

Minutes for
Tappan Zee High School PTSA
Executive Committee Meeting - Co-President T. Bakker's Home
January 31, 2011

1. Scholarship

- Question for essay - Committee to review question, perhaps change.
- Letters - Donation Letter / Senior Letter & application to be send out early March
- Committee - Need to find one or two new volunteers because committee is aging up.
- Possibility of contributing On-line? Pay Pal? (SOCES pays dues on-line, can we find out how they do that?)
- Fundraising -
 - Have a bucket at events (i.e., Dance Festivals, etc)
 - Dinner Nights at restaurants: Maybe multiple restaurants on the same night? Preferably on a night there is no school the next day.
Zapatatas? Mary to look into
Del Arte? Connie to look into
76 House?
Chili's?
 - Sports Place: Have kids (maybe HS athletes) help run an event, guarantee a minimum
 - Sell water at events

• **Founders Day - February 16**

- Candidates - Chris Rastelli (SEPTA); Sheila Chin (SOCES); Beth Dougherty (SOMS) and Barbara Noyes (TZHS)
- Updates - Getting Gift Certificates for raffles. Amy & Connie putting together basket.

2. Substance Abuse Committee

South Orangetown asked if TZHS wants a parent member on the committee. Meeting are once a month.

3. 8th Grade Orientation

- Wednesday at 7pm. Cookies, & Coffee/Tea. Need a sign that TZHS donated refreshments
- Bring a bucket for Scholarship donations.

4. Membership

- 285 total. 56 Staff. Need to notify members that if they want their official card they need to come to the monthly meeting and get it from membership chairperson at the meeting.

5. **Project Graduation**

- Committee has letters being printed. Laura Neuendorf to inquire ifBOCES students can stuff envelopes. Mailing to go out as soon as letters are prepared.
- 2nd student meeting scheduled for Feb 3rd to discuss survey; 135 responses; entertainment; T-shirts to give out; Kick-Off Art & program contest (25-30 entries)
- Sub Committees: Food - chair Trish Bakker. Send letter to past donors, start in May. Roseanne going to coordinate volunteers. Remember to label food in fridge.
- Volunteer Pool is "Senior Heavy". Need Freshman & sophomore par~nts).
- Committee on target with volunteers and committee tasks.

6. **Reflections**

- Two entries advancing to states
- HS ceremony 2/3/11 @ 2:30pm

7. **Principal Meeting**

- Applied music. Can earn an AP credit if student takes music lessons outside of school. Must fill out paperwork in October and submit to Mr. Hughes for approval.
- Peer Leadership. How are students chosen? Approx. 30 students each year.
 - a) Need to apply
 - b) Have an interview - (advisors O'Brien / McMane)
 - c) Done by Peer & teacher recommendations
 - d) Need to re-apply
 - e) Need to commit to ALL training days in summer. (No exceptions)

Executive committee commented how selection process would seem more fair if there was a concrete rubric to follow and rate each applicant equally.

8. **Calendar for 11-12 school year**

- Calendar currently in draft form. Going for approval at next board meeting. Discussion on problems with the calendar.
 - Issue for working parents.
 - Instructional time is disrupted with $\frac{1}{2}$ day "Supt. Conference days". Students "tune-out". Teachers often don't teach new material because of so many students out.
 - Continuity of lessons interrupted.
 - Creates too many broken weeks. Only 20 FULL weeks out of 42 weeks of school, not including weeks broken up for weather closures.
 - Encourages increased absenteeism. Can we get statistics for absenteeism on $\frac{1}{2}$ days.
 - Teachers resort to showing "educational" movies.
 - $\frac{1}{2}$ Supt conference days don't promote Staff development between schools. Therefore articulation between grades is done on a different day DURING school days and then subs have to be called (and paid for). In addition to Special Ed having their own supt. Conf day and requiring subs.
 - Laura Neuendorf to draft letter of opposition to send to board of ed.

Speaker: ~oping with depression rescheduled for March 29th.

Next Meeting: Monday, February 28,2011