

Chief Sealth PTSA General Meeting 11/10/10

Welcome/Introduction

Amy Daly-Donovan, PTSA President, opened the meeting and introduced members of the PTSA board who were in attendance. ***There were approximately 20 people in attendance.***

Brief Review of the PTSA 2010-11 Goals--Amy

A copy of our goals and key strategies is available on the Chief Sealth PTSA website: www.chiefsealthptsa.org

Accomplishments and Activities Sept.-Nov. 2010

Accomplishments:

- See attached presentation outlining accomplishments & funding to date



PTSA Updates 1110
Meeting.pptx

Activities: Our goal is to have students come and talk about the experiences regarding activities and items the PTSA has funded

- Two students came and talked about their field trip to the SAM attending the Picasso exhibit to learn about the Spanish culture and influences. The PTSA help fund this field trip.
- Marcus Pimpleton sent the following message:
 - *Thank you so much for the generous gift of two mellophones to the Chief Sealth Band. The mellophone is a marching band version of the French horn - which is considered to be an endangered instrument due to the lack of middle and high school students taking up the French horn. These mellophones will allow us to add the beautiful sound of the mellophone adding a very valuable voice to the group. It will also allow us to have something for players of the French horn to do when we are working on our marching band performance. Up until now French horn players would have had to change to another instrument for marching band. The mellophones will get their official debut in the Macy's Holiday Parade later this month.*

Amy review the Membership goals of the PTSA (goal is 250 members, we have 228 to date!), membership supports advocacy for the schools and education issues across the city, state, and at the national level.

Amy went over the ideas and input that was generated from last PTSA meeting (available on www.chiefsealthptsa.org under Meetings). Forms were available for meeting attendees to add their ideas.

A parent posed a question to the group about whether there are opportunities for parents and other volunteers to help mentor students in various groups/clubs, i.e.— filmmaking group/club. Amy responded that Lori Douglas, Dean of Students, keeps a list of in-school volunteer opportunities.

PTSA budget information is available on the Chief Sealth PTSA website: www.chiefsealthptsa.org

Nan Johnson, wood-shop teacher, has already spent her budget for the entire year due to budget freezes. She was hoping she could ask the parents of Sealth to donate materials; it was suggested that she provide us with details and it can be posted on the PTSA Google Group.

Auction Update—Karla Boyd, Auction Co-Chair

- Auction is scheduled for 11/18, the silent auction will be held in the Commons, and live auction in the Galleria
- Volunteers needed for set up, break down and mentoring with the students volunteering. Still need items for the live auction, and can always use items for the slight auction.

Principal Update—John Boyd

- Remodel: finishing off the “punch list”, hopefully all will be finished by Christmas and then Chief Sealth will be on it’s own! Contractors noted how much pride the students and staff have with the new building.
- Auction: Goal is to have 320 tickets sold. We are currently at approx. 240 sold. Encourage all to attend or donate!
- School Report Card: All schools now have a school report card that is posted on the Seattle Schools website. It shows all how a school is performing in various categories. Positive indicators: Students feel positive about school and learning experience. Students are making gains in academic measures. This is a new standard that the district is issuing on all schools, Chief Sealth has moved up from a 2 to a 3 on the overall indicator.
- Hiring/Program Additions: Sealth has hired 27 new staff this year, with one additional position needed to be filled. Still would like to add a part time drama/music teacher. School started with 1079 students for the 2010-11 school year.
- Safety and Security—a couple of fights earlier in the year, there is a good feel in the building, a lot less incidents. A great group of motivated students and staff. Parent concerns/issues: Parent voiced concern about kids crossing street from the buses, feels unsafe to parents dropping off. Overall traffic concerns on SW

Thistle in the mornings, especially now that it's dark. Mr. Boyd will contact the local police precinct to see about traffic support. For the early morning Jazz Band, parent was concerned who is in the building. John listed all teachers/adults.

- New Sport Season—get kids packets in
- Questions/Concerns: Will siblings out students out of boundary in WS be able to get into Chief Sealth? All kids who requested a school within the open enrollment period got their first choice, those who waited until after the open enrollment did not. There are a number of “flex seats” available and siblings are the first “tie-breaker” criteria.

Seattle Council PTSA Presentation:

Heidi Bennett from the Seattle Chapter of the PTSA presented a sobering look at the status of Basic Education Funding in Washington State. See attached presentation.



Educ Funding

Announcements

Multi-Cultural Night – Thursday 12/9 – 6:30-8:30pm

- Performances from students
- Food provided from local ethnic restaurants
- Raffle and prizes awarded
- Students and families encouraged to attend

Join the **PTSA Google Group** to stay informed via email. Instructions for signing up are on the Chief Sealth PTSA website. You can also sign up via the PTSA Membership Form or at any meeting/event where PTSA has a presence.

Next General Meeting: Wednesday January 19th.