

GHS PTSA June 14 General Meeting.

In Library. Started at 6:30

Attendees: Sally Hulsman, Jennifer Kerns, Sharmila Williams, Averil Rothrock, Tyson Manzin, Martin Saxer, Rowan Hale, Carol Lynch, Tiffan Lynn Bigham, Kim Gould, Barbara Rockey, Kris Morada, Theo Cielos, Stever Orser, Andre Canty, Janel Lardizabal, Lauren Marshall, Lisa Fitzhugh

Barbara Rockey calls meeting to order.

Tiffany Bigham, College and Career Coordinator. Tiffany has been in the position for a short time (several months at the most). She shared some goals with attendees:

- C&C Center is working together with Y Scholars, Career Access Now to coordinate efforts and share resources.
- Wants to expand their PTSA reach and ensure they are engaged and involved with parents and students.
- There is room for improvement around efficiency/effectiveness of career center. She wants to make sure they are engaged with all the opportunities that exist in house and out of house. How do they funnel all the opportunities into one communication stream, so we all know all about them.
- Tyson: asked about Community Service Hours: giving the students a contact for how to get community service opportunities, especially in areas where they might be interested. Tiffany and Tyson will talk and share ideas
- Want to train everyone on Garfield App, Website, make sure we have all the ideas teed up.

Tiffany asked what we parents would like to see: The goal is to spotlight everything possible given the resources we have.

- Parent question: Is every class at Garfield media capable. If we wanted to put out a digital message. Every space is yes, although it is super slow..
- Parent question: parents have wanted to help in many ways, so we encourage the center to reach out and ask parents for help.

Career Day. Tiffany asks - do we have a Career Day? Not in the last few years. Parent suggested that Fall would be a good time to hear from College Career Center as kids are preparing post-high school activities. A Career Day could serve a broad audience and broad focus – anyone can come, anyone can partake, parents, students.

Need to Communicate more – as much communication as possible. Use the GHS App, the GHS website. Use parents; get behind the scenes as well, so all channels are used. What's the best way to communicate? Text reminders were suggested.

Tiffany will be working in the summer, so she would love to meet anyone with interest during the summer and work on it.

Parents suggestion: MLK Day was a good event - there was some companies here and it seemed successful.

Tiffany said: Overall I'd like to put a plan together and work on it.

Freshman/Sophomores: Could do a College 101. What is the difference between Community Colleges, Universities.

Carol Lynch: Athletic Director

Carol came from Lake Washington School District from High School. She sees differences and wants to see some of the benefits, programs and resources at LW be provided to kids at Garfield.

Technology Focus:

- Students have 1-1 device (computer) in surrounding school districts. Everyone has a device from grades 5-12. They get all their communication via the device. Our Seattle School District is still behind on technology.
- Hope to do live streaming for graduation.
- Calendar. Working to put the calendar together. That way we don't have to have so many conflicts. We have an amazing sports student body: so many teams go to state, 2 state champions. Avg GPA of athletes is 3.5. 800-1000 students play a sport. Several students at state.
- App Store: Garfield High School, Seattle. Has a lot of things on it for parents. At Orientation, put in the App.

Event focused:

- Athletic Senate. Meets every other week. Able to share and talk about how to increase interest in sporting events, ASB events. We want to do a Rivalry game with other schools. Carol wants to start an InterHigh. A group of kids who come from each high school league and share ideas and discuss a topic. Such as race... some kids go to play at other schools and get treated differently.
- First InterHigh is about Sportsmanship. 10 kids from each school. Doesn't have to be about sports. Carol wants GHS to be the flagship school. We should do both a sports focused one and/or a leadership one, etc.
- She is planning a big sports themed Parent Meeting. Every season a fall parent meeting for all sports at the same time. They come to the school and go to their own room. What it's like to play D1/D2/D3
- Also wants to do an awards night for all Athletics.

Overall philosophy:

- She wants all the kids to be united – the One Garfield idea. So many great things going on here, and all of us should support all of our activities.
- We are working on being a bigger, better community. Working on it with Mr. Howard and Administration. We are so grateful to have your enthusiasm. It makes for equity. Going to make for a great couple years.

Tyson Manzin: Librarian

Security Audit: A significant document written.

- A push to increase security at the building.
- Some recommendations seem very real and able to put into place easily. For example using 1 door was a smart move and more welcoming.
- Other recommendations are more intrusive such as key cards for everyone to get into a room.

Advisory: Very unclear what Advisory will look like next year.

- It was a split vote with the teachers with the majority for continuing next year. But it's going to be required by District after that. Not sure what it will look like. Hopefully build on what we've done this year. Hopefully will build skills into the class – such as learning how to print papers. If parents have ideas and want to share, let us know.
- 3 leadership groups now share **Advisory**.
- Parent Question: does Advisory have a curriculum: Goal was to slowly introduce curriculum. To push the bulletin into them.
 - Most assemblies are in the Advisory period.
 - Community building – huge diversity here. Not everyone needs the same thing. We should all know the strengths and weaknesses and support each other.

Teacher and programs status: Losing 2 FT positions because of a lower projection next year.

- Hiring freeze now while they figure out what new hires will be. We will lose 2 core academic positions.
- 4 portables going away. That means building numbers are coming down. Should not expect enrollment to go up.
- We are losing 80 students. Lose portables, 2 end rooms free up. Then we lose the HCC eventually as kids will have it in each area high school, and eventually in most high schools.
- Link Crew – staffing issue so not having it this coming year unless we resolve hiring issues quickly.

Safety: Audit is now circulating.

- Training: knowledge and confidence to approach people they don't recognize and ask them who they are.
- Budget issues. Have to decide what to spend money on. Facial recognition software. What is district willing to pay for and what is community willing to change their life for? Metal detectors. Mr. Howard is serious about it. Mr. Howard created a Committee and that Committee will review the recommendations.

Race and Equity work. Won a 48k grant. Using it for Professional Development for teachers.

- Working with Mr. Hagopian. Working on bringing ethnic studies to the school.
- GHS is at the forefront of the Race and Equity discussion, so this will make it even better. Garfield grant to hire the leader who will teach here but led by the District.

Library: Lots going on here – he continues to build programs and structure.

- **Large grant donation for reworking Fiction section.** More world authors. More world citizens.
- **How to make reading of higher interest to students.** Encourage kids to show me what they are reading and enjoying.
- **21st Century Skills.** Mandated by the District. Librarians are asked to be the arrowhead on this within the district. Credible sources--what are they and how to find them. how to use technology and use it efficiently. Want to get lots of feedback from students. Working with students on how to use the computers ie. How to print from them.
- **Working on small spaces for collaborative student project work.** It's a 21st century skill at companies out there. We do it as pairs but not bigger groups. Want to find a way to support that more here in the library through the design of space.
- **Working to reduce playing of video games on the computers.** Trying to get students off of video games and onto puzzles, games, etc. They play games instead. We need to be better communicators and we need to encourage creativity and free thinking.

PTSA vote on New Co-Chair, Andre Canty:

- Candidate for Co-Chair. Parent, Community Member, Teacher, Volunteer. Committed to Community Building.
- Voted in by a Quorum.

Graduation Night Party: Theo Cielos

- 200+ tickets sold. Hitting up all the groups.
- Free and Reduced lunch get tickets for \$25.
- Went to all coaches: basketball, football. Have to hit up on the groups.
- All night, 3 venues. 1 venue is a night club. Food at 2 venues. Include busses to go different places.
- Paying for staff to be chaperones.

Budget: Steve Orser

- Reviewed and some questions. 1 question about not spending money on Garfield and instead spend a portion (or all of it) on lobbying OSPI to fund schools and leverage contributions from all other PTAs to do the same. Budget did not change from last meeting. Quorum approved. 1 dissent.
- Fiscal Secretary is going to take all the items and put them into the school's Fiscal tracking system. The goal is to write a few larger checks that the school can then distribute. Some of the items we will still manage.

- Lobbying & Advisory: we are not funding it this year. Parent suggest that we should lobby the state to fully fund the schools. When we raise 300k we are allowing the state to not raise the money.
- We do want to fund our own communities' needs. We may also help other smaller PTSAs.
 - But it would be a risk to give the \$\$ up, so we might not want to give our money up until we see how it works.
 - The PTSA Equity group disbanded but it might get back together. We'd be invited.
- An area of focus would be changing the FMR as it relates to the McLeary.
- We voted on the budget. Approved.

Ted Howard update: Mr. Howard has suggested that he could come to a year end event.

- We suggested Volunteer Thank you party at Lisa Fitzhugh's house.

Notes passed: Also passed the following General Meeting notes: 5/23/17, 6/30/17, 3/1/18

Meeting adjourned at 9.