

W. T. WOODSON PTSO GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
MINUTES
November 10, 2009 ☞ Woodson Library

Attendance: Diana Mihalache, Janice Yohai, Peter Brandman, Jennifer Lewis-Cooper, Lorraine Reilly, Susan Morningstar, Rita Manfredi-Shutler, Jeff Yost, Nell Hurley, Donna Greer, Annie Schwartz, Sandy Barron, Vicki Chamlee

I. Call to Order—President Nell Hurley called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

II. Minutes—Rita Manfredi-Shutler moved to accept the minutes from the October 13 meeting as written. Approved unanimously.

III. Treasurer's Report—Sandy Barron

A. *PTSA*—Final PTSA report presented. Moved balance to PTSO account in compliance with Internal Revenue Service regulations.

B. *PTSO*—Report presented.

C. *Special Note*—The PTSO president officially recognized and thanked the treasurer for her work during the transition to a PTSO.

IV. Principal's Report—Jeff Yost

A. *Rededication Ceremony*—Wonderful. Went off like clockwork.

B. *Renovation*—New chairs in planetarium. Final pricing in for TV studio. Topsoil down for athletic practice field; in discussions with Braddock Road Youth Club (BRYC) on sharing costs for Bermuda grass. Funds not available for turf.

C. *Learning Seminar*—AP classes can move forward during that period, but the time is not intended for extra work, as a rule.

D. *Student Recognition*

i. Honor Rolls—For 2009–2010 school year, have an A honor roll (grades A+ through A-) and an A/B honor roll (grades A through B-) for student recognition.

ii. National Honor Society—Induction postponed owing to great number of applications received (time to process) and auditorium space for ceremony currently unavailable.

iii. Graduation—Honor graduates wear gold stoles at ceremony and choose among themselves which student will address the graduating class.

E. *Parent Coffees*—All are welcome to open-forum discussion with principal.

F. *H1N1 Absences*—Contact counselors and teachers for homework. Students are expected to turn in homework that is due on date of student's return.

G. *DIT Fence*—FCPS moved the fence on top of curb, which was about six inches.

H. *Parking*—Access to lot that abuts the front of the school available only when buses are not operating.

H. *Staffing*—Two new assistant principals: Dr. Liz Fullam (math) and Dr. Richard Deivert. Team is reviewing duties and doing the job of six APs.

I. *Report Cards*—Should have been received at students' homes by this date.

V. President's Report—Nell Hurley

A. *Rededication*—Many in attendance, including former principals and folks instrumental to RENEW efforts.

B. *Homecoming Parade*—Supervisor John Cook's office will help obtain permit. Can stage at Olde Creek Elementary and walk up Whitacre. Cannot use a state street. Leadership Students: will survey fellow students re: participation and feedback.

C. Athletics—Recognized the following teams for achievements: varsity football (playoffs), volleyball, and field hockey (second in region). Built great spirit this fall.

D. Draft Bylaws and Standing Rules—Bylaws Committee added a section on Policies. Documents available online at PTSO website. Will vote on bylaws at December PTSO meeting.

E. New Fund-raiser—“Student Driver” Magnets—Principal gave approval to sell through Driver’s Ed. Janice Yohai made a Motion to add \$500 to Student Safety and Wellness Committee budget line to purchase car magnets. Approved unanimously. Mrs. Yohai will run the fund-raiser.

F. In Honor of Veterans’ Day—Mr. Ehrlich’s VMEA essay on singing the national anthem at Normandy, France, currently on the PTSO website (moved to Chorus website).

G. FCPS Budget—School Board member Tessie Wilson available to discuss budget at Parent Coffee or PTSO meeting. Handed out budget notes. Possibilities: again, no raises for teachers; increase class sizes; cut elementary school music programs and sports for which schools do not have facilities (golf, indoor track, swim and dive); institute fees for AP exams; etc.

H. Electronic Voting—Under consideration. Robinson H.S.’s rules are online to review.

VI. Committee Reports

A. Special Ed Liaisons—Lorraine Reilly—Listserv rules established (handout). Principal approved having access to Web page through PTSO Web page.

B. Membership—Donna Greer—482 members; 20 staff members.

C. Safety and Wellness—Jennifer Lewis-Cooper—Have met with Mr. John Duffy (PE) and will promote group to students. Diane Eckert is available to share 2008 survey results (in January) and compare Woodson to county/state. PROTECT (Parents Reaching Out to Educate Communities Together) group at Westfield H.S. established to educate parents and students re: drug awareness and substance abuse. Folks from Alcohol and Drug Services are available to address PTSO in new year.

D. Craft Fair—Donna Greer for Crew—Scheduled for Saturday.

E. Funding Requests—Rita Manfredi-Shutler—Teacher at Lee H.S. gave the socialization baby doll program high marks. Strobe light attachment for deaf and hard-of-hearing students available (\$100). Because program is still being researched, motion on socialization funding request is tabled. All other applicants have been notified about the status of their requests.

F. Newsletter—President for Carole Post—Deadline is November 25.

VII. New Business

A. Boundary Issue—President—Annandale H.S. overcrowding leading School Board to consider boundary changes, which will also affect Falls Church and Lake Braddock high schools.

IX. Motion to Adjourn—8:50 p.m.

Next PTSO meeting: December 8, 2009, W. T. Woodson Library, 7:00 p.m.