

June 3, 2008

GPA Meeting

Present: Sharon Olken, Michael Johengen, Eve Goodman, Michael Krasnobrod, Martha Fulmer, Jenny Hart
Amy Joseph, Terri Ahuruonye, Silvia Sobal, Jon Bernstein, Joanne Wells, Ginny Gjedsted, Elia Pochron, Ryszard Pochron, Connie Wong, Brion Hu.

President's Welcome and Introduction

Tracy Pore

This is Tracy's last meeting as president. She leaves with remembering reading to her children in the womb and then becoming involved with her children's schools. She noted that by being the GPA you get to know teachers, classes offered, other parents, and you get an amazing school experience as well as supporting your child and his/her teachers. Being involved enhances your sense of community and your child's place in school. Tracy is not going away completely, she is chairing the Gateway 10/10 Celebration (Gateway is 10 years old and we're celebrating it on October 10th). A 12 step program was suggested to help her separate from the school.....

May Minutes were approved

Principal's Update

Sharon Olken

Sharon welcomes all, old and new parents at the table. She also thanked the current officers on the Steering Committee, and thanked, specifically, the outgoing officers, noting their individual contributions to the community and to the school. She also thanked Jon Bernstein for all his work on the CommuniGator, a silent but very necessary role as an editor for the main form of communication at Gateway. He met with daunting dead lines on an ongoing basis.

For the new parents, Sharon briefly outlined what she addresses in the monthly meetings. For example, at the last meetingshe discussed the school budget and how Gateway would be impacted. She also provided information about the school and upcoming projects.

Students registered for classes last week, parents were to sign the form showing they are aware of upcoming classes. The Awards Ceremony is June 4th and it acknowledges special feats of learning within the student-body. Finals start Monday, June 9th. The final schedule will be sent out in an eBlast from school, is also in the CommuniGator, and is posted in the school hallways. Graduation in June 14th in the school Auditorium.

Students working with the 826 Valencia Project produced a book, "Seeing Through the Fog, a Gateway to San Francisco". They will be honored at City Hall on June 10th. Sharon is looking for parents to help by listening to Humanities students' Portfolios the week of June 9th. It's a 2 hour commitment and a great way to learn about the school, teachers, and students progress through the year. A schedule was passed around to allow parents to sign up.

2008-09 School Year: The first day for freshman students is August 25, all the rest of the students start on August 26, 2008. The only possible major change next year may be the timing of Project Week. It's usually during the intersession between Winter Break and second semester. Sharon gave a brief description of the courses offered. She is trying to balance the length of the two semesters (the second semester is shorter), so Project Week may change to be between the 3rd and 4th quarters to make both semesters equal in length and to take advantage of better weather in the Spring. Staffing changes were also discussed.

Graduation Committee Update

Gary Goldsborough is absent

Logowear/Treasurer Update

Amy Joseph

Amy reports that there is only one sweatshirt left after the Freshman Welcome on May 27th.

The red sweatshirts are gone and the Tenth Anniversary logowear is sold out. The school has \$2200 in its coffers, way to go Amy! We will put in another order for the Frosh/Soph BBQ, but the sweats will be in black, not red. Elia Pochron noted her son is wearing his sweatshirt everyday; it shows a lot of pride in his new school.

Nomination of Officers

President	Amy Joseph
Vice President	Ginny Gjedsted
Secretary	Terri Ahuruonye
Treasurer/Logowear	Elia Pochron

All were confirmed unanimously.

Committee Chair descriptions and event handouts were passed around for review and sign-up. These are ways parents can be involved in the school and meet other parents, teachers and faculty, solidifying a sense of community. Sharon urged all to be involved.

Mike Johengen will chair the **Frosh/Soph BBQ**, but feels it should be co-chaired by or shadowed by a Frosh or Sophomore parent. The BBQ is Sunday, August 21st at Glen Park. We need to get a permit for Glen Park and set up a meeting date with Sharon and the new officers.

There will be a parent volunteer sign-up in the freshman orientation packets mailed out to the incoming families. There are volunteer jobs for everyone - pick a job you'd like to do, or note the need for something new and Sharon can match you with your job. The GPA has folders describing the traditional events, to help new parents take over.

For now, GPA meetings will continue to be on one Tuesday a month, at 6pm in the school library.

The first meeting of the new year will be September 9th, 2008.

Tracy Pore adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Ginny Gjedsted