

**Leigh High School Home and School Club**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**March 25, 2019**

**I. Call to Order 7:05 PM**

**II. Introductions & Welcome & Good News**

- Amy Hogg said Mr. Gill sent a letter thanking HSC for money for books for his class.
- Tamara Strachman said Ms. Stephenson sent a letter thanking HSC for money for Science Olympiad.
- Nathalie Goricanec reported that college acceptances are looking good overall and she will be putting up the college acceptances map this week.

**III. ASB Report (Ronan)**

- March Madness basketball tournament finished up today with a students vs teachers game.
- Multicultural Day was last Friday, with multicultural food and performances.
- Prom theme will be Enchanted Forest and prom will be at Saratoga Springs.
- The students had a talent show.
- Had Colorfest, when they threw colored powder on each other.
- Student election campaigns are underway. Results will be announced Friday after two days of voting.
- Make-a-Wish is coming up soon.
- Spirit Week will be the week leading up to prom.
- Student leaders are doing bake sales and other fundraisers.

**IV. Teacher's Report**

- Celeste Smiley isn't here so Kara Butler read some items from Celeste's written report:
- Bargaining between the school board and teacher's union continues. Next meetings are April 4 & 5.
- For class news and club news, see Celeste's written report.

**V. Principal's Report (Kara Butler)**

- Journalism and Yearbook are under-enrolled for next year. The administration is trying to get more students signed up so these classes can run.
- The state is testing junior and seniors in science this year, and that will start when the students return from spring break.
- Preparing for WASC. The visit is a year away.
- Senior rally will be during the school day this year.
- The pool might be ready by May, in time for swim team to use. If not, Leigh will partner with Branham so that the Leigh team will have a place to swim.

- This Thursday there will be a Parent Ed night about Vaping, Alcohol, and Tobacco.
- See her written report for more items.

#### **VI. College & Career Center Report (Natalie Goricanec)**

- Info nights for sophomore parents and for junior parents last month were well attended (about 60 parents of sophomores, about 70 parents of juniors).
- Job shadowing program happened earlier this month. We had 80 students do the job shadow program this year (up from 24 last year), and we had 38 hosts.
- CUHSD Career Expo has moved to April 16 (from March 21), 6-8pm, at Branham.
- Career Spotlight series (featuring professionals talking about their careers) will be happening almost every Friday afternoon in the CCC from now until AP testing.
- They're still recruiting AP proctors.
- See her written report for more items.

#### **VII. District Updates (Paula McHugh Jack)**

- In California, other basic aid districts maintain on average a 23% fund balance. CUHSD is a basic aid district and our board mandates 6% fund balance reserve of budgeted expenditures. The recommendation of an outside organization consulted by CUHSD was that our fund balance should be 17%. The projected ending fund balance this year is higher than 6%. There are also some funds set aside for other purposes, for example to help ensure a "soft landing" \$4.8 million if the parcel tax doesn't get renewed in 2023.
- The parcel tax ends in 2023. It's \$85 on your property tax per year. If voters don't vote to renew it, this will have a significant financial impact on the district. This is why the district has set aside a "soft landing" fund.
- SVCTE is funded through the school year that ends in spring 2021. Some state funding was lost so the district has current fund balance allocation of \$1.4 million to cover shortfall until 2021. CUHSD has more than the budgeted 300 students at SVCTE as some districts do not use full allotment. Program cost is approximately \$6,600/year per student. Leigh receives reduced 50% budget from the district for the SVCTE students. It is not clear how many students SVCTE will serve after that time – it might be fewer.
- If you have marketing ideas for the 2023 parcel tax campaign, please forward your ideas to Paula.
- There's currently a bill before the California state assembly to change the required majority to pass a school district parcel tax to 55% of voters, instead of 2/3 of voters as currently required. The bill is SCA 5. It is required to go to statewide ballot; earliest of which would be 2020.
- With regard to CHSTA (teachers union) negotiations, Kara explained that the teachers move up in "column" every year, which means they are getting more money every year whether there are raises or not – because the individual teachers move automatically to higher column (a salary level) based on years of service. Any raises negotiated in their contract with the district are on top of this – the raises increase the amount of money in each salary "column" that teachers move through.

- The district office says Leigh is now 70% covered by WiFi and it will probably be the end of the summer before any more progress is made on that.

#### **VIII. Facilities Report (Tamara Strachman)**

- They'll drain the pool before graduation so they can work on it over the summer.
- Over summer they'll resurface the tennis court and work on building H.

#### **IX. Spirit Boosters (Clare)**

- Spirit Boosters has submitted all the materials to get their tax ID number.
- Clare not here. See her written report.

#### **X. Sports Boosters (Kristina Williams)**

- Sports Boosters has submitted all the materials to get their tax ID number.
- Still selling memberships.
- Dodgeball tournament isn't going to happen, so instead they're considering an adults-only fundraiser offsite in the fall.

#### **XI. PAPA (Sean Simonson)**

- PAPA has up to four \$500 Senior Scholarships to give out this year, so seniors are invited to apply. One for Theater, one for Choir, and two for Music/Marching Arts. Must have participated in the program category for a minimum of 3 years, including senior year. April 1 is application deadline.
- See written report for more items.

#### **XII. Approval of February minutes**

- Ann Auld mentioned two things that need to be fixed in the February minutes:
  - It's Ms. Prouty not Mr. Prouty
  - For Grad Night, it's not that we need to sell 200 tickets to break even, it's that we have to pay for 200 tickets minimum.
- Motion was made to approve the minutes as amended, motion was seconded, motion passed.

#### **XIII. President's Report (Aine O'Donovan)**

- Mr. Speed requested \$200-\$500 from HSC to grant-a-wish to support Art programs at Leigh. Aine proposed funding this out of the Board Discretionary budget line. Gretchen made a motion to give Mr. Speed \$500 for this purpose, Ann Auld seconded the motion, and the motion passed.
- Ideas that were submitted for how to spend the \$8K donation that was given recently:
  - More technology for classrooms and teachers. For example, laptops that would be available on a cart for students to use in the library.

- Give the teachers an additional \$100 to spend on needs for their classroom. - Kara Butler suggested not doing this one because some teachers still haven't spent the last \$100 we gave them.
- Have the folks from Challenge Day return, and do an assembly for the student body (\$4750), or have the Challenge Day Program for two days. Cost is \$3575 per day. Topic: How to build empathy and understanding. - Kara Butler let us know that Mr. Speed wants to do this next year and needs a deposit this year. Decision was made to take this money out of Positive School Climate line item. Kara to confirm deposit amount and we can approve at next meeting.
- Upgrade the staff lounge (if that's not already planned in the District remodel) - Kara Butler said upgrades will be part of the District remodel.
- Upgrades to the cooking room. Kara Butler said upgrades will be part of the District remodel.
- Mental Health support. Kara Butler reported that this would be very expensive. It would cost \$30,000 to have a mental health professional come once a week for half a year.
- Doug Evans suggested keeping the money to use as needs come up. Tamara Strachman said she thinks we should allocate the money now, so that we can show the donor we appreciate their gift and can let them know right away how we're going to use it.
- Motion was made to spend the \$8,000 on laptops on a mobile cart for students to use. Could be used by College & Career Center and guidance counsellors primarily, and by teachers for their classes. Motion was seconded, motion passed.
- Aine asked HSC board members to let her know if they're planning to come back to the board again next year, and also let her know if you know other people who are interested.

#### **XIV. Treasurer Report (Amy Hogg)**

- Cash balance is almost \$129,000. See her written report for more information.
- The invoice for the HSC, All Sports and Spirit Boosters 2017-18 tax return was over budget by \$550. All Sports Boosters will cover \$500 of the total \$1,500 invoice; after some discussion, it was agreed Spirit Boosters will be contacted to determine if it can contribute to the total fee as well. Motion was made to cover any remaining overage after any Spirit Boosters contribution within Board Discretionary, motion seconded, motion passed.

#### **XV. Grant Requests (Tamara Strachman)**

- **Grant requests from teachers include (see written report for more details):**
  - \$200 for AP Macroeconomics & Gov: NeoSmartPen N2 and 10 150 page
  - \$169.95 AP Gov't and Econ

- \$700 for Biology: Lab supplies for Climate Change Unit for all biology and chemistry classes.
- \$845 Physics & AP Physics for Heavy Duty duct tape from Home Depot for kids to make their boats for the making-a-boat physics project. Discussion: The teacher's reason, given in the grant application, was that she is trying to save money for the parents. Parents have always been asked to supply duct tape in the past, and many people present expressed the opinion that parents should continue to do so. Others expressed that it wasn't fair that some students ended up paying for tape and others ducked their responsibility to pay; also some cannot afford it. On the other hand, others pointed out that these projects are done by the students completely at home, and then the leftover duct tape will end up in students' homes.
- \$597.47 Psychology and AP Psychology.
- \$600 to buy sheet music and other music materials for the music classes. There is no budget from CUHSD to pay for sheet music and music materials, so it all relies on fundraising.
- **Maureen Currie made a motion to pass all the grants except the duct tape for physics; Carol Hofheimer seconded; motion passed.**
- Tamara will go back to the physics teacher and ask for more information about the rationale for asking for money for the duct tape.

#### **XVIII. Committee Reports**

- **Leigh Longhorn Stampede (Aine)**
  - Plans are moving along. Need more people to sign up.
- **Grad Night (Kristina Williams)**
  - Plans are moving along.
- **Teacher and Staff Appreciation (Carol Hofheimer)**
  - Gave the teachers lunch this week. The teachers really like the homemade items. This was our last lunch of the year but we have other things planned for the rest of the year, and a staff breakfast for the rest of the year
- **Communications (Amy Gardner not here)**
  - Aine said let her (Aine) and Amy know if there's anything you want to put in the HSC newsletter.
- **Parent Ed (Aine)**
  - Last event was cancelled because they didn't get enough sign-ups. This supports the idea of having district-wide events rather than school-wide
- **Campus Beautification (Kelly)**
  - This is happening on May 11. Sign up sheet now available:  
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080D4CAEA828AB9-leigh>

**XIX. Meeting Adjourned (9:08 PM)**