

**Lab School Parents' Association
Board Meeting Minutes, January 12, 2015**

I. Meeting called to order by PA President Cheryl Rudbeck

II. Secretary's Report - Lisa Curci

A. Minutes from November 3, 2014, PA Board meeting - Noted minutes previously emailed for review and vote was sought for approval. Thomas Gaulkin, Communications Coordinator, noted he had not seen the minutes and would like to review. Members gave approval on all but Communications discussion.

1.) Changes were subsequently made and approved by Thomas Gaulkin to the Communications section of the November minutes; minutes have been posted to the PA website.

III. Treasurer's Report, Sari Weichbrodt

A. \$67,066 in PA dues collected to date for school year. This is higher than anticipated.

B. The PA is budgeted to spend \$123,000 but take in \$93,000 for this year.

C. Brent LaRowe has been helpful in analyzing PA dues with various scenarios

1. An increase per family from \$50 to \$75 would bring in \$89,000 based on current enrollment; with increases in enrollment, this would estimate to \$93,000

2. Considering \$75, \$80, \$100; at \$100 level, dues would bring in \$119,000 now and ultimately \$125,000 with expanded enrollment.

3. Another option is billing per child; @\$40 per student, dues would total \$75,000 now and \$84,000 at end of expansion; a graduated dues scale may be the way to go with \$50 for first child for example and then less for each subsequent child; this could be problematic per many families, however

D. Discussion of how to let people know about increase in dues. Do we just have the registrar's office bill or do we inform families?

E. Sari will send the numbers out and we will vote in March

F. Latin - It was noted that there are no known fees at high school level but just lower level schools - parent at meeting looked up on Latin's website

G. High school graduation cost discussion -

1. University has just agreed to pay for tent this year and going forward.

a. Debra Beinstein wrote a letter to HS principal Scott Fech who "really went to bat" by taking the issue to school administration. This will remain a permanent scenario with the reception a school cost responsibility

2. Once construction complete on Arts Hall, the HS graduation reception will be hosted there going forward.

3. It was noted that Gordon Hall can only hold 150 people.

IV. Communications Coordinator, Thomas Gaulkin

A. Dropbox - Thomas reported that Cheryl asked Thomas to look into Dropbox and other file storage given issues that the PA has been having with deleted documents in its existing Dropbox account

1.) Thomas reviewed many and found Dropbox to be the easiest option.

2.) Thinks the PA's issues with deleted files just may be due to members accidentally

deleting files; by switching to a Pro Account within Dropbox, the PA can control the account options a bit more and will be able to store videos.

3.) In order to prevent accidental deletion of files, Thomas recommends that the PA might want to come up with basic protocol on using Dropbox folders.

B. New PA Website - committee meeting soon to refine what it wants on website; a preliminary site will be made available soon for members to review

V. High School ("HS") Council

A. End of semester party for students - was successful; seniors had pizza party; others had snacks and skating on Midway. Held the Thursday before break but unfortunately, many students still had school obligations. Seniors had huge turnout with more than 40 students plus some alums attending; Underclassmen had another 60 students. This is a new tradition that started last year. Council trying to get message to students and parent community that if you want to build camaraderie, you have to show up to events.

B. Booster Program - Council hosted a successful event Thursday, January 8, with 12 parents attending. Purpose was to start a booster program. Attendees were coming up with plans. There will be follow up meetings.

VI. Middle School ("MS") Council

No members were able to attend

VII. Lower School ("LS") Council

A. Just had principal meeting

B. Planning "Fan Days" - kids make signs, attend games and rally around teams. Event planned on January 30 when 8th grade boys basketball will play Parker. Another event planned for early February when 8th grade girls will play Catherine Cook.

C. Skating Day - to be planned for end of February

D. Sledding Day - being organized, also a fundraiser for sleds as LS in need of sleds. Existing sleds were purchased a long time ago (24 years ago); when Earl Shapiro Hall was built, most sleds went there.

E. Teacher Grants - Second round being offered as funds still exist; deadlines for submitting grant requests remain the same.

VIII. Earl Shapiro Hall ("ESH") Council

A. Coffee with principals and Robin - just occurred, was very successful and informal; Robin made a brief comment; another one planned for February but noticed original date had a conflict so will need to reschedule

B. Halloween costume swap in November - very successful event; wasn't formal just in ESH newsletter. Received a lot of costumes and there were a lot of exchanges made; many teachers took the leftovers.

1.) Monica Hughson has recommendations from organizing the event and heard the Lower School will be organizing an exchange next year; she noted it wasn't too much work

2.) Costumes were collected over a 2 day period and on the third day people swapped. Probably would recommend collecting a week prior with 2 or 3 days of swapping.

3.) Noted that parent Lauren Polite organized an exchange years ago and over a longer

period of time prior to Halloween, with remaining items donated

C. Grants - Still working on grants. With changes in rules, the process has been a bit more challenging this year

D. Cold weather - Because so many staff necessary in cold weather for working the drop off line, council is trying to think of way to thank them. Drop off line has been longer; staff works in shifts.

1.) Suggestions made by attendees - provide coffee/ hot chocolate/thank you cards/ provide a list of those people that help so they can be recognized with a thank you/have kids write thank you notes to the teachers and staff/ provide hand warmers and foot warmers

IX. MLK Community Service Day

A. Tina Louie noted that 142 Lab community members signed up to help with the University wide community service opportunity on Saturday, January 18. Others have signed up to help organize on Friday; those who did will be contacted by Hannah Evans from Lab

1.) This is a university organized event that Lab jumped in on. The university is expecting 300 people so over 400 people in total.

2.) The event theme is generations

3.) A bus will take people to events and afterwards back to the university for lunch and presentation

4.) An email will be sent on service placement

Announcements, PA President, Cheryl Rudbeck

A. Next PA meeting is part of speaker series; on Wednesday, February 4th,

1. William Deresiewicz, author of Excellent Sheep: The Miseducation of the Elite and the Way to a Meaningful Life. In conjunction with this speaker series, the parent book club will be discussing this book on Monday, March 2, 8:45 AM room 204. (Books, \$20, are being sold by the PA and the Learning and Counseling Offices).

B. Next PA board meeting Monday March 2

C. Q&A

1.) Main campus building - attendee asked when does school close for evening as her child was locked out after event. Cheryl will talk to faculty about doors.

2.) Carline for MS drop off - Mariana Ingersoll received a call from a parent about other parents blocking drop off line. School wants parents to complain to each other to resolve the issue. Attendees believe that drop off line limits need to be more defined, maybe signage would be helpful. Cheryl will look into.

3.) Connections and student participation - Laura Lichter asked about update on student programming at Connections. It was noted that a Connections meeting was being held that week.

D. Meeting Adjourned

Minutes submitted by Lisa Curci

PA Meeting Attendance 1/12/15

Sara Skelly

Monica Hughson

Andee Staley

Mariana Fitzgerald

Neetu Sharma

LAURA LICHTER

Debra Beinstein

Claudia Roeder-Leuz

Lera Jessen

Jari Weickbrodt

-Tinae Louie

Cheryl Rudbeck

Safi Runespa

Shrunali Rai

Fuad Zamil

THOMAS GAUCKIN

Lisa Cui