



PTC President's Meeting

April 21, 2010

Minutes (High School PTOs)

Meeting began at 7:10 pm.

Two high schools were represented by their PTO presidents (Stamford High and AITE).

Information from downtown and the PT Council

The possibility of cuts coming to the Board of Education's proposed 2010/11 budget from the Board of Representatives was discussed. The BoR fiscal committee will vote on Wednesday, April 28. PTC Presidents Wendy Lecker and Cindy Grafstein are on top of this and will send out emails advising if we need to contact BoR members to support the budget as is.

If the budget is cut the BoE will have to allocate those cuts. Speakers are welcome to come to the June BoE meeting and voice their opinion about which areas should be left alone, and make suggestions on where money can be taken out. It is better to offer solutions than just to say don't make cuts – it is not the BoE who elected to take more funds away from our schools.

Our next PT Council meeting is May 19th at 7:30pm. Currently PTC is working on selecting scholarship winners. Applications have been emailed to all high school guidance counselors. Deadline is June 2. PTC is also putting together our Board for next year. Anyone who would like to nominate someone (or themselves) should contact any board member (see website StamfordPTCouncil.org).

CCJEF (the CT Coalition for Justice in Education Funding) plans on holding a forum with Stamford's Board of Finance and Board of Representative members to discuss ECS funding. PT Council has been asked to be a co-sponsor, along with SPEF, and SEA. More information to follow.

Planning for Next Year's PTO Boards

Parent Teacher Council of Stamford, CT

888 Washington Boulevard | Stamford, CT 06904 | www.stamfordptcouncil.org



Discussion on where each school stood on filling any empty spots on their PTO board for next year. AITE has a rather large turnover, but is working on it. SHS also is in good shape for board members. Their struggle is finding some key chair people for after-prom and the fashion show.

Each school follows their by-laws when forming a nominating committee.

Also discussed was how each school handles the transition. SHS meets over the summer (July) for board members to hand off information to incoming members. They then hold an August meeting to set the budget. AITE handles their transition during large school events at the end of the year, and at the beginning of the year.



Stone Soup

Regan Allen handed out flyers about the next Stone Soup event, scheduled for October 2, 2010 at AITE. Stone Soup is a resource event open to ALL Stamford residents. Workshops, "Midway" activity booths and arts performances are geared for all ages from birth to seniors! Please refer to the two attached flyers for more detailed information. Sponsored by SPS, PTC, PLTI and Domus, the Stone Soup Committee is looking to have the PTO from each school provide one person to act as the Outreach Coordinator for their school. The primary duty is to communicate the event to their school community. Regan Allen would like to come to each PTO either in May or June to make a presentation explaining what Stone Soup is, and how parents can volunteer. SHS has a PTO meeting on May 3 and AITE has theirs on May 11. There are many, many types of volunteer opportunities for this event.

Effect of Economy on Fundraising and Family Involvement

SHS will no longer print their Calendar of Activities. This year the copies are still sitting in their supply closet. No one is purchasing the calendar, and they have had a difficult time getting ads placed.

AITE is still going strong with their ad revenue. Also, they do not have to worry about printing costs since one of the parents in their school community does the printing for them free.

As for other fundraising, AITE is on par with previous years. Their big spring gala is this weekend and they expect to pull in the same as in the past. Donations have been good, and ticket sales are strong. They have also continued to do well with Sound Tigers and Bluefish ticket sales.

SHS's fashion show did very well, though the chair people made an effort to cut down on raffle donations because there have been too many in past and they take too long to run through.

SHS membership drive is down – same number of students and families – fewer donations. SHS has many smaller groups that take parent commitment such as Band, theatre, and sports. Instead of one large PTO group it is splintered. Suggestion to add PayPal on website to simplify donating for all. Another good plan of action is to include membership flyers in the Principal mailings – especially in the summer mailing, and any others throughout the year.

SHS has a Dare to Dream program which offers grants to teachers. Surprisingly not many teachers applied this year. Donors Choose <http://www.donorschoose.org/>



was mentioned as another resource for teachers and staff to pursue for donations.

AITE utilizes PayPal on their website for spiritwear purchases.

Stamford High School needs a Principal!!

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.