

Langley High School  
PTSA Executive Board Meeting Minutes  
November 6, 2019

In attendance: Kim Greer, Laura Skeen, Jill Holloman, Katie Connolly, Anastasia Karloutsos, Kim Finch, Monika Gibson Roncskevitz, Julie Hohl, Kitty Gonzalez, Lisa Givens, Mary Kunkemueller, Jamie Loving, Kathie Schoff, Leslie Speidel, Laura Carlisle, Amy Prewett, Jennifer Finestein, Kim Finch

Meeting called to order: 9:36 am

Motion to Approve October 2, 2019 Board minutes – Kitty Gonzalez and Amy Prewett. All approved.

Principal's Report: Kim Greer

- We are ¼ of the way through the year and it's been quiet
- Juniors are requesting more parking spaces than expected - 150 names submitted for the lottery with 78 spaces available – we are not planning to hold another lottery
- Vaping has declined and the number of students being caught has decreased, yet parents at the Freshmen coffee indicated that some students are still intimidated to use the restroom because of vaping
- Volleyball and field hockey teams have been successful, with the final football game against McLean this Friday, so we have a lot to celebrate
- Principal Greer received compliments from a substitute teacher that our students are great at Langley
- There were no updates from the School Board Meeting, only three At-Large members ran for reelection, as a result it will be a new board
- Check request received for the marquee. This should be the final payment. Ms. Greer has renovation money left in her budget if more funds are needed. Approved design will now be two sides as opposed to one and will start work on a plaque stating the marquee is a gift from the PTSA
- On-going debate between Blackboard vs. Google Classroom shows challenges with each system - both are approved by Fairfax County School Board
  - Google more user friendly for students and teachers, parents could ask children for Google log-in because they are not given a parent account
  - Blackboard contract is ending as early as the end of the school year
  - Teachers will be trained on the new system
- Snus is a new substance (similar to chewing tobacco) entering market and could affect our children – It comes in many flavors and FDA approved
- Hallway near the band classrooms has been labeled the “Make-out Hallway” - potential option to curb use is to put video surveillance signs
- Curriculum Night scheduled for Jan. 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm - Last year fell right after the holiday, was difficult for students to be engaged and ready to make decisions

- The date this year was scheduled by HR so cannot be adjusted - Reminders will go out earlier and advertising for the event will be better this year
- Electives Fair for students is scheduled for Dec. 17th during Saxon Time. Students can select three different options for 15 minutes with each chosen elective - Students will have information prior to winter break to prepare for their schedule choices
- Winter break ends late on Jan. 6<sup>th</sup> - therefore, reminders will go out prior to the break

President's Report: Laura Skeen

- Kitty has been a huge help, a big thank you to her for all of her support
- The Grand Opening of Langley pushed back to spring of 2020 (Date likely to be March or early May)
- Nov. 17<sup>th</sup> Open house/tours scheduled from 2-4pm for 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> graders
  - Advertising at Cooper and invitations sent to Nysmith, Little Langley, St. Luke, St. Johns and Longfellow
  - Some confusion regarding "open enrollment" requirements. Longfellow parents told enrollment was closed last year. Likely based on timing. Transfer requests are due in April and must have education need that base school does not offer
  - Mary Welsh (School Tour Committee Chair) will help with the event
  - Student Ambassadors will give tours
  - Principal Greer will find out if Jim Robertson will be presenting
  - Athletic Boosters should sell spirit wear during the open house
- Seeking an additional committee member for Staff Appreciation
  - First event planned for Feb. to thank bus drivers, custodians & counselors

Officer's Reports:

- Appropriations/PDF - Jamie Loving/Kathie Schoff
  - Professional Development Funds are available for teachers to attend professional development events or take courses that directly benefit Langley students – the PTSA and Principal Greer encourage staff to take advantage of these funds
    - Last year we earmarked funds for language teachers to attend the World Language Conference taking place in D.C. from Nov. 22- Dec. 4 with 5 teachers planning to attend
    - This year the Appropriations Committee approved \$1,000 to help technical staff with incentive program designed to improve teachers' technology skills
  - Appropriations totaling \$9,854 have been approved for items listed below. In January requests for second round will go out.

- Science Dept.
    - Sequential human skeleton and anatomy overlay with charts
    - Cell phone adapter for telescopes/make your own kits for astronomy class
  - Tech. Ed. – Large computer monitors
  - Performing Arts – Professional players to complete the orchestra for three performances scheduled for October, December and May
  - Principal Greer covered purchase of music stands as they were not approved under renovation budget
  - Funds can be allocated up until 6 months past final building construction
    - Fire Wall to be added and punch list to be completed before the building construction is considered complete and could extend through next summer
  - Per Geoff Noto, students are moved out of gym during emergency situations and budgeting for blackout shades is not necessary
  - PTSA website will list appropriations information going forward
- Membership/Fundraising - Annette Bellino
    - Good progress with our memberships – Financial goal almost reached. Would like to have a greater % of families join the PTSA
    - Might have about 10-20% more memberships come in around Thanksgiving
    - Decision pending to do another membership drive or push monetary donation requests towards courtyard renovations
    - Distributed membership paper forms in back-to-school packets helped bring numbers up
    - Hoping for more raffle donations for the Langley staff - Reminders will be sent out again in e-News. Raffles are held weekly and are used as incentive to get staff to join the PTSA (membership is only \$5)
      - 81% of teachers joined to date. Last year 91% joined
      - Capitol Steps tickets and ornament sales by the orchestra are other options of raffle items
  - Treasurer - Lisa Givens
    - As of month's end, finances are looking good
    - Treasurer's report was distributed
    - Membership line item not current as Annette Bellino still has checks to be added

#### Committee Booster Reports

- Courtyard Campaign - Chrissie Lavin

- Tree trunk has arrived, Legacy Tree should go up this month
- Approved plan/budget will come out over next few months for additional fundraising efforts
- Directory - Laura Carlisle
  - Directories to be distributed during lunch Monday/Tuesday of next week
  - Distribution is different this year due to new privacy provision - Oldest child of each family will receive a copy if family has joined PTSA. Reminder email will be sent to those who joined the PTSA and information will also be posted on e-News
  - 125 extra copies are available, and this number could go up to 145 if they are not distributed to staff
  - Everyone who has paid for a copy should receive it prior to selling extra copies
  - Langley gives everyone access to A-Z on line directory, but other schools do not
  - 25 families opted out of being added to printed copy this year
- Health Screening - Leslie Speidel
  - Screenings 10<sup>th</sup> graders and new students will be held tomorrow and Friday
- Reflections - Sara Koenig
  - Great participation this year - 29 students in five categories with steep competition
  - Featured students moving forward will be posted in library window
- Other
  - Senior Ethics Day will take place on March 17<sup>th</sup> at McLean Bible Church - Committee could use 1 or 2 more members and Table Discussion Leaders with Principal Greer sending a request in the biweekly newsletter
  - ANGP location has been approved for Oakmarr scheduled for June 1<sup>st</sup>
  - Featured stories such as donations and a push for families to use Amazon Smile for Black Friday will be displayed in a link in enewsletter
  - Matching donations from companies would be a great boost
  - Too late to participate in the Hutchinson Elementary School coat drive but could send a request out earlier for donations next year
  - Catherine Kennedy has asked the PTSA for assistance in collecting new unwrapped toys and/or gift cards for Westgate Elementary - Laura Skeen suggested she reach out to Sandy Hamilton and the Leadership class

Upcoming Dates:

11/7-8 Health Screenings

11/13 PTSA General Membership Mtg

11/17 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Open House/Tours

11/27-29 No School (Thanksgiving Break)

Meeting adjourned: 11:03 am

Respectfully Submitted by: Kathryn Connolly