

The Mission of the KTS Parents Association is to help enrich the academic and social lives of our students and create a sense of community for KTS Parents, Students, Teachers, Therapists and Staff. KTSPA advocates Parent/Student needs to the greater TLC organization. If you are the parent or guardian of a student at KTS, you are a member of the KTSPA.

Katherine Thomas School PA - Minutes: Wednesday January 2, 2008

Parents Attending: Julie Hunter, Pam Peckinpaugh, Karen Beveridge, Shelly Bogasky, Susan Burns, Karen Dorigan, Linda Harris, Kim Irish, Donna LaTorre, Ginny McDonald, Michael Moran, Catherine Price, Mary Rill

At the 8:00am meeting concentrating on the High School, the budget was reviewed and several issues were discussed.

First, discussion centered on the year book. The committee met and set parameters for the yearbook, leaving room for creativity. Each senior will have a page of their own. A list of necessary content for the yearbook as a whole was defined. The yearbook will be hard bound and cost \$20.00 per child. Some discussion surrounded whether faculty needed a stipend for working on the year book this year as it is being run as a class. This was not resolved at the meeting. It was suggested that next year more students be involved in developing the yearbook.

The high school will have a game night that is co-sponsored by the PA and the high school SGA. This is a student oriented activity.

Parents proposed that games such as a Tennis Wii Tournament be included at Family Fun Night (later renamed as *KTS Family Festival*) and that these should be open to high school students only. [Note that later in the meeting *KTS Family Festival* was again discussed and some parents did not agree with the proposal to have activities at *KTS Family Festival* that excluded specific groups.]

The high school graduation committee was discussed as well as some of the thoughts of that committee, i.e., graduation at night, involvement of 11th grade students and parents, class gift, class dance, etc.

Final discussion included a suggestion that the high school develop a debate team in the future.

General Business Meeting

Introductions

Approval of November Minutes with 2 modifications - Susan Burns/Sara Huether Co-Secretaries

1 - Soiree Funds – in October meeting the decision was to split funds 1/3 lower school, 1/3 middle school and 1/3 high school. **NOTE CHANGE 12-2-08 – THIS MATTER WAS REOPENED AND AGAIN VOTED ON, GIVING THE FUNDS TO LOWER, MIDDLE AND UPPER SCHOOL BASED ON PRE CAPITA STUDENT ENROLLMENT FOR EACH.**

2 - KTS Parents Association Meeting on Wednesday December 5, 2007 at 7pm.

NOTE CHANGE 12-2-08 – THE DECEMBER EVENING MEETING WAS CANCELLED SO THAT PARENTS WOULD BE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND THE TLC COMMUNICATION EVENING MEETING ON NOVEMBER 27, 2007.

Financial Report- Ginny McDonald – Treasurer –

1. Note changes in Soiree Funds as described above.
2. Yearbook was discussed in relation to budget – see notes above.
3. \$100.00 was raised by the Armands fundraiser and families mentioned a good time was had by all. The check was received. We want to continue this. It was requested that the co-chairs send a thanks to Maureen Larson for organizing this and ask if she would be willing to do it again next year.
4. Other fundraisers were discussed, flower sale – something special for mother's day?, Barnes and Noble?, other restaurants? Etc. It was suggested that we ask parents if anyone is interested in organizing fundraisers similar to that done with Armands. Parents liked getting together and we made money. Thought this might be an interest of parents whose schedules conflict with the usual PA fundraising coordination since it can be done without meetings, etc.

New Business

1. Puppetry Class was discussed and the need to let parents know that it is the PA that organizes after school activities for the lower and middle schools and they can initiate activities if they want as long as coordinated with PA and the formal process.
2. Parents asked that half days and full days for professional development take place on Mondays and Fridays and co-directors were asked to communicate this request to school directors.
3. Karen Beveridge and Susan Burns will work together to set up a movie night in the gym.
4. Donna LaTorre is exploring a scooter activity for an afternoon for the lower school.

HS Report – Julie Hunter

1. Dance in December was a success
2. See items presented at first part of minutes under 8am meeting concentrating on high school.

L/M Report – Pam Peckinpaugh

1. L/M search committee meeting update given by Mary Rill and Susan Burns. Process is moving along. The position description has been established. Permanent Director Candidates have applied. There is at least one promising candidate. Several interim candidates have applied, some interviewed, not appropriate for the full time **interim** director. Currently (not sure of name but will find out) is being employed to do some

pieces of the coordinators position while Rhona Schwartz, Chrisy Bernabe and Judy Cromwell continue to lead.

2. Smart Boards for all L/M Classrooms Update– Pam Peckinpaugh was directed to request an update to Rhona Schwartz, Chrisy Bernabe and Dick Pavlin in writing rather than by informal contact (motion initiated by Ginny McDonald and Karen Beveridge and **agreed** upon by group consensus).

Announcements

1. Upcoming open houses will be on January 9, February 13, March 12, April 9
2. Zourdous Resolution Plans – Co-chairs were asked to make appropriate contacts to set up a plan. It was requested that Debbie Ezrin (director of development) be cc'ed on any correspondence.

Old Business

1. Yearbook committee – see notes on this at beginning of minutes.
2. ***KTS Family Festival*** (a new name here – do you like it? Any suggestions for other names? We will include DJ by Mr. Mark, Bingo by Mr. Vadney, dance dance revolution (Mary Rill and Julie Hunter bring 2 dance pads each) , Wii Tennis (Shelly Bogasky coordinating this), moonbounce (with employee to run it), dunk booth (with employee to run it), pizza, water...This event is taking place Friday May 16th .
3. Space Update – parents wanted to know what was happening. Points from November 27th meeting were repeated. Some parents were very concerned about lack of outdoor space for KTS.
4. By-laws Update – KTSHS Parent and Attorney Kathleen Carey has agreed to draft new by-laws that will be reviewed by committee and put forth for PA for passage. The hope is to have by-laws enacted by June 2008.
5. Revisit of AT needs at KTS given that problems still exist with having enough Kurzweil licenses, etc. – Susan Burns and Shelly Bogasky are organizing this. A possible January meeting about AT use will be planned. This revisit is delayed until other needs are met.

Old Business not discussed at meeting but that we do not want to loose track of (from November minutes)

1. Discussion of *Beyond the Bake Sale* – Julie Hunter and Pam Peckinpaugh are organizing this. There was no update on this.
2. At the November meeting we decided to have flowers for visitors on Grandparent's day, Thursday May 2nd . Mary Rill, Julie van der Poel, and Susan Burns will coordinate that effort. There was no update on this.

The next KTS Parents Association Meeting will be Wednesday February 6th at 7pm.

Minutes submitted by Susan Burns and Ginny McDonald (filling in for Sara Huether)