

Woodward Academy Parents Club Board Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, September 21, 2010

Attendee: Parent Club Board Members
Stuart Gulley
Ron McCollum
Chris Freer
Lin Pahl
Patty Mclver

Call to Order and Introductions:

- Haynes Dooley called the meeting to order

Comments:

Dr. Stewart Gulley, *President*

- Comments given regarding the start of the academic year
 - Board meeting – highlight was approval of new humanities building. Advancement office will begin to develop plans to construct building. Estimated cost is 2 -22 million. WA needs to security 17million before can start construction.
- Emergency preparedness
 - Communication from President's office regarding safety and security preparedness to parents. Has been a focus for a while for office and will communicate Academy's plan of action to WA parents in the near future.

Ron McCollum, *Vice President and Headmaster*

- Have begun visits with new teachers to WA.
- First parent meeting on Thursday with Primary School
 - Will present Academic Report to parents about our curriculum and student performance.
 - Discussion regarding offering additional AP/Honors courses in upper school. Rationale – it will provide greater access to the overall student body. 231 students currently enrolled started with 245. Woodward has the highest AP scores in Atlanta, but the lowest percentage taking AP courses. This is being addressed by Mr. McCollum.
- Will present academic and standardized testing data at all school division Parent Meetings in the fall

Chris Freer, *Vice President for Student Life*

- Reiterated that things are going smoothly. Students are eagerly awaiting Homecoming. Theme is "Super Duper" Homecoming.
- Athletics up and running – Teams are doing well. Provided update for MS and HS teams
- Successful US Leadership Retreat was held last weekend
- Service Learning - the Academy will focus on three outreach organizations:
 - Community Council – faculty members/staff members from across campus that will be sounding board and focus on inclusivity and each division will have their own.
 - Academy Wide Council – 2 Representatives from above plus business office etc. President of Parents Club + SGA. Focus will be overarching.
 - No Place for Hate – Anti Defamation League. "Mix-It" up Luncheon. Challenge students to sit with someone new to get to meet someone new.
- Working on emergency preparedness with College Park Community

Approval of minutes

- Kate Beans moved that the August 2010 minutes be approved
- Motion was seconded and the minutes were approved

Report of the Treasurer – Pam Johnson

- In good shape – Each treasurer has on line access to their accounts
- Outstanding expenses identified
- If you have records from last year please turn them to Barbara and Pam

New Business

Presidents report – *Haynes Dooley*

- President Dooley has been sending out the blasts; Wants everyone to have the same information in order to make knowledgeable board members. Outlined process: School Chairs will forward E-mail blasts to Grade Coordinators for distribution to all school homerooms. Each school chair can add, cut and paste as best suits their school. Parent Club Board Members who also serve as Room Parents or Grade Level Coordinators are asked to wait for the blast from their School Chair before forwarding information.
- Congratulations were given to everyone for bringing in new people to help volunteer. It is a major focus and we are succeeding.
- Marta Shuttle – is extended for home football game this Friday. US can ride but MS, LS and Primary must have parent supervision. Tailgate party – Advancement office on parade field this Friday.
- Vendor resource list passed out. If you would like to add someone to list see President Dooley.
- Renaming of Parents Club:
 - Alliance was top vote getter however people not enthusiastic.
 - Dooley provided history and popular names for other independent schools
 - WAP for Woodward Academy Parents
 - WAAP for Woodward Academy Association of Parents
 - WAPA for Woodward Academy Parents Association
 - Parent Community
 - Parents of War Eagles
 - Woodward Academy Parents Association (No Acronym)
 - Motion carries to table discussion
- Contract Execution: 5k or more – Dooley must sign. Must know about all contracts that are being signed. Any contract and you are collecting money – she must know about all contracts.

School Reports:

Woodward North – *Nija Myer*

- Have held two WN Parent Orientation nights – one for PreK-3rd Grade and another for 4th -6th grade. WN Parents Club focal points (greater accessibility, consistency of experience, and paperless transition) with parent body. Approximately 125 Parents attended the event.
- 100% volunteer coverage for all classroom and grade-wide parties throughout the year.
- Over 100 parents plan to attend next Parents Club meeting to be held on September 29th. Mr. McCollum is the speaker.
- Reviewed upcoming school events

Primary School – *Kathy Asarch*

- PS Tailgate held on August 27th
- September 1st and 2nd were Grade Level Lunches held at the Feed Store. Attendance was great per grade group. Dale Welch from WA Advancement office attended to discuss the GOAL program; Nancy Gallups, attended to speak about the WA Annual Fund.
- Parent/Administration meeting with Ron McCollum scheduled for Thursday, September 23rd.
- Upcoming events include Internet Safety Week, SGD (always a hit with the PS kids), Red Ribbon Week and our 1st Teacher Appreciation Luncheon hosted by 3rd grade.

Lower School – *Jackie Greene (Tammy Duncan)*

- We had our Room Parent meeting on Aug. 25th (great attendance)
- Cotillion Meeting on Sept. 15th (it will be up and running for the winter)
- Upcoming Events:
 - 6th Grade Teacher Appreciation Luncheon on Sept. 22nd (tailgate theme)
 - Football Extravaganza Oct. 13th
 - Book Fair Begins Oct. 15th - 22nd
 - Tailgate on Oct. 22nd catered by O.B.s :)
 - Halloween parties Oct. 29th

Middle School – *Cathy Hasbrouck*

- Successful New Student events and New Parent Coffee
- First teacher appreciation luncheon last week. Huge success. Gift cards given to faculty as door prizes
- MS teams played St. Pius; Free Pizza and Soda given to parents and students. Sold to siblings etc. Good Community building day. Very well organized and event went well.

- New Parent Coffee held. Event went very well.
- New event – “Family Tailgate Party” in conjunction with Football Game. Event held on October 8th. 5:30 – 7pm at Old Student Lounge. Colquitt Lounge. Checks are being taken. Signage put up around campus. MS instead of a fall dance will do a fall fling – students will stay on campus and participate in games etc. and then go to barbeque for the family event. Hopeful for a large turnout.
- Teacher Appreciation Luncheon 10/27 – All Teacher Birthday Luncheon

Upper School – *Betsey Eastman (Delee Sutherland)*

- Should have received two notices from room parents
- College Day a huge success. Amy and Kate Beans and Julie given kudos
- 225 Colleges. WA student’s early entry worked great. Students represented WA very well.
- Homecoming festivities – Saturday dance; Friday night football game; Pizza party afterwards.
- Blood Drive
- Increased level of participation with new volunteers for upper school event. Parent volunteers are increasing.
- 50% of parents were from website. – President Dooley stated to keep reminding people to go to web to volunteer.

Committee Reports

Mentor Program – *Donna Goldberg*

- In the process of developing evaluations to assess the effectiveness of the Mentor Program
- Starting to develop timeline for 2011-2012 Mentor Program
- Donna thanked all school officers for their help

Super Goober Day- *Rochelle Andrews*

- Plans are well underway to execute SGD
- Bundle idea went over great
- New for 2010 special t-shirt and special activities sold well
- Volunteer reminders sent out via email
- Rain date 10/22/10

Parent Social Events – *Robbie Roberts*

- Plan are well underway for regional picnics

Parent Programming – *Teresa Berger*

- Thank you for all of the information that has gone out and for the strong support in terms of communication. We have been at just about all of the mentor meetings, coffees, and registrations. Our liaisons in each of the schools have been very active in putting the word out. Please use them to facilitate the communication at any event that will be going on at your individual school. We have had approximately 350 people sign up for reminders and about 50 more for book clubs in addition to last year’s participants.
- First event 9/14 96 parents attended
- Next event 10/5 and 1/6 internet safety
- Oct. 13th Mother/Daughter event – please help get the word out. Small fee for this event.
- Whole foods 10/24 and 10/25
- November 16 - Inclusivity event with Bullying panel discussion

Consignment Shop – *Vicki Hueber*

- Things are moving smoothly
- Could use additional volunteers
- Co-manager, Teri Taylor’s daughter, is recovering well from car accident.
- Thank you for your support

Concessions - *Karen Corbin*

- Things are running smoothly.

Online Payments for Various Parents Club Events: Lin Pahl met with IT regarding online payment options for various Parent Club events. It was decided that only events such as Super Goober Day and the Academy Wide Social Event, which involve large sums of money, would be able to use an online payment option.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:40 am

Respectfully submitted by Sandi Peterson-Cooper