

Welcome and Introductions

Meeting was called to order by Jamie Lewin, president, at 7:15PM.

Technology

- Dr. Marten, a Lowell teacher, confirmed that clickers will soon be distributed to teachers for classroom use.
- He explained that the new carts in classrooms are equipped with:
 - LCD projectors
 - DVD/VCR players
 - Sound systems
 - Document cameras
 - Storage space
- He said that we are currently working towards getting iPads for classroom use. iPads will have pre-installed apps that include:
 - iWork Suite for spreadsheets and presentations.
 - iMovie for movie projects
 - iBooks
 - We are looking for Math and Science applications as well
- We are still trying to establish school-wide WiFi.

President's Report

- Jamie Lewin stated that the PTSA funded the improvements for the auditorium. She declared that last year's money went towards technology as well as to the classrooms.
- She mentioned that we still need volunteers for the WASC, school check up, committee.

Approval of Budget

Treasurer, Sally Blumenfeld, reviewed the budget. The budget was approved without opposition.

Principal's Report

Andrew Ishibashi, principal, reflected on how the PTSA plays a vital role in supporting Lowell High School.

Discussion / Questions

- What is the Trustee Account was for?
 - the board answered that it provides funds to pay for staff and other needs the school deems necessary. Last year, the Trustee Fund provided \$250 for staff and \$2,000 for technology, science classes, and sports.
- Why are we switching the ConnectEdu?
 - It was stated that the school district has decided to use ConnectEdu, thus Lowell must oblige and transfer from Naviance to ConnectEdu.
- Why does the PTSA plan on spending twice as much money as it takes in?
 - The PTSA generated a large reserve from last year and because PTSA's are non-profit, we must spend all of it this year.
- What's the difference between the Lowell Alumni Association and the PTSA?
 - It was said that the Lowell Alumni and PTSA are two separate organizations, however, they often work together in projects that benefit Lowell.
- Is there any difference between the PTSA and Lowell Fund?
 - They are the same, simply different titles.
- Are there online tutorials for ConnectEdu?
 - There are plenty of videos available in the web regarding ConnectEdu.
- What is Plan Ahead?
 - It was basically a \$10,000 donation from the Alumni Association and PTSA to help aid the College and Career classes.

- Is the Shadowing program still available?
 - No, Lowell is only allowing school tours this year because teachers found it disruptive to have students shadowing.
- Will there be future PD days to train teachers to use SchoolLoop?
 - Yes, there are plenty of workshops ahead because SchoolLoop is a convenient means of connecting teachers, students, and parents.
- Are all teachers on SchoolLoop?
 - Administration recommends that teacher use it, but not all have started.
- What happened with Anti-Abortion protests in on early September 7, 2011?
 - Police came to supervise the protest. Calls to the Superintendent of Schools have confirmed that these protests are allowed.
- Are parents allowed to step in a police in a situation like that?
 - Parents are allowed to help, but its is best if we do not approach the protesters.
- Will the PTSA be sending emails to members?
 - Yes, as soon as we receive emails of new members.

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned by Jamie Lewin at 8:13PM.

AGENDA

PTSA General Meeting Agenda - October 5th @ 7pm

1. Welcome
2. Approve Minutes
3. Reports of Officers
 - Treasurer's Report
 - President's Report
 - Auditor's Report
 - Membership Report
 - Faculty Report
 - Student Rep. Report
4. Committee Reports
 - Grants Committee
 - Lowell Fund
 - Reflections
5. Announcements
 - November 5 - Old School Dance & Auction
6. Guest Speaker - [Jean Marie Buckley](#) - "College Planning and Admissions"
7. Adjournment