



Albany High School
Meeting of the Parent/Teacher/Student Association



DATE: April 6, 2015

MINUTES

PRELIMINARY MATTERS

1. **Welcome, Introductions, Recognition, and Public Comment:**

ACTION ITEMS

2. **Approval of Minutes:** Correction to page 1, item number 5, typo CASEE should be CAHSEE. Motion by Pat Low to adopt the minutes with correction noted. Approved by unanimous vote.
3. **Treasurer Report/Budget:** Over to the meeting of May 4, 2015.
4. **By-Laws for 2014-15:** Motion by Theresa Bittner to approve the revised by-laws. Motion passed by unanimous vote.
5. **Elect the 2015-16 PTSA Board President, Vice President, and Treasurer:** Nomination by Margarita Zamora of Theresa Bittner for President. Motion passed by unanimous vote. The 2015-16 PTSA Board still in need of a Treasurer. Anyone interested, please contact anyone on the current board listed below.

DISCUSSION ITEMS/PRESENTATIONS/REPORTS

6. **Student Report:** Sarah Shu, representing AHS leadership. International food day was a success. Clubs came out and sold different food. Spring fling was also a success - 174 students attended the dance. Had a diversity assembly in which all language classes went out and sang a song in their language. Different levels of dance and different groups came out. Future news, currently planning the prom. It will be held at Treasure Island Event Venue - May 23, 2015. Pat Low described Grad Night fundraising at Zachery's. Grad night is parent sponsored/funded held from midnight to 5:00 a.m. at the Albany Bowl. Wanted to raise funds to make it affordable to all who want to attend. Graduation is Friday, June 12. Need underclassmen to help at the Grad night and/or Senior Awards. Senior Awards is to honor seniors. Luncheon served with a senior gift. Seniors are going to participate in senior retreat May 26 (Tuesday) (great America or Six Flags).
7. **Principal's Message:** None. Not present.
8. **School Care:** Karen Buttwinick made presentation about SchoolCare. Founded in 2001 by concerned parents community members as a result of budget cuts. District had budget shortfalls and as a result SchoolCare came about to fill the gap. Raised funds that are used across all schools, this year at AHS, the library tech being funded (support librarian and extended hours); 3 elective courses; foundations of Art 2D, 3D and Web development; SchoolCare allows 7th period day at AHS. Without SchoolCare there would not be enough funds to allow electives 7th period. Programs identified by meeting with principal, IIC, community input (parents, students), meet with faculty. SchoolCare funds actual staff. For

example, if school can only fund ½ position, SchoolCare would fund the other ½ and fill the hole. Message to Albany community is simple, the more \$ raise, the more positions that can restore. You may be receiving phone calls on phone-a-thon. Last week had 12th graders calling and asking for support. By end of the school year, need to know how much available so school district can finalize their budget. Please make a donation via check, on-line (www.Albanyschoolcare.org). You can donate online via JustGive. Check, cash, any amount helps. If don't raise the funds, will not have the ability to fund those positions that rely on funding by SchoolCare. Please take a minute to donate, every little bit helps. Also looking for volunteers and if anyone interested please email also www.albanyschoolcare.org; link to email; mailbox at each of the schools.

9. Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP) Presentation: Presentation by Peter Parenti and Guy Chaney.

http://www.ausdk12.org/apps/pages/index.jsp?uREC_ID=295731&type=d&pREC_ID=682395
Advisory committee that is looking at this and part of shareholder engagement to get as much input as possible. New mandate for student funding. Must have a plan and funding in place. Last year, as new funding formula came out, Governor Brown identified 3 targeted areas 1) socially disadvantaged; 2) English language learners; and 3) foster kids. Have socially disadvantaged and combined English language and foster kids. Looking at data points – what students need to be successful? Needs Assessment – for last 3 years:

California High School Exit Exam (CAHSEE): Expect it to change because new standards are in place. State standards exams may be rolled out first and exams like the CAHSEE will fall in line after.

Question is how to bridge the gap. If all go up at the same ratio, the gap remains the same. Vertical spread still informative.

Annual Measureable Achievement Objectives for English Language Learners. Goal is that a student makes one step up from beginning, to intermediate, to early advanced, to advanced. If the kids take the test only once the score they took remains and works against determining proficiency. Four years of results used, from 2009 to 2012. Although AUSD meets the government expectations, still have students who struggle. About 30% of elementary are English Language Learners. Middle school lower; AHS lower still.

Comments about data:

- Interesting that the African American population scoring lower than Special Ed. Need to devote more effort to help.
- How does Albany compare with the wellness indicators? The Ca Healthy Kids Survey and the data is there from different districts. Challenge Success from Stanford noted that over the last 10-20 yrs the issues related to mental depression and anxiety have begun to shoot up ideas about why (pressures on kids).
- What do kids need: Parent engagement to be successful; PTSA Parent Ed on students; depression; safety. Utilize data that may be available through PAWS (Peer and Wellness Study) through Cal Berkeley. PAWS tracked kids from kindergarten and have meaningful and usable data.
- With Common Core, still in process of choosing math component. This year will be finishing up the decision making. Will have one common core adoption (materials; teacher training, etc.).

- Do predict that the smarter balanced scores will be lower; a lot more language; standards shifted.

Need to teach families how to support the common core math (new way of doing, thinking) making kids capable of critical thinking; collaborative. You can obtain additional information on the AUSD site or by clicking on the following link:

http://www.ausdk12.org/apps/pages/index.jsp?uREC_ID=295731&type=d&pREC_ID=682395

10. **Common Core:** Test coming up for 3rd, 4th grade and at AHS on April 27th. Distributed 2/2015 letter from P. Parenti; 2nd letter from PTA in support of assessment.

- This year only testing in English arts/literacy and math (new exam formats)
- Science & History in old format.
- A computer and adaptive test component.
 - Computer adaptive, the computer will increase or decrease in difficulty based on how the student is doing. Community college now uses this now. With traditional testing, know that if the student does outstanding, don't know at what level. Same logic if student does really bad, don't know what level. Students who take exams, students stop performing well. This test will keep students engaged. Told that would get results quickly, but half test is written test and this will take longer.
 - For English and Math, each is 90-120 minutes for Math and English just on the computer adaptive section.
 - 3rd – 8th plus 11th grade. No more 9th and 10th grade.
 - Performance Task: Read two essays and compare and contrast and write essays; other examples. Require lots of writing and problem solving. Two essays for English; 1 in math. English 2 hours, separate days. Math 1-hr. Beforehand, teachers getting scripted lesson (additional vocabulary) in preparation for the tests.
 - Albany ready (purchased chromebooks). Bandwidth ready. Hardware and software ready.
 - For 11th graders, have Early Assessment Program, an add on to the state standards test. If students want to take EAP, add questions to English, math and a=essay. Only for State systems, not for private or all others. State systems needed to know whether they were are English proficiency. Now student can choose to have the results available or not. College will have an entrance exam, look at transcripts, others. Students, themselves will choose whether they want early assessment program. If in following year, the state can ask if want to use results. School sites were using EAP as a health of their high school.
 - Smarter Balance tests v. SAT / ACT – unknown impact.
 - <http://caaspp.org/> Practice at home; practice at school. Can see the practice tests (English and Math). Kids can also go on and try questions or practice test. Can take more time if need more time.

[www.Typingclub.com](http://www.typingclub.com) for any student who needs to brush up on typing. Recommendation 10 to 15 minutes per day.

Web Resources

eScrip: <http://www.escrip.com>

Secure site allows you to sign up or update your eScrip membership

AHS eTree <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ahsnews/>

Moderated list for official AHS and PSTA announcements

AHS PTSA: <http://ahs.ausdk12.org/committees/ptsa>

AHS Website <http://ahs.ausdk12.org>

Includes information from school, link to PTSA

AlbanySchools <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/AlbanySchools/>

Aeries:

<https://abi.ausdk12.org/aeriesportal/LoginParent.aspx?page=default.aspx>

Calendar of Events

2014		2015	
August 7, 2014	PTSA Board Meeting	January 5, 2015	PTSA Board Meeting
August 25, 2014	Orientation	February 2, 2015	Parent Education Presentation
August 26, 2014	First Day of School	February 2015	2015/16 Board Nominating Committee
September 8, 2014	PTSA General Meeting	March 23, 2015	PTSA Board Meeting
September 22, 2014	PTSA Board Meeting	April 2015	2015/16 Board Nominations Due
October 6, 2014	PTSA General Meeting	April 6, 2015	PTSA General Meeting
October 20, 2014	PTSA Board Meeting	April 20, 2015	PTSA Board Meeting
November , 2014	Parent Education Presentation	May 4, 2015	Last PTSA General Meeting

AHS PTSA Officers and Committee Chairs - 2014-2015

Position	Name	Email
Executive Committee:		
President	Kendra Knowles	knowlesclan@comcast.net
Treasurer	Chloe Mosqueda	mrscmos@yahoo.com
Parliamentarian	Sarah Oldershaw	Sarah0652@gmail.com
Secretary	Margarita Zamora Esmaili	mzesmaili@gmail.com
Vice President of Membership and Volunteers	Iris Miranda	irismiranda@sbcglobal.net
Income:		
Membership		
Programs:		
2015 Grad Night	Iris Miranda	irismiranda@sbcglobal.net
2015 Prom		
Instructional Improvement Committee (IIC)	Beth Thomsen Kendra Knowles	beththomsen@gmail.com ; knowlesclan@comcast.net
Site Council	Mike McDonald Phyllis Pennington-Kent	m.mcdonald23@yahoo.com phyllispk@gmail.com
Career Day & Job Shadow Day	Marianne Fisher	Mariannef811@sbcglobal.com
Senior Celebrations	Pat Low	patjlow@gmail.com
Teacher Treats (monthly)	Sonja Ross Alice Ely	haneyross@sbcglobal.net ajely@juno.com
Staff Appreciation	Lisa Kirkby Beth Thomsen Sonja Ross	breadandcake@comcast.net beththomsen@gmail.com haneyross@sbcglobal.com
Web Communication	Marina Zavala	marina@marinasplace.com
Test Proctoring		