

**Anderson High School PTSA  
General Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, August 20, 2009**

President Marc Erck called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. There was a quorum present of 16 people at the meeting. The minutes from the May 21, 2009 meeting were approved as amended.

**Treasurer's Report (Terri Orton)**

- A motion was passed to amend the FY 09-10 Budget to increase the line item "Unallocated Resources" to be \$19,141.16. This amount reflects additional carryover from prior FY as well as \$1,000 from the TABC Shattered Dreams program.
- The importance of purchasing Grocery Cards was discussed.

Introductions were made by those in attendance.

**President's Report (Marc Erck)**

- Thanked everyone for their assistance managing the preparation and flow of "first day" information packets.
- Additionally he expressed that the staff was very grateful for the breakfast provided by the PTSA.

**Principal's Address (Donna Houser)**

- Expressed excitement for the new school year and the new staff at Anderson this year. The new teachers are primarily filling vacancies for elective courses such as Languages, Digital Graphics, and Theatre. These additions will assist students to stay on track for graduation plus it will provide them with the opportunity to create more specialized tracks in the future almost analogous to tracking for a major in college.
- Additionally, announced that Anderson will be home to the District's first full time robotics program.
- Anderson continues to be a highly sought after school for prospective teachers and in fact, one English teacher needed to be hired just 2 weeks prior to the teachers first day of school, and the position was filled by a teacher from California that literally dropped everything to move to Anderson for the opportunity to teach.
- Construction will be an ongoing topic this year. 2 Eagle Scout projects are transforming the courtyards; and work has begun on 12 new classrooms plus 4 labs. These should be completed by the end of next summer. Construction on the new Band Hall is starting soon as well.
- Anderson missed out on being Academically Recognized because 2 economically disadvantaged students were unaccounted for initially but were subsequently determined to have left the district. An appeal is being lodged but its fate is uncertain. To mitigate future problems in this area the school has hired a "Dropout Prevention Specialist".
- Encouragement and gratitude was expressed to the PTSA for their assistance in getting everything in order for the new school year.
- Block scheduling bell schedules will be tested and reviewed the first few weeks and adjustments made as necessary
- It was also noted that graduation requirements for AISD will likely not be changing for the foreseeable future despite recent changes in the State's degree requirements.

**Committee Reports**

- Trojan Spirit Fest (Julie Cowan)
  - Set for September 12 will include participation from the entire Anderson vertical team of schools. Great response so far from all the booster clubs. Various logistical issues/concerns were reviewed.

**New Business**

- Coordination and designation of Tax Free Days for Trojan Spirit Fest and Project Graduation Geranium sales was confirmed.
- The financial audit for Fiscal Year, 7/1/08 to 6/30/09, conducted under Texas PTA Guidelines, was presented and accepted.
- A new Grocery Card Chairperson, Patty Oppel, was presented. It was noted that her child is a senior and that an assistant still needed to be recruited.
- The President suggested that the ad hoc assignment of the First VP which previously focused on Back to School Night might be changed on a going forward basis to focus more directly on managing the PTSA's volunteer resources.
- A request was made by the Joe Uhler on behalf of the Speech & Debate team for the PTSA to assist with paying judges for their upcoming tournament on September 4 & 5. The tournament was scheduled to have up to 500 students from 35 schools across Texas and required approximately 40 paid judges. Due to District payment procedures the team was having difficulty recruiting qualified judges. While it was noted that the team had experienced dramatic growth in size and competitiveness over the last few years, it was determined that due to the short lead time, and the size of the request (≈ \$6,000) that the Board couldn't commit to any immediate assistance at this meeting, but that the request would be referred to the Executive Committee for further review.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:16 p.m.

**Upcoming Dates:**

August 24 – First Day of School Classes, 9 am - 4:16 pm  
September 2 – Back to School Night

6:45 – 7:00 pm, Introductory Video in Student's 1<sup>st</sup> Period Classroom  
7:00 – 9:00 pm, Classroom Visitations  
September 12 – Trojan Spirit Fest, 5:00 – 8:30 pm  
September 17 – PTSA General Meeting, 7:00 pm, room 130

Respectfully Submitted by Jay Juba for Annette Juba, 2009-10 Secretary