



## Westlake High School

### General PTO Meeting

February 19, 2016

#### Minutes

- A. **Call Meeting to Order**—Reesa Thorne called meeting to order at 12:02pm.
- B. **Approval of January 2016 Minutes**— Karen Meyer made a motion to approve minutes. Debbie Preston 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Minutes approved as posted on the WHS PTO website for January 2016 meeting.
- C. **Student Council Report**- Gloria Su  
They have a goal of 200 student council members. Many events coming up:
- Matchmaker Sales helped SC donate \$1,000 to Project Graduation
  - Making a donation to Lifeworks- clothing drive for teenagers ends February 29.
  - Quiddich tournament is being planned
  - Elections right now. New officers will be announced by Spring Break
  - Crayon Drive for Special needs students begins next month. Drop off is in the StuCo room and the library
  - Art pieces are being donated to a retirement home
  - Pep Rally- Student Council is organizing the Spring Pep Rally
  - More details about everything is on their website <http://westlakestuco.com/>
- D. **Department Chair Report**
- I. English- Becky Stucky
- Freshman on level and Pre AP began Romeo and Juliet this week.
  - Sophomores are working on Distopia novels- Brave New World, 1984 and Fahrenheit 415
  - Freshman and Sophomores are practicing STAAR testing. Just finished benchmark testing and scoring.
  - Juniors- learning about Vietnam. AP is creating vietnam presentations of people who died from Oklahoma. A veteran came into town for an interview with a student. End of March, these presentations will be up on the English department website. <http://virtualvietnam.eanesisd.net/>
  - Seniors- AP is working on Shakespeare's Hamlet. On level is reading the Last Lecture.
  - Curriculum changes ahead- New class, AP Capstone Class, is a 2 year research class. Good for college prep and is approved by the college board. This class is for self motivated students as there is lots of research to do on their own. There is a group research project, an individual research project and a test. Teachers will be trained on grading for this class.

- Final Draft publication needs funding and is working to raise some and seek allocation from PTO.

#### **E. WHS Principal's Report—Michael McKelvey and Donna Jackson**

- Working on preparing the master schedule- a very lengthy process.
- Various sports tournaments are coming up. Softball and Tennis are today.
- Spring is always busier than the Fall.
- Email for parents will be coming out soon about schedule changes.
- Wrestling is competing for state.
- Swimming is doing very well.
- Basketball starts playoffs
- Band contest this weekend
- Battle of the Bands is coming up
- Chap Relays are tomorrow
- Baseball starts next week
- Travis County Sheriff was out last week asking parents not to park on Westbank drive during pick up hours.
- 15 buses run every afternoon
- Master Schedule items- for sophomores that did not elect to take History and will be taking it in the summer: This distance learning is effecting their academic journey, and counselors warned that distance learning can be difficult for some teens. US History AP has a reputation for being difficult. The curriculum was rewritten last year. Many students are opting to take it off campus. Mr. McKelvey recommends taking it at Westlake as the AP test is easier to pass. EOC is in December, so taking the class in the summer makes it difficult for students to retain the information.
- The NAMI presentation on Mental illness went very well. Healthy Chaps blog uploaded the video <http://whs.eanesisd.net/home/healthy-chaps>
- Parking- They are rolling out a plan soon. In April, 2016 next years seniors will sign up. May 1st, current Juniors will get the opportunity to sign up. No parking for sophomores next year.
- March meeting was cancelled

#### **F. Counseling office- Heidi Sauer**

- Course selection- urgent to send changes now through an email.
- AP test registration is open through March 20. Late charges start March 12. If students take the AP test, they will be exempt from their final. (in addition to the 2 exemptions they already receive.)
- PSAT10 is next week. The test is 3 hours long. It will take 2 months to get the scores back. The test is new this year and no prep work is necessary.
- March 16, the new SAT starts.

G. **Treasurer's Report** – Karen Meyer: see attached.

H. **PTO President's Report**- Reesa Thorne/ Liza Richardson:

- Allocations are in progress and will be reported in the April meeting.
- Concessions have been very very busy. Reesa and Liza have stepped up in Cami's absence.
- No Hassle is still open for donations.
- Volunteering- the library continues to need help.
- Project Graduation is moving along. Student Council donated \$1,000. The Mattress fundraiser added \$2,550 to the cause. 268 students registered at the early bird price. Looking for temporary fencing. Sign up to volunteer.
- Communications- PTO website is changing. Will be ready at the end of the school year (actual target is Spring Break if all goes well) Follow us on Facebook- we currently have 275 followers. Debbie Preston is currently putting together the March 1 Chap Connections. Deadline for input is 4 days before.

I. **Club Reports:**

- **no club reports at this time**

**Meeting was adjourned at 1:04 p.m.**