

Woostock PTA general meeting 12/15/2009  
meeting convened at 6:30 pm by Susan Millsap

minutes from the previous meeting were presented and approved without corrections

volunteers are still needed to run the talent show. If there are no parent volunteers by 1/19/2010 the talent show will have to be canceled. Kids are starting to get going on their acts so parents are needed ASAP.

the clothing drive in January will focus on new socks and underwear only. This much can be gathered and transported without extensive volunteer time, and to date the lack of volunteers for the drive has caused the PTA to decide to focus on just these much-needed items. Drive will be 1/12-1/15/2010

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Principal's Report (Mary Patterson)

Mary attended the Wilson High meeting to discuss the High School redesign process. She spoke with Xavier Botano at the end of the meeting and discussed her desire to be involved in framing the discussion about what makes a strong language program at the HS level. Mr. Botano stated that PPS is willing to meet with immersion parents and Mary Patterson is working on arranging that.

Mary also reported that all the principals of schools with immersion programs have started to meet regularly as of this fall. Their next group meeting will be this Thursday, 12/17/09 and the high school redesign is on their agenda.

Mrs. Patterson's report was then tabled as there were many HS redesign questions for her and she deferred to the scheduled speaker, asking that she wait to talk more until the HS redesign portion of the agenda.

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Kathleen Taylor, Duniway parent and PTA volunteer, spoke about ballot measures 66 and 67 which are to be voted on in a January 2010 special election. She left printed information for any who are interested. It can be found on the PTA table in the front hall.

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Michelle Braulick presented the treasurer's report. The full report is available online at the PTA web site.

income for the year has been \$4595.46 as of 12/14/09

escrip has raised about \$118 since July

matinees: \$151 to general funds from October, and \$260 which was a restricted playground fundraiser

Burgerville dine-out nights: one has deposited so far for \$254

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Michelle Culley reported that she has increased scrip inventory before the holidays, so she has \$1490 in inventory now. We made \$260 in profit this week alone, so scrip is picking up.

We need volunteers to serve at Burgerville for this Thursday, 12/17/09 from 5-8 pm

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High School redesign:

Janet Billups and Cain Christen came to share information they have gained from going to the meeting at Cleveland and from corresponding directly with PPS.

Shu Ren has sent a letter (copy attached) regarding concerns about the integrity of the MIP in the context of the HS redesign process.

Janet Billups presented Shu Ren's most current information:

Efforts have been made to coordinate with the Japanese and Spanish immersion programs, and this will be ongoing.

We need parent involvement to increase the volume of direct communication with PPS about our concerns and our need to be a part of the redesign process. Every parent needs to email Carole Smith and others :

Carole Smith, superintendent: [superintendent@pps.k12.or.us](mailto:superintendent@pps.k12.or.us)

Zeke Smith, chief of staff: [zsmith@pps.k12.or.us](mailto:zsmith@pps.k12.or.us)

Xavier Botano, Chief Academic Officer: [xbotana@pps.k12.or.us](mailto:xbotana@pps.k12.or.us)

John Wilhelmi, HS system design team, [jwilhelm@pps.k12.or.us](mailto:jwilhelm@pps.k12.or.us)

Sarah Singer, HS design program manager, [ssinger@pps.k12.or.us](mailto:ssinger@pps.k12.or.us)

(note: John Wilhelmi's email was listed incorrectly in the FAQ that was handed out at the PTA meeting. Above is the correct email from the PPS web site—LC)

Specifically, parents are encouraged to be constructive, to request a process targeted to immersion programs within the high schools and to request to be a part of the process.

There is a meeting this Thursday, 12/17/09 at Franklin High. All are encouraged to attend and be prepared to speak and identify yourself as a MIP parent wanting to express concerns about the process of high school redesign.

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Mary Patterson offered further insight into the process and more valuable information about how best to proceed:

the district is striving for equity for all students, so parental concerns that speak to equity are more likely to be heard than concerns about keeping together the cohort of MIP students. Expressing a concern about having a strong immersion program at the high school level will be more likely to succeed than concerns about spreading our kids around.

Contact school board members as well as the above listed contacts.

(note: to find your school board member, go to

<http://www.pps.k12.or.us/departments/board/843.htm>

and look for your region. Woodstock is in Zone 7, Dilafruz Williams, [dilafruz.williams@pps.k12.or.us](mailto:dilafruz.williams@pps.k12.or.us) and Cleveland is represented by David Wynde [david.wynde@pps.k12.or.us](mailto:david.wynde@pps.k12.or.us) though parents in other neighborhoods are likely to need to refer to the list for their board representative)

When contacting PPS, focus on equality for all students rather than the desire to continue our special program. Express concerns that focus schools may limit access to things like languages and the IB program.

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There was considerable discussion about the best way to contact PPS, and concern that mass emails and post cards and such get ignored. In the end, it seems that PPS tracks email concerns as much as anything else, and that any expression of concern is better than nothing. If parents prefer to write letters on paper, they should do it. If they prefer email, that is acceptable. However, every parent is encouraged to contact PPS in some way to express your concerns and have your voice heard.

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Susan Millsap proposed that the Woodstock PTA write a letter to PPS to ask to be a part of the process. 15 votes in favor, none opposed.

Susan Millsap asked if people would like to revisit this issue at the January meeting. 19 votes in favor, none against.

meeting was closed at 7:40 pm