to Sharyl with the dates available for Mr. Morgan.

## **V.P. REPORT - COMMUNICATIONS**

Helen Eng reported that the winter issue of The Titan View will be mailed tomorrow. Helen reminded everyone that March 13, 2008 is the next deadline for submissions to the next issue of The Titan View.

Susanne requested that the meeting attendees send an Email to Martha and Susanne to inform them of the date they received The Titan View through the mail at their home.

## **V.P. REPORT - HOSPITALITY**

Judy Marcopulos reported that College Night held last week on February 11, 2008. The food and drinks were donated. Donna McCarthy and Judy provided a few salads and other items needed. As discussed earlier, College Night needs to be funded in Hospitality and it will also help Hospitality keep up from year to year the quantities. There was a lengthy discussion regarding whether the Career Center or Hospitality is responsible for College Night. Gail Dowling suggested that next year there be a \$200.00 budget for College Night. Gail stated that the Career Center annual budget of \$2,000 could provide Hospitality \$200 for College Night expenses.

Eight (8) students attended the Newcomer's Breakfast held on February 12, 2008. Students presented several questions to Mr. Zervakos. The students are usually given a voucher for a Northview T-shirt.

On February 14, 2008 the staff were provided desserts by the Hospitality Committee for Valentine's Day. This effort was organized by Jeannie Schwartz of "Unite Us."

Judy is in the process of planning something for the faculty for the Early Release Day on March 26, 2008. Susanne stated that there is a Teacher Workday on March 14, 2008 and this may be a better day than March 26, 2008 or maybe a regular school day. Marti Elliott will speak with Pam Spalla and will let Judy know which day works best for a Teacher Appreciation function.

### **V.P. REPORT - MEMBERSHIP**

Martha received an Email from a Senior Parent requesting a school directory to mail graduation announcements. She was not a PTSA Member. Martha responded that the directory is not an item for sale but is a benefit of being a PTSA Member and that it was not too late to join. The parent stated she would join the PTSA. Felicia Gialenios should soon receive the check and then give the parent the directory.

### **V.P. REPORT - SCHOOL SERVICES**

Gail Dowling stated that Carol Stuenkel has accepted a full time job and has resigned her position as Chairperson for the Front Office. Gail stated that Jennifer Getzewich has volunteered to be the Chairperson for the Front Office for the remainder of the school year and will remain the Co-VP for School Services with Gail. Gail and Jennifer plan to have a volunteer orientation for the Front Office volunteers.

Media Center had nothing to report.

This year's College Night was the largest turnout in Northview history and there were 127 colleges being represented. Christine Hettinger and Laura Wallace organized College Night at Northview. It was very successful and many students from other schools attended. The PTSA may want to consider having other schools contribute to the cost of College Night. The College Recruiters were very thankful to the PTSA for the refreshments.

Parent-to-Parent is completed for this school year.

A committee needs to be formed for "Hands on Northview" that will be held on April 26, 2008. "Hand on Northview" was discussed at length earlier this evening (see Treasurer's Report).

### **V.P. REPORT - STUDENT ENRICHMENT**

Ruth Petrillo stated that Mini-Grants are completed for this school year.

Ruth reported that there were four (4) Reflections Winners at State Level. There were 2 Visual Arts, 1 Photography, and 1 Film Video Production Winners.

Cultural Arts has completed their programs for this school year. Pat Boegel gave Ruth two names for a possible Chairperson of Cultural Arts next year.

Ruth stated that Health and Safety will be having a Red Cross Blood Drive at Northview on April 21, 2008. Julie Meinert has organized for Dr. Leslie Gray (Dermatologist) and her staff to be at Northview on March 18, 2008 to discuss Sun Safety and provide the students with samples of sunblock.

Ruth stated that a Self-Defense and Sexual Assault Awareness Program is being planned for May to target the Senior females.

Karen Lisk is planning the Train the Trainer Event for adults that will be held in April.

## **V.P. REPORT - STUDENT SERVICES**

Kim McNaron stated that "Drive Smart" will be held on Monday, March 31, 2008. Parents and students are encouraged to attend this program. Attendance at a "Drive Smart" Program is required by the school for students applying for school parking permits during the 2008-2009 school year. Jackie Kidder is in need of volunteers for the evening.

Kim reported that there are 11th Grade Activity monies available. All grade level activities have had a low turnout and that funding for these activities could be used in other areas. Kim suggests removing spirit prizes for next year.

Kim reported that Zaxby's was the February Senior Treat and it was a great success with the Seniors. Next Month's Senior Treat will be smoothies from "Smoothie King." Mr. Zervakos stated that it is good for the other grades to observe that the Seniors are treated extra special by receiving such things as monthly Senior Treats, Senior Trip, Project Graduation, etc.

Kim stated that the 100 day mark for Project Graduation was last Friday, February 15, 2008. Kim has bracelets that are being handed out to promote registration for Project Graduation. The first 100 students that sign-up for Project Graduation will be included in a raffle for a \$25 gas gift card presented to 4 students.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Susanne stated that Priority Reports are still being accepted and they will be forwarded to the North Fulton PTA State Council.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Julie Pitman inquired about selling personalized bricks for Northview next year through the Membership Committee. Mr. Zervakos stated that the Booster Club is responsible for this and he will Email the Booster Club to see what the status is on selling bricks. If they are not selling the bricks, this may be a Membership Item for next year. This will be discussed at a later date.

The next PTSA Executive Board Meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 18, 2008 at 7:00 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:03 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nancy Starks  
Recording Secretary