

**Sunnyvale Middle School PTSA**  
**Approved Minutes of the January 9, 2007 Meeting**

**Adult Attendees:** Jill Biagent, Marti Coppage, Trish Guerrieri, Amy Hansen, Anita Herrmann, Ivy Kerr, Angelica Komau-Hymes, Kristine Lawrence, Stacy Niblett, Linda Slavich, Dianne Todd, Jenni Wong

**Student Attendees:** Sharon Bernard, Amir Ghowsi, Jane Hansen

**Call to Order:** Susan Lamarche 7:05

**Leadership:** Amir Ghoshi and Sharon Bernard

- Drama will present HONK on Thursday, 1/11/07 at 7pm!
- Leadership hosted Spartan Citizen, Perfect Attendance, Renaissance and a popular soccer tournament
- The 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade dance in November made about \$100 profit.
- Leadership sponsored a homework survey; students were asked to record time spent on homework for about 2 ½ weeks. Results showed that homework levels were within prescribed limits with the exception of 6<sup>th</sup> grade math on Monday nights.
- Leadership has put in about 300 hours of community service and activities so far this year.

**Guest Speakers:**

- **Jenni Wong:** Sunnyvale Parks and Recreation
  - A new after school enrichment class called Elementary Engineering will run on Wednesdays from 3:20-5:20 from 1/31-3/14 at a cost of \$169. Using high tech lego mechanisms, students will build bridges, catapults and other apparatus. Instructors have the energy needed to get middle school students involved. Sign-up forms are available in the office or at the Sunnyvale Community Center. For more info call 730-7724
  - The next enrichment class will use computers to create claymation cartoons. More information will be available before class start in April.
  - Also available at SMS is the after school Extreme Zone. Two young adults supervise a variety of activities, homework and socialization after school until 6pm Monday-Thursday and 5:30 pm on Friday. Students can register in advance, pay \$1 each visit or pay with a quick card that has 20 visits. Recent special activities included creating ornaments and greeting cards. Upcoming activities include wood crafts, tile mosaics, and electric car track racing. About 15-20 students participate per day.
- **Mr Realini:** Social Studies Teacher
  - Social Studies has a new curriculum this year that includes a CD which can be checked out from the Library so students can access the entire book and extra enrichment at home on a computer or via the Internet. Features include:
    - Audio of the book available in English and Spanish
    - Note taking tutoring
    - California standards practice workbook
    - Skill practice tests

- Reading essentials study guide
  - Student presentation builder with Powerpoint instruction, video clips and pictures
  - A daily assignment and grade log
  - Supplemental disks for teachers to enrich curriculum with music, videos, game shows and more!
- Teachers are participating in training through the vendor. This curriculum will help students prepare for the 8<sup>th</sup> grade statewide testing.
- **Ms. Ludwig:** Social Studies Teacher
  - San Jose State recently voted Ms. Ludwig and Ms. McKell as exemplary teachers
  - Some of the recent 7<sup>th</sup> grade Social Studies projects include African masks and brio project, Chinese scrolls, family chops and red envelopes. There was some discussion about the rubrics for the group brio project.

**Principal's report:** Ms. Frances Dampier

- SMS is working to make sure all 8<sup>th</sup> graders graduate in good standing. 8<sup>th</sup> graders with D's or F's must attend a mandatory 7<sup>th</sup> period tutorial. SMS is also working with parents to keep students motivated.
- On March 8<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> graders will take the Star writing test. Teachers are working to make sure students are prepared.
- Lead teachers will give an overview of new programs at the next staff meeting and discuss pluses and areas for improvement:
  - Block schedule language arts/social studies and math/science
  - AVID
  - Power reading
  - Power math
  - Honors english
- SMS is thrilled to welcome back Cameron Oates as 6<sup>th</sup> grade administrator!

**Teacher's Report:** Marti Coppage

- The cut off for this grading period is this Friday. If you're not pleased with the results, talk to your student.

**Review and Approval of Minutes:** Anita Herrmann

- Change 'lee' to "Lee" and "Anta" to "Anita".

**Treasurer's Report:** Tonya Gregory

- Ms. Kruz thanks the PTSA for a new scanner.
- SMS PTSA received two substantial anonymous donations in December: \$1000 for a new sound system and \$5000 to the general fund.
- Mid year audit is preparing to start.
- Old scrip account will be closed soon.
- Current projections show about \$30,000 unbudgeted that should be spent; this will be discussed at the next staff meeting.
- **Anita Herrmann moved to approve checks as written, Marti Coppage seconded. There was no discussion, motion carried.**

**New Business:**

- SMS may look to the PTSA to fund some of the "Perfect Attendance" program. 8<sup>th</sup> graders with perfect attendance for 6 quarters will have all graduation costs

- covered. 7<sup>th</sup> graders may be a field trip. 6<sup>th</sup> graders will get an assembly with the chance to win prizes. Suggested field trips include Pump it Up, Sky High, and laser tag. 178 of 1000 students had perfect attendance the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter.
- Ms. Dampier is working with Dr. Picard to determine safety of community using the track during the school day. To date there has never been an issue; PE teachers monitor students carefully.
  - Many thanks to Dianne Todd for heading up the 8<sup>th</sup> grade graduation committee. She will be soliciting helpers shortly.
  - Teacher Appreciation week is the 2<sup>nd</sup> week in May.
  - The PTSA should consider forming a nominating committee to seek officers for next year.
  - Thanks to Robin Rosenberg for her work on the Direct Appeal and Stacy Niblett for her work on the Student Directory.

**Meeting adjourned:** 8:35 pm

- Next PTSA meeting: Tuesday, February 6, 2007 in the **Staff Room**

[http://www.sesd.org/Schools/Sunnyvale\\_Middle/ptsa/ptsahome.html](http://www.sesd.org/Schools/Sunnyvale_Middle/ptsa/ptsahome.html)

Minutes by Anita Herrmann, PTSA Secretary 06-07