

American Heritage/Academy Upper School PTO Meeting

Thursday – January 11, 2007

The general meeting of the Upper School PTO was called to order by Macu Melgarejo at 8:00 am.

Administration Report by Mr. Gulotta

1/12/07: The Yale Spizznicks (Yale, A Capella Singers) will perform for the students

1/12/07: Report cards mailed

1/14/07 – 1/15/07: 7th Graders go to SeaWorld.

1/17/07: High Honors Breakfast per 2nd Quarter Reports

1/19/07: No school; Conference Day

1/20/07: Guidance Counselor workshop for Juniors and families (8:30am – 12:00noon)

1/20/07: Winter Open House for new families

Treasurer's Report

Pam Saccocio read the Treasurer's Report. \$500 had been deposited in December from Josten's. No other activity in December. As of 12/31/06, there is a balance of \$13,814.07 in the bank. Judy Malove motioned to accept the Treasurer's Report; Katherine Glasser seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Reports

High Honors Breakfast – January 17, 2007

Maria Falci and Lillian Delgado reminded everyone of the High Honors Breakfast, taking place on Wednesday 1/17/2007. Anyone who is volunteering should have already received a confirmation email. If not, please let them know.

Guidance Counselor College Workshop for Juniors – January 20, 2007

Colleen Reese and Sheryl Lynn are looking for six (6) additional volunteers for the College Workshop. It will be on Saturday, 1/20/2007, from 7:45am – 9:15am.

2nd Annual Northern Trust Social & Fundraiser Event – January 24, 2007

Erika Novick and Katherine Glasser reminded everyone of the event, taking place at the Weston Northern Trust on Wednesday 1/24/2007. In addition to being a social event, there will also be a Chinese Auction with various items as well as a Raffle (for a trip to Sonoma, CA 4 days/3 nights in a 5-star hotel). Northern Trust caters all the food and drinks. The money raised will benefit the Chris Evert Pediatric Cancer Center. Invitations will be sent out via Edline today. Please note that space is limited and tickets have already been sold. If anyone is not able to make it, you are still eligible to enter the Raffle (you don't need to be at the event to win). In addition, donations are welcome.

History Day – January 30, 2007 and February 1, 2007

Cynthia Perdomo is the chairperson for this event. They are looking for volunteers to help judge the various projects. There is a training session on January 30, 2007 (which will take approximately 1 ½ hours). However, if you cannot make the training session, they can work with you. On February 1, 2007 (from 8:00am – 1:30pm), all the projects and reports will be displayed and volunteers will judge. If you can volunteer for the entire time, that's wonderful. However, if you can only stay for a shorter timeframe, that's fine too.

President's Report

- Erika Novick motioned to approve the Minutes from December 14, 2006; Katherine Glasser seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- Report on Jewelry Sale and donation – there was a good turnout for the meeting and the Jewelry Sale. As payment, PERVAZI donated a beautiful matching necklace and bracelet set for our Northern Trust Fundraiser.

January 2007 Guest Speakers

Ms. Mandal and Mr. Robin answered many questions regarding what students and parents should know when preparing for college. If anyone has any further questions, you should contact Ms. Mandal, Mr. Robin or your child's guidance counselor. Ms. Wilkes has joined the American Heritage guidance team as an extra counselor for High School students. Information will be sent out to those affected by any changes.

The following are just a few examples of the many questions posed and answered:

- Which is better: to get an A or B in a College Prep class OR to get a B or C in an Honors or AP class?
- Are colleges more interested in academics and SATs or do they take sports/activities into account?
- How do colleges "weight" the grades and compute GPAs (and how does it compare with AH/AA)?
- When is the best time to start taking the SAT?
- If a student takes the SAT more than once, will the college only get the most-recent scores?
- Is there a class to help students learn to write the essays for the SAT?
- Is there a class to help students learn how to write the essay/profile about themselves (to be sent to colleges)?
- Should students who are active in sports prepare a Sports Resume?

The next General Meeting will be Thursday, February 8, 2007 at 8:00am.

Join us as our guest speaker, Dr. Eva Ritvo, will give us information about the dangers posed to our children regarding over-the-counter medications. Children don't have to look beyond our own medicine cabinets to be in danger of getting high. Find out which medicines are the most popular, what signs to look for in our children, and how we can help avoid this danger.

With no further business to attend to, Erika Novick motioned to adjourn the meeting. Debbie Hubschman seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 8:45am.