

**Sunnyvale Middle School PTSA
Approved Minutes of the May 1, 2007 Meeting**

Adult Attendees: Sign-in list lost by Secretary! Bad Secretary!

Student Attendees:

Call to Order: Susan Lamarche 7:06

Guest Speakers: Dr. Peggy Raun-Linde, Principal, Fremont High School, Graham Clark, Principal and Paula Basset, Assistant Principal, Scheduling/Guidance, Homestead High School. Some of the following is in response to specific pre-submitted questions.

- FHS: Fremont is a more diverse school than some others in the District and therefore gets some more categorical funding. The same honors and advanced placement classes are offered at Fremont as at other schools. There is also a large ROP program.
- HHS: If your child is interested in sports, it's probably better not to sign up for block 7th; skinny 7th may be ok. Only about 35% of students take 7th period; about half are skinny, half block. (Skinny 7th is every day until 3:10, Block 7th is until 3:10 on Mondays, but then only meets Tuesday and Thursday until 3:55, usually) or check bells at: <http://www.hhs.fuhsd.org/>
- FHS: Fremont will be moving to a modified block schedule next year. The details are still being tweaked so check the web site for more info: <http://www.fhs.fuhsd.org/>
- FHS: Fremont has a tutorial from 1:35 to 5:00 in the Library with National Honor Society students as tutors. Program can be with a partner or drop-in.
- HHS: Homestead has a 30 minute tutorial Tuesday-Friday during school for students to get extra help. There is also an after school peer tutorial from 2:00-5:00 in the Administration building
- HHS: Summer school is for remedial work only, not to get extra courses. Algebra Allies is a new program for incoming 9th graders who may struggle with algebra.
- FHS: District has zero tolerance policy. Fremont tries to personalize each students' learning environment to ensure success. Freshman only come to school on first day to get acclimatized.
- HHS: Homestead has freshman orientation/link day to meet Cupertino kids and get acclimatized; this year it will be August 16. No hazing of freshman is allowed.
- HHS: The homework policy varies by subject. Math and modern language tend to have more nightly assignments while social studies and science have more projects due 1 to 2 weeks down the road. Homestead works with Stanford's Stressed Out Students program to encourage students to take healthy workloads.
- FHS: Fremont hosts musicals in concert with Homestead and Monte Vista. Latest offering is Footloose.
- HHS: Homestead has some underachieving sub-populations. Homestead is working on revamping their ELD programs to speed acquisition.

Guest Speaker: Rose Weller, Bev Winegar and Brenda Bazzini, Math Program

- Power Math is helping students still struggling with some skills. Students prefer it to Math Score. Access can also be purchased by parents online for \$99/child.
- SMS is participating with the Silicon Valley Math Initiative to improve math outcomes. Emphasis is on writing and discussion, problem solving, deeper understanding, link to California standards, and a professional component to improve instruction.
- Math strategies include manipulatives, games, and cross curriculum instruction with science, social studies (graphs), and literacy (vocabulary).
- Mega Math Marathon is scheduled for May 24 and 25. Students will compete in groups. Parents are needed to help run stations.
- Teachers engage students using fun math books, cognitive projects, songs, rhymes, and graphic organizers.

Principal's Report: Ms. Dampier

- Staff are working together to complete school goals.
- Next year there will be 9 6th grade classes.
- Considering new 6th grade math/language arts wheel and elective wheel with tutorials for students needing extra support.
- Working towards more inquiry methodology in language arts for all students.

Review and Approval of Minutes: Anita Herrmann

- Change 'Teacher Appreciation help' to 'Teacher Appreciation held'.

Treasurer's Report: Tonya Gregory

- Forecast is to end the year with about \$14,000.
- **Motion by Anita Herrmann to accept checks as listed except void check # 334 to Jill Biagent. Seconded by Stacy Niblett? Motion carried.**

New Business:

- Teacher Appreciation week is May 7-11. The Teacher Appreciation brunch will be Wednesday, May 9 at 8:30am. Starbucks is donating some coffee. ASB will help create cards for teachers.

Old Business:

- **Nominating Committee:** Susie Lamarche agreed to serve as PTSA President for another year. A Secretary and Auditor are still needed. Elections will be finalized at the next meeting.
- **8th Grade Graduation:** meetings are being held on Mondays at 6:00.

Meeting adjourned: 8:55 pm

- Next PTSA meetings: Tuesday, June 5, 2007 in the **Staff Room**

http://www.sesd.org/Schools/Sunnyvale_Middle/ptsa/ptshome.html

Minutes by Anita Herrmann, PTSA Secretary 06-07