

# PTSA General Membership Meeting - 3/1/18

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**Date:** March 1, 2018

**Location:** Garfield High School commons area.

**Start / End time:** 6:53 pm; end 8:30 pm.

**Attendees:** see sign in sheet.

## **Introductions:**

The meeting began with welcome and introductions by Co-Presidents, Lisa Fitzhugh and Barbara Rockey.

Purpose of the meeting was to present community partners active at Garfield and to further build our sense of community.

Thank you to all the participants and attendees for supporting the school and students.

## **PTSA Business and Decisions:**

- Notice of the meeting was provided in advance through the GHS PTSA eBark newsletter.
- Through a raise of hands, 11 of the attendees identified as PTSA members (meeting the required quorum of 10 members for a voting body).
- Minutes of last meeting were not presented and approved since Secretary was not able to attend.
- Treasurer report was presented by Lisa and Barbara.

## **Budget Vote:**

- Lisa and Barbara presented the proposed \$45,000 budget increase. Proposal includes additional \$5 for annual giving for students in need; increase of \$5K for Gala Expenses; increase of \$25 K for PTSA Small Grants program; increase of \$5K for Grad Night Expenses; and new expenditure of \$5K for Teacher Professional Development fund. (See *Budget Developments for 2017-18 and Planning for 2018-2019* document provided at the meeting.)
- Proposed \$45K increase was previously approved by the Board.
- The PTSA currently has an approved Budget of \$285,750 and total equity of \$383,413. The proposed \$45K budget increase can be covered by the existing PTSA surplus. In other words, if approved, the PTSA has enough in reserve to fund this year's budget as well as the proposed \$45K increase.
- Theo Cielos presented the motion to vote on the proposed Budget increases.
- Sharmila Williams seconded the motion.
- "Yes" Votes: 11 through voice and show of hands. "No" votes: 0.
- Budget increases approved.

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## PTSA Updates:

Gala Updates: Purple and White Gala on March 31<sup>st</sup>. **Please buy tickets. Still need volunteers and donation for silent auction.** Contact Kerstin Harding for more information. Also, look for information on GHS PTSA eBark. **VOLUNTEERS STILL NEEDED:** Raise the paddle, table assignments, program for live auction, program for silent auction.

Building Leadership Team (BLT): BLT focus this year is on improving communication and budget. Budget discussion begins next week. PTSA will be working to coordinate PTSA and school budgets. Increase to the PTSA Small Grants was based on feedback from BLT/teachers.

New Teacher Representative to PTSA Board: Mr. Matzin is the librarian at GHS. Attended Seattle Public Schools and Garfield! Goal is for every student to succeed.

Grad Night updates: Price has been reduced from \$165 to \$50 with the intention of increasing student participation. Previously, many students looked at price and didn't look any further. Anticipate more students will participate and pay for event. Event started at GHS a few years back when two students involved in a fatal car accident on graduation night. The event provides a safe, drug-free night of fun and celebrations for the seniors before they move on to the next phase in life. **NEED PARENTS to chaperone.** Some parents and teachers volunteer every year. You can do shifts. Goal this year is 100% participation from students.

Community Chair: Theo Cielos has volunteered to be our PTSA Community Chair. Theo also volunteers with the ASB and is our Grad Night coordinator. THANK YOU, Theo!

**GHS app** – have you signed up for the GHS app yet? Look on GHS website for more information. App available to both parents and students. Fast and efficient way to obtain school information. Became available start of second semester (February).

## Community Partners and Resources:

Y-Scholars: Chris Rossman presented for Y-scholars. Program funded by YMCA with \$7K from GHS PTSA. Program works with students to give them support they need for college application and success. Assistance with tutoring, leadership, mentorship, and homework, SAT prep, essays, interview skills, college visits. Currently 100+ students enrolled in Y-scholar program.

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Each spring, program recruits 30 incoming African American students who have a desire to accelerate their learning and prepare for post-secondary education. Enroll students at GHS in honors, AP classes, running start. Results: 99% graduate, 100% of those who graduated applied to 2 or 4 -year college/university programs. Ideal student is interested in taking AP classes.

One of the highlights from last 5 years: During mid-winter break, 15 Jr and Sr students traveled to California for a Black College fair in Oakland. Each Senior was accepted to several schools on site. Many received scholarships.

Upward Bound Program: Roberto Lopez is an academic counselor for upward bound. It is a 40+ year college graduation program that has been active at GHS almost all that time. Federally funded program focuses on students who demonstrate financial need. Currently 60 students at GHS participate. Some students are both y-scholars and Upward Bound. For students, emphasis is not on past performance; it is not what you did last year it is what you do today and tomorrow. Counseling provided by alumni and Seattle U volunteers who help with science tutoring. Provides summer program at Seattle U which helps students prepare for advanced classes. Helps students with college applications and personal statement, SAT prep, financial aid applications, college visits (southern CA this year). Home visits with parents since many have language and cultural barriers.

Volunteer Coordinator: Kris Morada is the new PTSA Volunteer Coordinator. She is in the office just off the commons on Monday – Wednesday (part time position). Her job is partially funded by PTSA (\$13K). She works with teachers and some of the programs to do background checks for all the volunteers who interact with students at the school (e.g. all the chaperones and tutors for various programs at GHS). She can also help recruit volunteers when necessary.

Two current needs.

A) dance chaperones for next Friday (March 9).

B) Senior celebration in June (awards night). This year, looking for parents/families from all grades to help (setting out tables, food, etc.) Awards in auditorium and dinner in commons.

Teen Health Center: Teen Health Center provides physicals, mental health and psychiatric care, medical care, birth control, STDs testing and information. Teen Health Center has a relationship with Odessa Brown. PTSA works with Teen Health Center and counselors through the holiday giving to provide a some funding for students in need, \$5K in this year's budget just approved tonight to \$10K (basic supplies requested and funded by PTSA include feminine hygiene supplies, other toiletries, socks, gift cards for food and groceries, snacks, additional material assistance to students who are homeless, and/or families who have lost homes due to fire).