

Minutes
Burlingame High School Parent's Group Meeting
February 10, 2010

Attendance: Nigel Walker, Kathleen Parker, Jen Jory, Yvonne Wun, Nancy Sturm, Melanie Hoefler, Elizabeth Pratt, Chip Smith, Cindy Thompson, Cynthia Wornick, Michelle Smith, Andrea Moore, Laurel Kane, Cindy Montgomery, Ted Crocker, Rawson Groves Hobart, Selina Soo, Cheryl Partee, Shirley Lee, Adrienne Leigh Schubiner, Jeff Tsu

1. Call to Order: 7:02 pm. Cindy Montgomery “Welcome”

2. Motions: Approve Minutes from January 13, 2010

- First: Rawson Groves Hobart
- Second: Cheryl Partee
- Approved

3. Principal's Report: Chris Holleran

- Modernization
 - Cafeteria reopening in March
 - Gym lobby and little gym to be completed by end of March
 - Large gym under construction March through September
 - Locker rooms will close when school ends, hope to be open by school start in August
 - Building D will become a 2-story and will house 2 computer labs, video production, shop class. CTE Grant will equip building
 - Last phase will be the theater, Summer 2010 through February 2011
 - Drama will hold performances at San Mateo Performing Arts Center
 - Theatre will feature new seats, further apart seats, sound booth moves down, up to date wiring. Theater entrance will have vestibule to eliminate light spill from hallway
 - Football field and soccer field to be replaced and drainage fixed, no more floating, will start in March 2011 interrupting May 2011 graduation ceremony on field
 - Landscape improved and snack bar with seating area added
- Other news report
 - Gearing up to register new students earlier than before thanks to new enrollment system
 - CAHSEE exams went well
 - Gearing up for STAR testing in April
 - Gearing up for AP testing in May

4. Superintendent's Report: Scott Lawrence

- Has been superintendent for six months
- Last January/ February state declares debt of \$40 Billion, equals about \$700 per student cut in state budget
- BHS last year lost ½ of 7th period funding, custodian or \$250 per student
- District told by state to plan for \$433 in cuts for 2009/10.
- One scenario for 2010- 2011 could be \$250 per student or \$2.1M in district cuts
- Second scenario for 2010-2011 could be \$750 per student or \$6.3 M in district cuts
- Third scenario features the County tracker on Property tax dropping 0.77 %, has never been

lower than 2% before, our rollover budget goes up 2-3% with salaries, pensions, and worker's comp expenses

- District needs to figure out how to cut \$8M from budget for next year.
- District hopes to create a \$1.8M revenue stream from our solar project
- District also has \$8.5 M in reserve account
- Good news is our bond rating was raised to AA generating higher yields in investments
- District looking into higher adult education fees
- May have to institute “pay to play” for summer school
- Looking to stop students who do not live in district (BART riders) from using our schools
- Trying to cut 10% of our budget

Question and Answer:

- The assessed valuation change amounts to about \$750,000 loss
- Law states that district budgets must go to county office before state budget is approved making budget planning very difficult
- School districts now allowed to drop reserves from 3% to 1.5%
- State of California requires we budget for worst case scenario
- This year we will release teachers on March 15. Will tell them we may be able to rehire them after state budget is approved
- March 15 we will be staffed at 90-95% of current teachers
- Budget cuts may impact bus drivers, custodians, landscapers, counselors
- Current ratio of counselors is 1:360, may go up
- Not adding or cutting classes in 2010-2011
- Classes will stay at 96% full, not going down
- Mr. Lawrence is most worried about budget cuts for 2011/12 and 2012/13 school years
- District in discussions about selling Crestmoor school site, contentious with neighbors
- Superintendent is committed to saving 7th period, considers it a great opportunity for our students
- Summer school costs \$250,000 (3 teachers) and is currently only for remediation
- District looking at summer school as a jump ahead program, pay to play
- Possible fees for athletics, Palo Alto high charges \$150 per student in fees (BHS requests \$75/student per sport)
- District talking about parcel tax in Feb 2011, probably \$50 per parcel
- District thinking about additional revenue streams
- Arguing with union about capping benefits, having furlough days
- Everything will be on the table
- 2% saved for every staff member furloughed
- State of California has started accepting 175 class days, has traditionally been 180 days
- District will be sending newsletters on March 4 for “Stand up for Education Days”
- We are a basic aid district, spend about \$10,000 per student
- Athletics will know next year's budget by March 15
- Should build next year's schedule by April, will be at 95%

5. Guest Speaker on High Speed Rail: Ted Crocker of Marin Drive in Burlingame

- Informed us on California's plans to build High Speed Rail structure 21 ft. high X 100 ft. wide

- Budgeted for \$42B estimates go as high as \$100.3 B; potential to bankrupt state
- Building scheduled for 2012 to 2017
- Will have huge impact on state budget. Fears it will adversely affect school budgets.
- High speed rail claims to be shovel ready, we need to wake up and make more noise
- HSR will directly affect BHS campus and its surrounding neighborhoods very negatively

6. Executive Board Reports

President's Report: Cindy Montgomery

- Announced a Math and Science forum for girls at Skyline College; handed out brochures to interested parents
- Executive Board had meeting February 3 and talked about forming foundation
 - PG is already a 501c3 non-profit organization
 - Annually we raise about \$300,000 including Taste of Town, Ex Fund, Membership and eScrip revenue
 - Lale Welsh spoke to us from Hillsdale High Foundation
 - Consensus is that we will explore possibility of starting a foundation at BHS with a few more interested parents. Will get back to PG at general meeting in March or April

Treasurer's Report: Rawson Groves Hobart

- Slowly but steadily we are accumulating money in account
- PG money cannot make dent in budget losses
- Treasurers want to talk about having a formal reserve amount; would like to know risks of all committees before making reserve recommendation
- Even with increased PG spending, it could take several years to reduce our reserve to \$50K from current \$200K
- Naviance system will not be funded through the district (Chris Holleran). To be discussed further with PG once we decide if we want to fund and staff this program
- Treasurer's report shows a \$750 refunded auction item from Taste several years ago

Auditor's Report: Selina Soo

- Job is to go through treasurer's documents and look at them regular person perspective
- Makes sure deposits made in timely fashion
- Watches TASTE income on a regular basis
- Glad to see more than 2 persons sign and collect checks
- Has done her due diligence and provided a second set of eyes
- Minor recommendation: get higher interest yield for our reserve account, which is currently yielding only 0.3% interest rate. Reserve money could be put in a rolling CD (short term) or bond fund
- Audit covered activity from July 1, 2009 through December 31, 2009

Excellence Fund: Christi Johnson

- Excellence Fund has collected \$201,424 this year and exceeds budget of \$165,000

Taste of the Town: Cheryl Partee

- Taste is doing well with over 32 restaurants and vintners donating food and wine
- Underwriting is good; basically like last year

- We have participation from sports, drama, chorus and jazz band
- 200 RSVPs to date
- Parents and businesses have been generous donating auction items
- Special thank you to Andrea Moore for all her hard work

Parliamentarian: Kathleen Parker

- Forming nominating committee for next year, needs members

7. Committee Reports

Career Center: Jen Jory

- Held Community College workshop on February 5
- Stanford was at BHS this week to talk about summer school
- Go to Lori Friel in Career Center for summer/college information
- Sign up now for May and June SAT/ACT for juniors
- Honors Society (CFS) sign ups are this week, one week in February and one in October
- We have many great speakers in classroom, field trips planned
- Had a Holocaust speaker
- Marine Center field trip needs chaperones

Drama Boosters: Nancy Sturm

- You can buy tickets online for “She_Loves_Me,” com” opening March 5 at 7pm

Music Boosters: Yvonne Wun

- Gearing up for performances
- Chorus going in March for festival, Disneyland competition
- Band doing a children's concert for 2nd & 3rd graders in auditorium

Athletic Boosters: Chip Smith

- Large football field redo starts in March 2011, done by early September
- Maintenance on Stadium field is District's responsibility
- Bleacher replacement is expensive, must be ADA compliant w/elevator
- Mr. Phil’s budget cut 25% last year. Athletics will need more funding from parents next year.
- Boosters put more money into athletics last year than the District for the first time
- Funded \$20,000 at their last meeting for new varsity football uniforms, bats
- Participation in boosters is slipping

8. Announcements/ Misc.: Cindy Montgomery

- PG Meeting Dates for Spring 2010- Wednesdays at 7pm in Library
- Wednesday March 10
- Wednesday April 14
- Wednesday May 12

Meeting Adjourned 8:35 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Adrienne Leigh Schubiner

Recording Secretary