

University of Chicago Laboratory Schools  
Parents Association Meeting

June 9, 2014

Lynn Sasamoto opened meeting at 7:05 pm.

She asked Lisa Curci to announce results of the vote on bylaw changes. Two people requested ballots. The tally will be announced before the end of the meeting.

Kemi Alausa asked for any check requests so that any paperwork can be completed by the end of the month. Please send her an email. She would like to close the books by end of June and turn over things/budgets to Sari Weichbrodt who will become Treasurer on July 1, 2014.

Mariana Ingersoll had invited Lee Hart and Patty Perea to make a little presentation of High Jump, which has a site at Lab. The High Jump staff and students consider themselves members of the Lab School community. Patty Perea is campus director of High Jump. She is in her office in Judd two times per week and during the summer. High Jump is an academic enrichment program for students in middle grades. They search the city of Chicago for young people in 6<sup>th</sup> grade performing in top 30% range who are motivated, eager students and whose families don't have means to accelerate that learning. Their mission is to help students succeed in rigorous high schools. The question always comes up: wouldn't these kids do well anyway? High Jump seeks students in the lowest quartile of socioeconomic status and who are performing among the top 25% in their schools. Typically, only 16% of these students attend selective colleges. We don't know if these kids would do well without High Jump. High Jump has 3 sites: Lab, Latin and Parker all of which provide facilities as partner schools. They are aspirational places. They provide in kind support by providing space, office equipment, etc. Students have an additional third of a year of school when they attend High Jump, by meeting on Saturdays as well as during summer months. High Jump has more students interested and eligible for the program than can be served. They are starting the process to increase their visibility and their ability to attract students from the south side. They are moving to the point that they are able to serve 120 students, including 60 rising 7<sup>th</sup> graders and 60 6<sup>th</sup> graders for a total of 450 instructional hours.

Patty spoke a few minutes. They are also hosting High Jump wide picnic on the Midway. Last year, they began working with collegiate scholars. On Friday afternoons, University of Chicago scholars worked afternoons to take a look at parts of the University community. They do a lot of handing off to alumni, help with finding college scholarships. They are recruiting 180 students per year. They will serve 300 this year.

Lynn then went on to talk about status of vacant and unfilled positions on the PA Board.

As for PA President Elect(s), Safi Ranesha and Sari Weibrodt have agreed to take the PA leadership. They will not step up until a year from now. Sari and Safi will shadow Cheryl unofficially. Their appointment can't happen until June 2015 because Sari will be Treasurer as of July 1 and cannot hold a concurrent position. Patty Jones will be Communications-Elect. Thomas agreed to stay on as

Communications Coordinator another year. Thomas was unanimously approved for 2 years as Communications- Elect. That leaves one Middle School council position for a one year term to replace Cheryl Whitaker. Karen Schweikart was unanimously approved at the meeting for that position.

Lisa Curci reported that the proposed changes to the Bylaws were passed 99 v. 0.

Thomas reported on Communications. As Communications-Elect, he was primarily in charge of e-news. This year he created forms through Wufoo, all submissions can go in there and other information is on the PA webpage. It is a bigger, more informative site with activities of the PA on the webpage. Thomas also recorded the Speaker Series and some other meetings. He'd like to continue to do more with that and do some editing. Thomas was also involved in Lab's technology committee to help assess the needs of students, parents, teachers and administrators. He thinks the PA is in a position to take seriously some of the communications issues that parents and others have been worried about, such as those related to usefulness of the UCLS website and email from school, and continue to build and enhance the relationship between the PA and the Schools. Thomas hopes to enable Board Members to communicate more directly as well. He sees more opportunities through these media for the PA Board to be more visible to the Lab community.

After Thomas' report, introductions of new members along with current members were made: in addition to Lynn Sasamoto and Tracy Coe (outgoing Co-Presidents), Kemi Alausa (outgoing Treasurer), Lisa Curci (Incoming Secretary), and Thomas Gaulkin (Communications Coordinator). Also present were Cheryl Rudbeck (Incoming President), Sari Weichbrodt (Incoming Treasurer), Susan Ataman (outgoing Secretary), Matthew Miller (Treasurer-Elect) and Mariana Ingersoll (Secretary-Elect).

Also present were various Council members.

Earl Shapiro Hall Council Members: Shrunali Rai, Monica Hughson, Katie Williams, Makeda Johnson-Brooks, Sara Skelly, Triste Liteau Smith

Lower School Council Members: Tina Louie, Claudia Roeder-Luez, Tracy Quinn, Makeda Johnson-Brooks, Cindy Marchessault, Audris Wong

Middle School Council Members: Cindy Pietraszek, Nikki Gupta, Mariana Ingersoll, Safi Runesha

High School Council Members: Debra Weiner, Neetu Sharma, Nila Barnes, Debra Beinstein, Laura Lichter

Debra Beinstein announced that volunteers are needed for High School graduation between 10-2 pm Thursday. Three to five are needed to shepherd people from the ceremony to the tent; some will be handing out beverages. Contact Debra Beinstein if interested.

On Wednesday, June 11, a school-wide farewell to Dave Magill will be held from 3:15 – 5:00 pm. Cake and lemonade will be served. It will be very casual with an unknown turnout.

The MBS Book buyback will be taking place over the next several days. Any parents who may want to take advantage of getting first dibs on books should consider volunteering. It will take place in UHI 215 from Tuesday through Friday this week.

Lynn reminded everyone about the PA Drop box where all kinds of documents are uploaded. If you need access, contact Barb Kern. Let Barb know if you want to go on. Current members have until July 15 to update and upload documents. New members will be invited.

Finally, the lime green and orange volunteer tee shirts used by PA members need to be returned in either Judd or the ESH PA office.

Chery announced that a retreat will take place sometime in July. She will provide options for dates by this coming Monday.

Thanks to Lynn and Tracy and thanks to all those leaving.

Adjourned 8:05 pm.

Susan Ataman  
Secretary