

HERITAGE ACADEMY PTO

Board Meeting Agenda

Sept. 20, 2016

7:00 pm in room 1

Attendance: 40 people. **Board Members:** E. Taylor, R. Jones, A. Price, B. Gardner, I. Pang, L. Johnson, K. Wilson, M. Farr, A. Nyman, A. Jack, D. McLaws, D. Bear **Teachers:** Greg Phelps, Chris West, Stephanie Garrett, Wade Melchin – Asst. Principal, Marie Renard, Tauni Orten, C.J. Tibbetts, Jenny Denton

Scholars: Abby Tucker, Jackson Haymond, Navy Kohlhase, Mylie Biggs, Aiden Anderson, Paisley Kohlhase, Asher Anderson, **Parents:** Kent Farr, Mike Rowley, Shauna Tucker, Ron & Kris Anderson, Kent ????, Michelle Kohlhase, Cheri Lundgreen, Melissa Langley, Steve & Rachel Gannen

Call to Order: 7:00 pm

Welcome and Introductions:

Adoption of Agenda: Agenda approved

Approval of Minutes: Ann motioned to approve the minutes, Ingelise 2nd the motion

Administrative Comments: Mr. Taylor

Discussed the lawsuit that has been filed against Heritage Academy. Twenty-three years ago Heritage applied to the state for a charter. They had a very clear purpose in mind for the school. They outlined the principles from founding fathers that they wanted to teach. The state charter board approved his request. Three years ago the group “*Americans United for Separation of Church and State*” or AU sent a complaint saying that we were teaching religion here this school. I sent a response to the state charter board. (See attached document) They dismissed the complaint. Now, three years later the AU has brought up the same complaint, this time as a lawsuit.

Officers' Reports:

Treasurer's Report: **Ingelise Pang**

Updated budget – The PTO dues received so far this year is \$5060. We fear there is not enough in the budget for a teacher appreciation gift this year and the end of the school year gift.

It was pointed out that if all the families paid, we should have \$10,000. Board members expressed ideas to help get parents to pay the \$20 dues. It was suggested that some incentive be made to encourage parents to pay, such as free dollars for duds when they pay the dues. It was also suggested that we send out a list of parents that hadn't paid in an email, or send out a list of parents that have paid. Kim W., Ingelise and Ann P. agreed to work together to get some communications out to the parents.

Ingelise said we still need to work out a balanced budget for this year. Ann P. asked for committees to get an estimated budget to them.

Proposal to give Concessions to Fine Arts - It was discussed again whether we should give the concessions fundraiser to the Drama/ Fine Arts dept. It still hasn't been discussed with the faculty to see if they want to take it over. We would still have to help as a PTO, but the Drama dept. could use the proceeds. A parent asked why we were giving this fund-raising money away when we are financial struggling. No decision was made.

Communications: Kim Wilson - A letter was sent last month to parents about Pto dues and other news via email. She feels it was a success! We are looking at new ways to do things. One is that the Stugo use Snapchat to update students on school events

Unfinished & New Business:

Audit Report - Three committee members audited the 2015-2016 PTO financial records. Any errors found have been

corrected. Audit committee: Bonnie Gardner, Melissa & Kent Farr, and Lance Johnson

Sign bylaws amendment – Board members signed the amendment which was voted on in August meeting. This changed article 8.4 to allow 3 board members to audit the financial records annually instead of 1 person outside the board.

Appoint PTO board member- PTO board member Jovilynne Maxwell had to resign from the board due to family issues. Faculty member David Bear has volunteered to serve on the board. Raymond asked that we vote to appoint Mr. Bear to the board. Ann P. motioned for the vote, Kim W. 2nd the motion. Board members voted unanimously to appoint David Bear to the board.

Heritage Car stickers – Raymond showed a copy of a window sticker that Gateway campus had made, but they were printed with the Queen Creek under the Heritage Academy. They have asked if we wanted to buy them and cut off the word Queen Creek. A short discussion ensued. No decision was made.

Trunk or treat - Will be held on Friday Oct. 21, 6-8 pm There will be various activities for the students to participate in. Parents are asked to decorate trunks. Stugo has candy to hand out. They are asking for support from the PTO to decorate trunks and pass out candy. It was suggested that they offer a prize for the best decorated trunk.

Committee Updates:

Constitution Week: **Anson Jack** reported that Constitution Week was held Sept. 12-15. It was a big success. There were fun, upbeat activities each day for students to participate in. He noticed the JH students participated much more than the high schoolers. It was suggested that the Stuco help get the ball rolling and then other students might be willing to participate. He suggested that more announcements be made throughout the week or better PR to advertise it.

Historian: **Lance Johnson** asked that all committees give him a report of their activities so he can put in the school historian book. He is working to make this an electronic record.

Fine Arts: **Amy Nyman & Kim Wilson.** Amy reported that they did sign-ups for concerts for parents to help supervise students. Chamber Choir is looking for venues to do caroling at Christmas time.

Sports: **Dawnell McLaws** reported Spirit week is this week, homecoming Thursday night. Everything is going well. We advertise on the daily announcements. Mr Melchin commented that they have lots of different sports going on at once this fall. We could always use more volunteers even if they are not sports related. Dawnell commented that they have asked for parent volunteers through sign-up Genius.

Membership: **Ann Price** (already covered earlier)

Family Service Activity – **Lance Johnson** said that he has had students contact the city for service project ideas. Most of the city projects wouldn't work. Suggestions made at the meeting were cleaning up the cemetery or providing a service to the facilities where Heritage plays sports.

Teacher & Staff Appreciation: **Melissa Farr** is waiting for the budget to be approved to figure out how much she has to spend on teacher appreciation.

Parent and Teacher Comments:

Lunch menu – **Michelle Kohlase**, a parent, reported to the board a plea to improve the lunch menu. She showed us the menu and pointed out that most of the food is not nutritious and all of it is expensive. The \$2.00 slices of pizza from Little Caesars are over priced and often cold. She had set up a table in the room with some alternative choices. One of the choices was presented by Chris Anderson who owns Whole Grain Bread company. They could bring in sandwiches, chicken salad or turkey for \$5.00 with side of hummus and carrot sticks. They also sell brownies. They could come to the school once a week to offer an alternative. Steve and Rachel have BBQ sandwiches for sale. They would sell them out in the parking lot along with chips, drinks and cookies. Even if they came just once a month that would offer a variety. **Mr. Taylor** commented that over the last 22 years we have tried many different ways to have school lunches. First started out with PTO organizing volunteers to come in and serve lunch. They ran into

a few problems there. Next they invited several businesses to come in and serve lunch. But it was hard to get to come. Nancy, who runs the lunch program now, has been consistent, reliable. It may be more expensive, but has been working.

In the end it is Mr. Taylor's decision to make. He proposed that he have a meeting with Nancy and Michelle Kohlase and come up with a plan.

Eagle Project - Jackson Haymond presented an eagle school project plan to replace the old speakers in the auditorium. His uncle is an audio engineer and will help with the purchasing. He says the retail price for a package deal could be about \$53,000 but because of his uncle he could get it at wholesale prices. When asked Jackson couldn't quote the wholesale price. It is a lot of money to raise and he came to ask for help from the PTO. He wants the PTO's support in the fund-raising of this and someone to manage the money involved. The project is still in the planning stages. Mr. Taylor commented that he needed to see a complete proposal. No action taken.

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 8:40 pm

Next Meeting: October 18, 2016 at 7:00 pm