

## PSTO Minutes October 13, 2009

**President Jacki Brennan** called the meeting to order.

**Featured Student Organization:** *Business Professionals of America* (BPA) student officers Sophie McDougall, Sara Stewart, Brittany Meints, Ryan Klatt, Derek Brenner, Brett Hanson

- BPA is a student-led organization whose purpose is to develop professionalism and leadership among its membership; the executive board meets every Tuesday morning and the whole group meets on the last Wednesday of each month.
- Membership, currently about 100, is open to students who are enrolled in a business class
- Two members of West High's BPA are on the state BPA executive board; fund-raising helps defray the cost of attending conferences.

**Program:** Emily Ralph, the new case manager for Mental Health Case Management at West High, spoke about her program.

- The purpose of this program, which is funded by a grant, is to facilitate students' and families' access to mental health services; this is part of the larger district project of removing student barriers to learning.
- Ms. Ralph has a joint degree in law and social work. She primarily receives her case load through teacher referrals. On Monday mornings a Student Support Team meets to discuss the referrals and determine an appropriate course of action, which involves helping students receive the services they may require.
- Outcomes are measured primarily through tracking improvements in students' GPA.

**Student Senate Representative:** Michael Lipman

- Michael reported that the Homecoming Dance was successful.
- Each student senator volunteers to help with at least one school event per trimester.
- Current events include: "Festival of Pumpkins", a Halloween event taking place at the school on Friday, October 30; an Ultimate Frisbee play-off; "Festival of Creativity", an event to celebrate the creativity of West High students within 20 categories, to be held on November 7.

**Faculty Representative:** Brady Shutt

- Thanks to Staff Appreciation for providing food for the parent-teacher conferences
- Finals will be November 5-6 and 9-12. Feel free to e-mail teachers with questions.

**Administrative Report:** Jerry Arganbright

- The renovation of the front entranceway has been delayed.
- The lack of contemporary science classrooms will be addressed this summer: SILO funds will be used to update 6 science rooms at West High.
- ITEDs are scheduled to take place during the week of October 19.
- The boundary redistricting committee has a March deadline to come to the ICCSD Board with recommendations.

**President:** Jacki Brennan

- City High will host activities throughout the year to celebrate its 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

**Vice President:** Ellen Segar. No report.

**Secretary:** Dnae Kinzie. No report.

**Volunteer Coordinator:** Patty McCarthy

- There has been a good response to calls for volunteers.

**Past President:** JoAnn Miller. No report.

**Directory:** Jennifer Noser

- 120 directories remain to be sold.

**Staff Appreciation:** Mary Mockitis. No report.

**Hospitality:** Tracy Nye. No report.

**Fine Arts:** Pam Bourjaily

- There was a vocal concert last Monday to raise money for the D.C. trip in April.
- The Show Choir will hold a concert with City High on November 4.
- The Orchestra will hold a concert on November 17.
- The Wind Ensemble concert has been moved to Wednesday, December 9. They will perform with two 8<sup>th</sup> grade bands.
- 270 Marching Band members marched in the UI Homecoming Parade.
- Thank you from the music directors for help with the car washes.

**DPO:** Terry O'Donnell Parsons. DPO meeting will be held on October 14.

**Club West:** JoAnn Miller

- Lydia Peller will be a representative along with JoAnn.
- An adult coordinator is needed for the elementary basketball program.

**Landscaping:** JoAnn Miller. No current activity.

**Business:**

1. Budget Discussion for 2009-2010: Treasurer Christy Fehlberg:
  - The PSTO table at registration was helpful to remind parents to donate.
  - Request for \$250 for Festival of Creativity was approved. There was discussion about combining this with the Wish List rather than having it as a separate line item.
  - The budget was approved.
2. PSTO Art Show (Thursday, December 3): JoAnn Miller:
  - Discussion around whether monetary awards are desirable as opposed to simply recognition.
  - There are now plenty of volunteers to help with the Art Show.

**Announcements:** Jacki Brennan

- Iowa Women's Foundation will host a forum at the Iowa City Public Library, [The Lolita Effect](#), on Saturday, October 24.
- The Iowa Youth Survey is scheduled to be administered to students at the end of October.
- Possible program topics for upcoming PSTO meetings: Culinary Arts, Biotech Engineering, "We the People" class, Safe School/Healthy Kids grant update, ACT/SAT comparison
- Ideas for parent forums: drugs, alcohol, violence/bullying, teen stress/depression, cultural competency

**Meeting Adjourned**

**Attendees:** JoAnn Miller, Dnae Kinzie, Ellen Segar, Christy Fehlberg, Jacki Brennan, Pam Bourjaily, Jennifer Noser, Emily Ralph, Jerry Arganbright, Brady Shutt, Louise Wolf-Novak, Patty McCarthy, Rachel Stewart, Reon Kim, Terry O'Donnell Parsons, Michael Lipman