

## **QUEST/PAGE ABC Minutes** *September 8, 2009*

Present: David Berg, Deborah Wilson, Amy Prezbindowski, Kirby Burchett, Julie Shaffer, Rachel Shaffer, Christine Holland, Eric Hooper, Nancy Velazsquez, Janelle Burger, Cindy Soulier, Deborah Slevin

Meeting called to order 6:34PM by David.

Secretary's Report: Minutes for June approved as written.

Treasurer's Report: Julie - Report is current as of May 30. Beck turned in receipts and was under budget for last school year. Even though they came in late a check will be cut for her expenses. Since receipts are still trickling in books have yet to be closed out and audited. People have asked if we are still using the same reimbursement forms and the answer is yes. Janelle will hand out a master at teacher's meeting tomorrow. A line reading that all receipts must be turned in by the last day of school should be added for less confusion when it comes to reimbursement. David will create an electronic version that can be printed out from the website.

Vice President/Website: Eric – No update. Eric will handle the United Way fundraising (matching program).

### **STANDING COMMITTEES**

Coordinator: Nancy – Moving into new digs at Maplewood. Small office – 30 years of accumulated “stuff”. Power's half off. Server has been moved. Phones are in the process of being moved. David has offered to help with the “toss pile” this week. Kingore Bertie will be a featured speaker at WEATAG this year. Enrollment in some classes is still down. Below 20 is cause for concern. Three classes (3/4) are at 19. The district ideal would be 25 in ¾ and 27 in 5/6. Transportation concerns have quieted down. A handful of people dropped due to transportation. Some buses have been delayed due to construction on S. Hill. Things don't look great, financially, for the district in the near future. The district may be facing a \$40 million budget cut in the future, if the next Maintenance and Operations Levy fails. Stimulus monies helped pay for many programs that were saved this year.

Family Events: Ice cream social is our first event. No date – obviously after the Fair! Maplewood has always been our site but a more central location may be better. Christine will check into Sunrise. She would love to have a co-chair for this event. An e-mail will be sent to teachers asking for a consensus on a date. Our regular events will be scheduled later and smaller, casual events will be included on the website on the forum.

Fundraising: No chair yet. One parent contacted David while he was on vacation with ideas. The only certain thing we have now is the Entertainment Books.

Legislative: Christine – We will do GE Day Feb. 5, 2010. WCGE sent out position paper listing their priorities which is posted on the website. We have dealt with five members on the list quite extensively over the past years. The meetings for the Quality Education Council are also posted on the website. One point they want to address is improving transportation.

Membership: The PTA's need to finish their Sept. membership drives. We will introduce ourselves in Oct. at our social.

Newsletter: Should we do an introduction newsletter – invitation to social and transition to web communication?

Public Relations/Secondary Schools: Cindy – scholarship went well last year.

School Board: no report

Teacher Rep: Janelle – She thinks everyone is where they should be. Tomorrow is the big teacher meeting so everyone can be on the same page. E-mail's have been flying so communication is open. The swift sites could be another way to intro ABC to parents (or, if they aren't using a swift site, whatever means of communication with parents they use).

Volunteer Coordinator: Needs to push at social and work with membership. Request for filling this position is on the website.

Communications: Amy – Needs a list of host school teachers for specific e-mail communications. Each one of us should make contact with officers of PTA at our child's school and introduce who we are and what we do to them and make sure they understand that we work together with them for the betterment of the kids. We will start focusing on the 8 host schools and eventually branch out to the 21 clustering schools. Questions have arisen about what exactly the clustering classes are – are they QUEST or are they gen-ed? Nancy clarifies: Those classrooms are not considered part of the QUEST program. They are there to identify the needs of the students and those students are determined at the building level. Project Youth Stars Plus is the format used to identify those students who need to be challenged further. The program may change in the future. Some first grade QUEST students opted out of the 2<sup>nd</sup> grade clustering program.

Website – more people online! David's not talking to himself anymore! Another communication tool for both teachers and parents.

PAGE student rep – Rachel (New Position!) Link to ABC on Mrs. Kreiger's swift site and she says to contact ABC about transportation issues! Kalles is School Of Distinction. New student from Stahl & 2 from Glacier View, 5 from honors.

### **Old BUSINESS**

- Audit of last year's book needed.

### **New BUSINESS**

- Transportation issues. See many notes above.
- Invite PTA's to send us representatives – notes on PTA above.
- NWGCA conference – Nothing to report
- WCGE World conference was in Vancouver, B.C. David Berg attended. Forty one countries represented. People floored by how wonderful Puyallup is incorporating various grade levels and so many students and schools. European nations talked about difficulties in identification and not singling people out. Next conference is going to be in South Korea.
- NAGC has an online lesson for parents coming up. Free for the rest of this year. Links on website.

Meeting adjourned 8:20

Next meeting October 6, 2009, 6:30PM, Las Palomas