

**Westlake High School
Parent & Teacher Organization
October 5, 2009
Minutes**

<http://westlakepto.pbworks.com/>

Vaughn and Jeri Brock called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

PTO Executive Team

Co-Presidents Vaughn and Jeri Brock
President Elect Joe and Grace Mansour
Secretary Wendy Nicoson Folch
Treasurer David Jamail
Concessions Carolyn Hansard
Concessions Treasurer Bart Couch

The September 2009 minutes were motioned to be approved by Pam Horn. Jeri Brock seconded the motion. All were in favor and the minutes passed.

Principal's Report . Linda Rawlings / Ross Sproul

A committee has been formed and met on October 6, 2009 to review our elective position on specific education items. One such item is the ranking of students. Highland Park ranks only the top 10% of students. The final decision on changes will be made the Eanes School Board. Colleges are given a profile of students to enable college entry. The college fair was held on October 8, 2009. We are transitioning to a new site, so you may experience some issues with our website. These may be reported to Ross Sproul. The middle school students who attend football games in the pit will no longer be able to run across the field at the end of our football games. This is effective immediately in order to prevent injuries.

Treasurer's report . David Jamail

David Jamail reviewed the PTO budget. Our available funds are less this year due to lower concessions sales from last year.

The budget was motioned to be approved by Carolyn Hansard and seconded by Buddy Dunn. All were in favor and the budget passed.

Concessions Report . Carolyn Hansard

We are looking into the purchase of a used walk-in cooler. A meeting was held with Les regarding installation. We are also considering a new refrigerator for the visitor concessions stand, a new deep freezer and new pop corn machine. The PTO is currently investigating how to manage these items and how to get credit for residual value in the future. Carolyn informed everyone that we now sell smoothies and Earl Campbell sausage wraps at our concessions stand.

For each game, we try to schedule 10 people to work the volunteer side and 30 to work on the home side. School groups or committees do not receive proceeds based on the sale of an individual game, but rather on the totality of all games. 24% of concession proceeds go to the groups who volunteers to work. We are recruiting concession chairs for volunteers, inventory, equipment, outside concessions, and possibly accounting.

Secretary Report . Wendy Nicoson

We have 14 job descriptions so far for PTO Chair positions. These minutes are posted to the following site: <http://westlakepto.pbworks.com/>

Organization Reports are as follows:

Band . Joyce Witowski

- Chap card sales wrapped up successfully. A few are still available for purchase at the home games or by contacting Mr. Taylor.
- A new fundraiser is being planned by the band - "Mr. Chaparral". Date and details will be forthcoming.
- Fall sale for Band October 27th-Nov 11th. Buy your poinsettias!
- New uniforms are due in by mid October
- Show is ~~%Buzzled+~~ band is about 3 weeks ahead of usual schedule and progress is good.
- First competition October 3rd at Capital City Marching Contest. Update on placement will be given at the meeting.
- Jazz band auditions October 7th.
- October 10th is Westlake Marching Festival. Expecting 24 bands in the competition.
- October 8th is the deadline for placing a special insert ad in the homecoming football program.

Chap Club . Karlene Guilbeau

No report submitted.

Chaps in Service . Susie Bruce

Nothing to report.

Cheerleaders . Nancy Behnke

Cheerleaders hosted more than 130 Elementary school girls at their annual Cheer Spirit Clinic. The participants will be performing before the home football game on Friday, Oct.9.

Homecoming plans are well underway. An all-school pep rally will be held in the stadium on Friday, Oct.16. Cheerleaders will perform a special Homecoming routine before the football game, and, to show their support, all squads will be cheering for half of the game; Varsity will cheer the full game.

Cheerleaders have been supporting Volleyball games with a stronger presence than ever before. The squads cheer at most Tuesday and Friday volleyball games of all levels (Freshman, JV and Varsity)

The Spirit Ribbon Sales Campaign trial has ended, and the WCPA Board voted to suspend sales for the remainder of the season as a result of weak sales, and the large amount of "manpower" needed for the success of the project. The campaign will be reviewed again and may be re-considered for next year.

Choir . Lisa Craven

The 2009-2010 school year begins with 300 students enrolled in the Westlake Choir Program making it the largest student organization on campus. The program includes six competition Choirs: Freshman Women, Men's Ensemble, Concert Women, Chorale, Chamber Women and Madrigals.

TMEA District Auditions were held at San Marcos High School on September 26th. Forty Four (44) Westlake students were selected to the Texas Music Educators Association's Region 18 2009-2010 District Choir and advance to the regional competition. Congratulations to this outstanding group on their accomplishment and to all the students that auditioned in recognition of their hard-work in preparation for the competition.

"Mo" Ranch Retreat --- On September 11-13, 230 students headed to Hunt, Texas for Choir's annual retreat at Mo Ranch. All students in the Choir program participate in team building activities (including the famous Mo-Olympics organized by the Seniors), singing with students across grade levels that share the same voice part, preparation for the TMEA All State Auditions, and the traditional Mo Talent Show all in a relaxed, scenic and fun environment. The weather didn't dampen the festivities as the Executive Council adapted and put together an amazing line-up of events for the weekend - definitely a memorable experience for all.

Important Upcoming events:

October 9th Choir Parents works Concessions Stands for the Westlake vs. Bastrop football game. Contact Leigh and Chris Germann at leigh5@austin.rr.com or (512)402-9093 to volunteer. Go Chaps!

November 14th Westlake High School hosts the TMEA Region Clinic and Concert. This is an all day event and great chance to show off our new facilities

and the hospitality that is synonymous with Westlake. To volunteer contact:
Vicki Rippert at vickirae@austin.rr.com

Save the Date: Outstanding performances you don't want to miss!
October 15th Fall Concert, WCPAC Concert Hall (7:30pm)

December 1st Winter Concert, WCPAC Concert Hall (7:30pm)

Eanes CARES (Community Action Rewards Every Student) . Leslie Smith
No report submitted.

Eanes Education Foundation – Wally Moore
No report submitted.

Featherduster . Tracey Sorenson
Subscriptions and advertising forms available on the WHS website. Adrienne
Cooksley, currently a senior, won 3rd place in the Ryan White journalism feature
writing contest. This is a national contest that focuses on health issues.

Hylene and Star Steppers . Steve Cronin

Hylene: 41 members

StarSteppers: 27

September

Hylene team members sold Passbooks in the local community. Funds will be
used defray costs of personal equipment and to pay for a team trip to NYC in Jan
2010.

Hylene and StarSteppers purchased ~ \$1600 worth of Homecoming mums

Hylene performed at all varsity football games

Star Steppers performed at all junior varsity home football games

StarSteppers and Hylene both participated in the home game pep rallies

October Events

- Hylene will be performing at all varsity football games
- Star Steppers will perform at all junior varsity home football games
- StarSteppers and Hylene will both participate in all home game pep rallies
- Hylene & Star Steppers are both participating in 'Race for the Cure.qThe
teams are being formed now
- The ever popular Daddy Daughter half-time show will be during the Austin
High football game on Oct 30th

Lacrosse Girls and Boys . Pam Reichhold and Debbie Johnson
No report submitted.

Orchestra . Doug Kent
No report submitted.

Rugby Club . Jamie McNally
No report submitted.

Student Council . Wendy Nicoson Folch
Students wanting to join the Student Council handed in the required documents this month. The student council held their first kick off meeting to discuss the upcoming year.

Speech, Drama, Debate - Cecile Hanna
Theatre, Speech and Debate are in the process of forming a booster club. The PTO Executive Committee voted and approved this on Oct. 1, 2009. This authorized the Theatre, Speech and Debate Booster Club to be under the PTO umbrella.

TEC (Technical Entertainment Crew) Theatre . Meg Favaron
No report submitted.

Committee Reports are as follows:

Allocations – Pamela R. Horn
I prepared an updated WHS PTO Request for Financial Support form, and distributed 250 copies through Nancy Tilson to the teachers at WHS. See attached for more information. FUNDING REQUESTS are to be submitted to the Principal's Office using this form. There are two (2) main funding periods (October and March) with requests using this form due by FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2009 and FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2010. Requests for funding will be reviewed by the Principal, the PTO Allocations Committee, and the PTO Executive Board. The PTO will approve recommendations in October and March. Unapproved requests may be resubmitted for future consideration.

I plan to submit recommendations for approved funding requests to the Executive Committee of the PTO Board. Please do not hesitate to contact me at pam.horn@amd.com, or 512.470.9346, if you have any questions or concerns about the Allocations Committee.

Chap Connections – Carrie Brown
The first issue of Chap Connections is finally in the mail to parents! We have had some delays with the printer, Alphagraphics @ Lakeway on Highway 620 South. We also had some early-on delays with receiving the mailing list from Eanes ISD. All of the initial year start-up issues have been resolved to date.

We have opted to move our account to the Alphagraphics on Walsh-Tarlton @ Bee Cave Road - New owner, new location. This vendor has already been approved through and by the Eanes Independent School District. They are currently in the process of finalizing the 2nd issue of Chap Connections which is due to go out in the mail next Friday, October 9th. This will meet our deadline for the next issue.

The 3rd issue of Chap Connections will begin production in one week. All future publications should be on time and as scheduled for all completion dates.

CCC (Cool Campus Committee) - Jeanette Scott

No report submitted.

Directory . Ellen Maynard and Ann Slack

No report submitted.

Homecoming Mums . Betsy Kirksey

The Homecoming Mum room is buzzing along. We have a steady group of volunteers again this year. Many of them have helped in the past and have certain jobs they like.

We seem to be on track to make around the same number of mums as last year. I don't have dollar amounts yet, but David will in his report.

If anyone has a spare hour or two, we can use help until the day of Homecoming. Just stop by room 360A any school day. We are there from 10am-4pm.

Orders can be made up until Homecoming, October 16, however, last year we sold out of armbands several days before Homecoming and sold the last traditional mum the day of Homecoming.

Membership – Kimberly Bushn

The PTO membership forms are being reviewed and summarized so that we can contact those individuals who would like to volunteer. We are also actively recruiting a Safety/Health Chair and several Chair-Elect positions for next year. Please contact Kim Bushn if you would like to volunteer at kimbushn@cisco.com.

Stadium Pavers . Beth Carter
No report submitted.

Project Graduation – Deb Davis Groves, Patti Brennan, Karlene Guilbeau and Deanne Hume

Project Graduation (PG) 2010 is up and running. Graduation is set for Thursday, June 3, 2010. We have the challenge of a weeknight graduation and a weeknight Project Graduation. But we are excited and are rallying the senior parent troops!

Our senior parent information packet was mailed out more than 2 weeks ago. This packet has a detailed explanation of the event for our Seniors as well as all kinds of opportunities for parents to participate either through personal donation, business donation, raffle purchases, senior portrait voucher purchases and volunteer options. This was a new endeavor and we are getting great response. More personalized letters will be going out to both businesses and parents for monetary donations or sponsorships in the next couple of weeks. We have three photographers who are donating \$200 of their \$250 sitting fee to Project Graduation when any one of our senior class members purchases either a senior or family portrait from them. These photographers are: Gray Hawn, Becky Kittleman and Innovative Photography. We are selling raffle tickets for \$20 each toward the opportunity to win one of three prizes -- the Grand Prize is a \$5,000 visa gift card, first prize is a \$3,000 visa gift card and 2nd prize is a \$2,000 visa gift card. Make sure you purchase your raffle tickets from any of the PG co-chairs. The prize winners will be drawn at the EEF Gala in February 2010. We also have great senior bumper stickers for sale -- \$10 each. Buy one for your senior's car and one for their scrapbook. We will have a Project Graduation Table set up at each home football game so everyone has a chance to purchase the raffle tickets, the portrait vouchers, the bumper stickers or to sign up as a PG volunteer. The PG 2010 Website is up and running -- we still need to tweak it for specific details. Our next full committee meeting is set for Wednesday, October 28 at 6 p.m. in the Counseling Center.

The Project Graduation 2010 Co-Chairs
Deb Davis Groves
Patti Brennan
Karlene Guilbeau
Deanne Hume

Safe Homes . Angela D'Andrea
No report submitted.

Scholarship . Cynthia Clanton
Nothing to report.

Student Planners . Susan Demel
No report submitted.

Staff Appreciation . Terri Rush

An update from Teacher Staff appreciation: We held our 1st event of the year on Tuesday the 29th. We served "treats" during both lunch periods. Volunteers brought in bars and cookies and we served lots of iced tea. We had a great turn out and everyone was most appreciative.

Our next event is a luncheon on the 27th of October. We will be serving a Mexican lunch catered by Bountiful Bakery and cheesecakes from our volunteers.

We could use more volunteers if anyone is interested please call 512-329-8179 (cell) or email me TerRush@gmail.com These are the dates of our events:

September 29th for a treat day (Bars & cookies)

October 27th (Halloween theme)

December 8th (Winter holiday theme)

February 9th (Valentine theme))

April 13th (Spring theme)

May 4th treat day (ice cream)

Football Ticket Sales (Ninth Grade Center) . Marj Hafermann
No report submitted.

President's Report

New and Unfinished Business

Steve Ramsey is forming a committee to discuss the upcoming bond scheduled for next Spring. Please contact Steve for more information.

Future Meetings

Thursday's Trianon 7.30AM		7.00PM Principal's Conference Rm
Executive Meetings		PTO meetings:
10.1.09		10.5.09
10.29.09		11.2.09
12.3.09		12.7.09

1.28.10		2.1.10
2.25.10		3.1.10
4.1.10		4.5.10
4.29.10		5.3.10

Meeting Adjourned at 8:15pm.