

Officers Present: Bill Marcus (co-President), Lisa Liotta Valine (co-President), Kate Moody (Treasurer), Eric Burk (VP Fundraising), Laurel Eby (co-VP Membership) and Jessica Blitchok (Secretary).

Meeting opened at 8:22 am on Tuesday, February 8, 2011 by Bill Marcus.

President's Message:

Overview of the purpose of SHSA: support and enhance educational programs, foster and promote parent and community involvement, encourage close relationship between home and school, support school staff in providing nurturing environment. SHSA activities consist of: fundraising, participation in school events, organization of social events for school community.

Overview of purpose of this meeting: share information, gather feedback, get involvement.

Discussion of current climate for public education. Less money coming from State and Federal Governments means less money for educational programs and school staffing positions. We need parent participation and engagement.

Presentation of survey results. We received approximately 140 surveys out of 700+ handed out. From those surveys the top five categories listed as parent priorities were (in order of priority): Library staff, technical support staff, science supplies, art vista supplies and writing coaches. The total cost for all programs listed on the survey itself is \$134,000K.

Questions and comments.

A parent commented that seeing the number of parents standing in the hallways to remind everyone about the SHSA meeting and the importance of filling out the survey made an impact on her. It was this push to involve parents that encouraged her to attend the meeting.

A parent inquired about the technical services and library staffing positions. It was explained that those are union positions protected by a collective bargaining agreement. SHSA must provide money up front in spring to open a requisition for the job positions for the fall school year. Therefore all funding for these positions must be raised in the prior school year.

A parent asked about classroom parents and suggested that this would be a very easy and effective way to communicate all important events and encourage participation among the parent community.

A parent suggested that we create a timeline for participation and fundraising goals with the Gala as our end date. He suggested that we create signage and other materials to keep the parent community educated about the progress on those goals.

Meeting closed at 9:10 am.