

# Woodward Academy Parents Club Board Meeting Minutes

## Tuesday, February 8, 2011

### Attendees:

### Call to Order and Introductions:

- Haynes Dooley called the meeting to order

### Comments:

Dr. Stewart Gulley, *President*

- Successful Open House at WN
- Anticipating large open house on Main Feb. 13
- Strategic Plan approved by Governing Board
- Will begin the process of presenting Strategic Plan to the entire school community
- Review of US by team of outside observers coming in March
  - Feedback from constituent groups has been solicited
  - Looking for trends, *not* the forum for specific grievances
- PC name change was well received by the Governing Board, thanked Haynes for her presentation

Bob Hawks, *Director of Advancement*

- Apologized for inadvertently scheduling an Alumni event on the same night as the Mardi Gras. A letter has been sent to parents who are also alumni explaining the error and encouraging them to support the Mardi Gras
- Capital Campaign is going well, currently at \$40,000

Mr. McCollum, *Headmaster and Vice President of Academics*

- Congratulated the PS and 6<sup>th</sup> grade Honors Chorus for their performances
- Discussed snow days:
  - New notification plan was implemented and went extremely well
  - Presidents Day holiday and March teacher workday will be make up days
  - Previously scheduled family plans will be excused absences
- US Survey of School Engagement report is in and being examined.
- College Guidance process continuing, six candidates have been invited to interview

Chris Freer, *Vice President for Student Life*

- Student Life groups affected by snow day
  - Hawks Day has been rescheduled
  - Band and Breckenridge trips did depart
- New approach to Community Service going well - A balance of fundraising and service
- Hapeville Tutor program going very well at the US
- Delegation of ten attended Students of Color Conference in California, including Dr. Gulley and four students
- No Place for Hate program in full swing
- Week of Understanding coming up in March

- Exploring options for texting emergency notifications
- All fall sports teams qualified for State competitions
- Winter sports also successful, Spring sports tryouts have begun
- Numerous athletes have signed with colleges including football, soccer, swimming volleyball and tennis
- Intramural sports program participation has increased

### **Approval of minutes**

- Barbara Coats moved that the October 2010 minutes be approved
- Motion was seconded, and the minutes were approved

### **President's Report** – *Haynes Dooley*

- Governing Board enthusiastic about the changes and progress PC has made
- Suzy and Haynes are meeting with each school division principal to explain name change, review the year and discuss future plans
- Presented information from Dean Slider regarding Open House
- Encouraged school officers to contact Chris Freer as a speaker for the spring Parent Meetings
- Last year's Room Parent Packets need to be passed to Suzy ASAP
- The PC will assist with décor at the Honors banquets – Parent Social officers will coordinate with school officers to ensure consistency.

### **Treasurer's Report** – *Pam Johnson*

- Dean Slider feels cautiously optimistic that enrollment will hold steady
- Haynes asked that school divisions anticipate holding budgets to 2010-2011 levels
- Pam asked that each treasurer get in touch to schedule individual meetings before the May Transition meeting
- Called attention to accumulated mail and asked all to pick it up
- Asked all to clear outstanding balances by the end of the week

### **School Reports:**

#### *Woodward North – Nija Myer*

- Two parent Club meetings
  - George Dietz spoke about Terra Nova
  - Jule Satterfield spoke about Transition
- Successful book fair - Raised over \$5000 and children made cards for Our House, the WN community outreach
- Winter Holiday decorations were great success, also decorating for many other holidays throughout the year
- Held Google Docs training for all committee chairs – very successful
- Neighborhood Liaisons worked to promote WA and Open House was two and half times larger than last year!
- 450 attended Italian Night

#### *Primary School – Kathy Asarch*

- Very successful holiday season
  - Catered Teacher Appreciation Luncheon
  - Nancy Gallups, parent and Governing Board member brought gifts for every teacher

- Record year for donations for support staff gifts
- Class parties were great success
- Grandparents Day was success, despite overflow crowd!
- Big Night Out Bowling huge success –over 400 in attendance
- Coming up:
  - Spring Fling
  - Parent Meeting with Chris Freer

Lower School – *Jackie Greene (Tammy Duncan)*

- Successful Teacher Appreciation events
  - Holiday dessert party
  - January Breakfast
- Parent Meeting was held on the same day as the class parties, worked well
- Grandparents Day was success
  - Some issues with RSVP's
  - Coordinated shuttles with PS
- Successful Donuts for Dad
- Coming up:
  - Valentines parties
  - Conference Day TA luncheon
  - Spring Fling
  - 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade Socials

Middle School – *Cathy Hasbrouck*

- Spruced up Holiday décor
- Student treats during exams were huge hit
  - Chic-fil-a biscuits
  - Hot chocolate and cookie break
- TA breakfast and Luncheon events successful
- Helping to publicize Week of Understanding events
- Planning Parent event during the MS Spring Social on April 9th

Upper School – *Betsey Eastman*

- Veterans Day Ribbons were great success
- First Holiday Decorating in eight years was a big hit
- Teacher Appreciation events all successful
- US Hot Chocolate Day huge success
- Blood Drive coming up
- US cleaned out the PC garage
  - Amy Vassey brought boxes of red paper products and encouraged all to take and use!
  - All financial records have been moved out of the garage

**Committee Reports**

Concessions –*Karen Corbin*

- Presented check for \$10,000
- Has leftover popcorn if anyone needs it

#### Consignment Shop – *Terri Taylor*

- Presented check for \$42,000
- Busy rearranging the shop

#### Mentor Program – *Donna Goldberg*

- Had 8 new US students 2<sup>nd</sup> semester, working to welcome them
- Planning underway for 2011-2012 school year, working with school chairs to be ready for spring

#### Parent Programming – *Teresa Berger*

- *Becoming the Greatest Parent You Can Be* with Dr. Earl Suttle, presented three times in January for PS/LS, MS/US and WN
- Coming in Feb/March:
  - *Ending the Homework Battle* with Lyn Gregory, on Main for PS/LS and at WN
  - *Single Parenting & Divorce Dynamics: Getting Kids Through It* on main for MS/US
  - *The Mind of Boys: Raising boys for Success* for all schools, at Presbyterian Church

#### Social Events – *Robbie Roberts*

- Thanked everyone for support helping to promote the Mardi Gras
- Will extend the deadline
- Encouraged everyone to buy tickets *now!*

#### Super Goober Day- *Rochelle Andrews*

No report

#### **New Business**

- Haynes presented proposed revisions to the By-Laws
  - Discussion ensued and suggestions were made
  - Haynes will make the adjustments and email the new revisions to all
  - A vote will be taken at the March meeting
- The Academy's Calendar Day will be held in March.
  - After Spring Break, all school Chairs are asked to meet with their principals to set dates for each school division.
  - Dates and room reservations are due to Lin Pahl as soon as possible
- Nija Meyer presented the Name Change Roll Out Plan
  - Consistent logo and consistent message
  - Rollout will begin March, by early June "Parent Community" will be fully integrated in all Academy publications and communications
    - "teaser" message at Mardi Gras
    - March 14<sup>th</sup>, message out to faculty and Staff
    - Tuesday, March 16<sup>th</sup> Campus Wide Room Parent/GLC meeting
    - March 20<sup>th</sup>, official announcement to entire parent body via email form Dr. Gulley
    - Message will be repeated in all school newsletters
    - Article will be included in Summer issue of Academy magazine

- Website changes will be fully implemented by summer
- New Student events and Mentor Programs will bring new families the message

**Meeting was adjourned at 10:40 am**

Respectfully submitted by

*Jamie Muller for Sandy Cooper*