



Chamblee Charter High School PTSA

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“You Can Support the Success of Every Child by Joining PTSA”

Chamblee Charter High School

October 18, 2010 7:00 p.m.

Minutes

Call to Order at 7:00 p.m.

Attendees: Karen Ruffin, Jo-ann Kimbrough, Rhonda Kalantari, Kathy Wilson-Chu, Nancy Kelly, Stephanie Johnson, Terri Beech, Cindy McWhirter, Celeste Aguado, Shawn Jett, Julie McKay, Dawn Clay, Holly Lombardo, Yolanda Veith, Stephen Leufroy, Ann B. Hudson, Paula Sierra, Cherri McCallister, Vickie Riley, Lisa Reagan, Kerry Whatley, Vicki Thorne, Bill Meer, Meredith Gaynez, Jill Pohl, Jan Levie, Daniel Fikreyosos, Leslie Marwitz, Laura Stevenson, Nancy Farrey, Grace Tyioran, Heather Dever, Carol Jordan, Nancy Minnich, Cortlandt Minnich, Susanne Howard, Lisa Rosen, Martha Woodruff, Cara Curtis, Leslie Freymann, Phil Craig, Jeffrey Cohen, Demetra Stanford, Carmen Walker, Tracy Alexander, Belinda Wedgwood, Beverly Moon, Ruth Primm, Rochelle Lowery.

Welcome - Jo-ann Kimbrough welcomed attendees to the PTSA General Membership Meeting.

Review of Minutes - Minutes from the September 20, 2010 PTSA meeting were presented and approved as written.

Special Presentation – Sergeant First Class Williams is the US Army recruiter for CCHS. He comes once a week to meet with students. He mentioned a website, www.marchtosuccess.com, which is a test preparation website for the Army’s ASVAB test. It also supports success on the SAT and other tests.

Principal’s Report – Ms. Rochelle Lowery, CCHS Principal, gave the report. Current enrollment at CCHS is 1425 plus 97 at the annex. She expressed hope that the annex students can be moved to the main campus. Chamblee won the Homecoming football game 20-7. Spirit week is this week, which ends with the Homecoming Dance on Saturday night.

The Kick-off Meeting for the Principal’s Club will be Thursday night at 6:00. The meeting features a spaghetti dinner for parents and students. These students are juniors with a GPA of 2.5 or less who would benefit from extra tutorials and sessions to prepare them for the Georgia High School Graduation Test.

On November 9 a public meeting or charette, will be held at CCHS by DCSS. This is one of seven meetings in which public input is being sought for planned redistricting and school consolidation.

Ms. Lowery reported on the Design Team for a new CCHS building, which met once in the spring and has met twice this school year. So far the team has been brainstorming about a new school. Ms. Lowery will keep the PTSA informed about the team's progress and when other stakeholder input will be requested.

CCHS is fully staffed, with the exception of one interrelated paraprofessional whose hiring is in work. Ms. Holland, one of our media specialists, was in a car accident and is recovering. The Media Center is sponsoring a winter clothing drive for International Center students.

As a point of interest, CCHS will be the starting point for the Three Day Breast Cancer walk, on Sunday, October 17. The community is invited to support the walkers.

Treasurer's Report - Stephanie Johnson presented the Treasurer's Report. Current income is \$11,813.90 and expenses have been \$3,722.03. A journal entry was made to reclass \$330.00 in PTSA gross membership fee income from Directory gross income.

Committee Reports

Advocacy – Ruth Primm announced the County Wide Legislative Forum on November 18 at 7:00 at the Mountain Industrial Complex. The event is sponsored by the DeKalb county PTSA. All 25 members of the DeKalb legislative delegation have been invited. The format of the public meeting will be a powerpoint presentation on the role of public education, to be followed by small group sessions so that attendees can meet with their representatives. This is the first time this type of meeting has been held, and it is being publicized by PTSAs throughout the county.

Publicity – Terri Beech stated that she has created a CCHS PTSA website, www.chambleeptsa.org, which is hosted through Google. All members are encouraged to visit the website. A Gmail e-mail address is required for use. The address cchs@gmail.com, password = cchs, can be used. The purpose of the website is mainly to provide a single site so that members can view current PTSA information.

Reflections – Shawn Jett reported that the deadline for the PTSA Reflections contest has been extended to October 29. Information is available on flyers, Facebook, the CCHS news, and in the main office. The theme is "Together We Can."

Hospitality – Belinda Wedgwood reported that the committee is providing dinner for the Principal's Club this Thursday and asked attendees to take a box of spaghetti home and bring it back, cooked, on Thursday for use at the dinner. Up to 250 people are expected at the dinner.

Blue and Gold Foundation – Nancy Farrey reported that the sixth annual Blue and Gold Foundation Hall of Fame dinner will be held October 28 at 7:00 at the Holiday Inn on Chamblee-Dunwoody Road. The Foundation, along with CCHS Student Government Association, is hosting the second annual Day of Community Service at CCHS on Saturday, November 13 from 9:00 – 12:00. Participants can choose from a wide variety of projects and students will earn Bulldog Service Hours.

CMS Liaison – Beverly Moon reported that communications between CCHS and CMS are working well. CMS parents are eager to assist in the campaign to build a new CCHS building.

Cultural Arts – Tracy Alexander reported that plans are in work to provide one assembly/program per grade level that is coordinated with the curriculum.

Committee Chair Vacancies/Volunteer Needs – Linda Podger-Williams has agreed to chair the Pine Straw Sale. There are no other committee chair vacancies.

PTSA Grant Requests – A request for \$512 from Mr. Neuhaus was approved. The grant will provide devices to assist AP world language students prepare for the AP test, by practicing the oral portion of the tests.

Board of Education Update – Karen Ruffin provided information about construction needs at CCHS and the speech she gave at the Board of Education meeting. She asked that communication with Board members on behalf of a new CCHS should be positive and not combative. She suggested putting “Please Support a New CCHS” or similar wording in e-mail titles. She said there is reason to be optimistic about the Board voting to use the Quality School Construction Bonds to rebuild CCHS. Showing up at Board meetings is more effective than letter writing. Laura Stevenson, the chairperson of the Chamblee Middle School Advisory Council will be speaking on behalf of a new CCHS at the November 1 Board Meeting. The Board will vote on the use of the bonds at the November 8 meeting.

Discussion about the future of the magnet program at CCHS ensued. Various attendees voiced support for keeping the program at CCHS. Karen asked that we concentrate on the need for a new building now.

New Business – Linda Podger-Williams mentioned that a school calendar survey is on the DCSS website currently. Board policies under review are also posted on the website.

Next Meeting – The next PTSA meeting will be held on November 15 at 7:00 p.m. in the Media Center.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:07.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Kelly