

Next Board Meeting: Tuesday, June 12, 2007 7:30 pm Location TBA



**Whitman Middle School PTSA Board Meeting
May 8, 2007 Whitman Middle School Library 7:30 pm**

Proper notice was given to all members of the Board of Directors. Present: Sue Eriksen, Torii Guettler, Chris Gustafson, Leanne Hawkins, Will Jackson, Robert Kogane, Merily McGrath, Julie McNalley, Patty Ohlenroth, BJ Ohlweiler, Michelle Plants, John Ransom, Sue Rauda. Quorum established. Guests: Blythe Asmann, Dianna Lynn King, Sharon Loveland, Amy Lowe, Mary Oakland.

Meeting Call to Order/Housekeeping Co-President Julie McNalley called the meeting to order at 7:35 pm.

Approve Board Meeting Minutes Volunteer Coordinator Patty Ohlenroth moved to approve the April 3, 2007 Board minutes as presented. The motion was seconded and passed.

Treasurer's Report/2007-08 Budget/ASB vs. PTSA Funds Treasurer Torii Guettler announced an additional \$17,000+ has been disbursed since April 30. The School Dances line item is over by about \$500. Regarding Liabilities & Equity on the Balance Sheet, the "Net Classroom Fund" refers to old TLC (Teaching & Learning Curriculum) funds she hopes will zero out soon.

Torii highlighted proposed changes in next year's Budget: addition of *Postage* to pay for bulk mail/AGC mailings/advertising; yearly fees under *Mail Box & Postage Permit*; increased funds for *Workshops & Conferences*; new *Technology* category; *Building Improvement* is now an umbrella category for, e.g., gardening and painting; the new name for Safety is *Emergency Preparedness*. Two new fundraisers for next year are an off-site Parent Dance Event in winter and all-school Cat Tracks in spring. One suggestion was to put AGC back in front of the pertinent items. Vice President – Fundraising Sue Eriksen moved:

"to approve the 2007-2008 Budget as presented."

The motion was seconded and passed. The proposed Budget will be presented to the general membership for discussion and approval during the May 30 meeting.

New Business

8th Grade Promotion Update/ Field Day? World Languages Teacher Blythe Asmann (and next year's ASB advisor) presented a proposal for adding Field Day events from 10:30 am – 12:30 pm for 8th graders on Thursday, June 21. So far the ASB has declined to fund any activities. After discussion of both Field Day activities options and funding choices, the Board's preference was that the 8th grade team try to implement Field Day, rent three inflatables, and charge \$2 for every hamburger/veggie burger meal. Building Leadership Representative Michelle Plants moved:

"that the PTSA will pay up to \$1174 for 8th grade Field Day. Principal Kogane will ask ASB for funding, as well."

The motion was seconded and approved.

Building Improvement Update Sharon Loveland and Amy Lowe shared visions and color chips for improving signage, way-finding, and school aesthetics by the beginning of the next school year. Two work parties have already been held, with more to be scheduled, including during the summer. About \$900 will be spent this school year on the improvements.

Website Improvement Michelle meets with the web committee on Friday and will work with the vendor to finalize the contract soon. The website design will be similar to that of Loyal Heights Elementary. She asked people to contact her with ideas for web content before Friday.

6th Grade Camp Michelle has researched 6th grade camp options, but notes that teacher Sue Anne Kauffman has more information. This year's 6th graders aren't going to a camp because no teachers were able to commit the extra time and effort needed to make camp a reality. Next year's Principal, Mike Starosky, is adamant that anything occurring under the school's aegis must both affect all students and have educational content and purpose. He has expressed interest in hosting some sort of teambuilding exercise for either next year's 6th graders or the entire school.

Volunteer Update Patty conveyed information from both Lisa Turner, coordinator of the 5th Grade BBQ, as well as questions from Christy Higgins, in charge of 8th Grade Promotion.

Staff Appreciation In honor of Teacher Appreciation Week, Co-President Will Jackson reported that the faculty lounge has been cleaned and decorated; coffee and scones will be brought in for breakfast on May 9; teachers will be treated to smoothies on May 11; students are writing notes of appreciation which will be wrapped around candy bars and delivered to teachers.

Plan for May 30 Meeting Patty is working on a list of this year's volunteers so the Board may have a chance to invite all of them to the last general meeting of the year, a celebration of the work of volunteers and our chance to vote in a new Board for next year. The Board believed that having Mike Starosky speak would draw many parents to the meeting, as well.

New Business Secretary Leanne Hawkins noted that adding "With permission to the Board to reallocate" to next year's proposed Budget allows the Board more leeway to judiciously move funds among line items when needed.

Responding to Sue Eriksen's query, Mr. Kogane announced that Melissa Schweitzer has been hired as a new Assistant Principal.

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 pm.

Leanne Hawkins
Whitman PTSA Secretary

Handouts at meeting 5/8/2007

Whitman Middle School PTSA Board Meeting Agenda May 8, 2007
Whitman Middle School PTSA Board Meeting Minutes April 3, 2007
Whitman Middle School PTSA Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual July 2006 –April 2007
Whitman Middle School PTSA Balance Sheet as of April 30, 2007
Whitman Middle School PTSA Profit & Loss Budget Overview July 2007 through June 2008