

Minutes for
Tappan Zee High School PTSA Meeting
TZHS Library Mills 1@1b

No v. IL/~Av

1. Call to Order -

Mary Paul called the meeting to order at 7:11 pm

2. Principal's Report

Principal Amos shared the results of the AP and Regents class tests results for 2010-11 school year in a PowerPoint presentation together with a handout with the respective results in more detail. Amos reported that more students are taking AP classes than 2 years ago, and in 2010-2011 68% of those taking the AP exams (it is not a requirement that a student take the AP exam) scored a level 3 or above. There was not accounting of how many students scored 4s, but it was requested that in future reports the scores be broken down so that there is a more accurate reporting. According to Ms. Amos we are not comparing our Regents scores to districts with a similar demographic.

Ms. Amos was asked to report on the success of the Pre-Algebra class, now in its third year, since the 9th grade Algebra Regent scores were dismally low at 9% passing (65% was the passing score). Sixty-four percent of Special Ed students who took the Earth Science exam scored 65% or higher.

A PTA Student member asked why the laptops in the library weren't more readily available for students to use while in the library cubbies.

A parent asked why grades aren't posted throughout the quarter in PowerSchool? Are teachers required to post the grades by a certain day because some aren't posting until the 5th week, which gives a parent little notice if the student is having difficulty or failing the class. What is the process required to notify a parent that their child is in danger of failing BEFORE the end of the quarter?

A discussion ensued regarding the process by which the high school plays are selected. Principal Amos reported that she approves the selection, in the class of the spring musical, "Sweet Charity," she read the script provided by Mr. Clinton and she is confident that is the script that will be followed.

A discussion ensued regarding the "Open Enrollment" policy in SOCSO, and that there is no enforcement of the course catalogue requirement that a student maintain an 85% or better to stay in an AP or Honors course. Why can't we schedule a Regents level class at the same time as the AP/Honors class so a student can be moved down to Regents if s/he is not being successful.

The question was asked by the high school can't do a night for parents and students to learn about all of the programs offered at the high school, including the requirements and curriculum: BOCES, Credit for Music Lessons, Credit for Community Service, College Credit, Dual Enrollment, etc. The comment was made that these are all programs that many involved parents are unaware of.

3. Assistant Principal

- Parent Portal open 11115
- Board of Ed meeting at 6pm - SOMS/CL presenting.
- No in-school Thanksgiving concert this year. Too much time away from instructional learning.
- Friday, December 9th is Superintendent's conference day.

- HS to be part of a "Table Top Safety Drill" on Thursday, 11/17. Faculty only. To train on how to respond to emergencies. Especially important because current 9th & 10th graders have had emergencies (at SOMS) and are "skittish" about how emergencies are handled.
- "Leadership Teams" K-12 meet 4 times every year. These teams should be starting to meet soon.
- Today was the first district-wide Character Ed meeting. Reps from all buildings attended (Aps, Psychs, principals, etc. Building on common programs from building to building within the district.

4. Treasurer's Report

Budget presented. Profited \$702 on Candle fundraiser
 Balance: \$9,200.
 Scholarship balance: \$620.

5. Approval of Minutes

Minutes: Discussed that Child bullied during soccer needs to be added to the minutes.
 Discussion ensued regarding coaches supervision in locker room, and captains responsibility to report bullying, and/or any incidents to coaches/faculty/administration.
 Minutes approved: Motion: Mary Paul, Seconded: Elayne Armanianco.

6. President's Report

- Clothing Drive: Tues: 2300 lbs = \$345. Wed:? not sure total yet.
 Was a convenient, simple and easy fundraiser. Coat drive committee a little upset because it was so close to their event.
- Tallman State Park would like community to know that they have Mini-Golf on premises now.
- Transportation: All reviewed. Safety issues being addressed.
- Membership: 191 members. (62 are staff, which is 1/3 of members) Yea to staff!
 We need to implement the "Touch your 5" program again to encourage friends to join TZHS PTSA.
 Every member needs to get 5 new people to join.
- PTA Council: Discussed Taxcap and implications.
- Project Grad - 1st meeting was today 11/17.
- Scholarship: Need to get committee rolling. Transfer of procedure manuals and establish first meeting.
- BLT: Nov 10th was 2nd meeting of the year. The first meeting was spent setting up ground rules.
 Picking a topic to adopt and try to accomplish by the end of the year.
- Founder's Day: Not doing multiple raffles this year. Simply having 3 baskets, one donated from each unit. Nominations on-line or download paper and submit by Dec. 9th.
- Curriculum Council: Appears to have become an extension of BLT. All topics have to go thru BLT before being brought to Curriculum Council. Why?
 Discussion:
 1. 9th Grade honors: why is this the only honors class that has to be tested into?
 2. Why is it called "advanced" and not "honors"?
 3. Why is there not an honors Chemistry?
 4. Curriculum Guide should be consistent with names. (i.e., Regents (class name), or AP (class name), etc.

Adjourn: Motion: Mary Paul. Seconded: Amy Appell.

Next meeting: December 5, 2011 ,