

**Goleta Valley Junior High School
Parent Teacher Association Minutes
Meeting of January 12, 2009**

In Attendance: See attachment

Nila Shinday welcomed all and called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Newsletter: Nila indicated that the Newsletter had just been mailed out. However, for those receiving it only via the website, it was not up yet on the website.

Math Department Presentation: Cindy Courtney gave a brief presentation on GVJH's math department. She indicated that there have been two additions to the math faculty this year: Brian Eisen and Christine McClain. Also there are two new coaches. The focus of the coaches is to target students that are just below Proficient. The other special assistance provided by the Math Department is three 7th period classes (to help with the home work) and the ISP classes, in which there are 5-12 students per class. Also, there is the math competition club, "Math Counts", which meets Tuesday at lunch time.

Approval of the December '08 Meeting Minutes:

The minutes were approved and will be posted on the GVJH website.

Committee Reports

1. **Treasurers Report** - Stacey Matson presented her report which included an updated Cash Balance (handout as attachment). This showed an increase this month of \$4,420.98 in income (mostly from "Make a Difference"). Also there was \$15.66 of expenses paid since the last PTA meeting and \$891.87 of new expenses to be paid in December, total \$907.47.
 - **Jack Tiethof motioned to approve the payment of these charges; Linda Sessler seconded the motion, and the PTA approved these transactions.**

There was also discussion around how to handle some of the budget items in the '08-09 budget. For example, there is \$1,500 budgeted for handling the printing costs of the Directory. This will not have to be spent because Todd Trap was able to get Rathenon to donate this service. It was proposed that this be moved to cover Special Projects. It was agreed to discuss these further at future meetings. In the meantime, Stacey will begin developing a forecast of revenues and expenses so that we can be in a better position to make these decisions. She will begin presenting a forecast next month. Also, Stacey presented an invoice for purchasing Visual presenters & DVD/VCR Combo Players for the Library for \$301.47. She requested that this amount be moved from the Special Projects budget to cover this and also approve the funding the \$3,000 which is in the Budget to cover support for the Library.

- **Stacey Mattson motioned that a \$301.47 payment be provided to the Library from the Special Projects budget in addition to the \$3,000 in the budget for the Library. Nila Shinday seconded the \$3,301.47 payment and the PTA approved it.**

2. **Make A Difference** – C.J. Miller, Stacey Matson and Nila generated a flyer encouraging donations to “Make a Difference” that will be included with the Directory. This will be coordinated with an All Call campaign encouraging parents to send a check for Make A Difference.
 3. **By-law Review** – Anna Sorensen is meeting with a few members of the PTA to update the our By-laws. They had a meeting before the PTA meeting and they will meet once more before the next PTA meeting. She will try to have the update done in order to present it to the Executive Committee by the February meeting.
4. **New Business**
1. **Request for Funds from Science Department** – Nila had received a request from Mr. Penkala for to purchase 20 stop watches \$400 total;
 - **Carrie Hawn motioned that the funds be provided; Jack Tiethof seconded the motion; and the motion was approved by the PTA.**
 2. **Directory Distribution** – the Directory has been printed and is ready for distribution. It will be distributed on January 14 with the assistance of the Leadership group.
 3. **Graduation Party** - Last year’s graduation party was disappointing. Only about 70 8th graders attended out of 400+ 8th graders. There are two problems: the attendance was very low (about 70 out of 400 attended) and the PTA had to contribute much of the cost since ticket sales were so low and we had a pay Zodos’ a fixed fee based on a much larger attendance that was anticipated. Thus, for this year we really want to have an event that the majority of 8th graders will attend. CJ Miller and Jack Tiethof will work with the Leadership group to identify a more viable option.
 4. **Soiree** – Carrie Hawn has agreed to chair this year’s event. However, she needs more volunteers.
 5. **Nominating Committee** – Nila indicated we need to have a committee in place by March in order to select Committee members for next year’s PTA. Anna Sorensen will head the Committee and she will poll PTA members in pursuit of 2-3 members for the Committee.
 6. **Thank you** – there following appreciations were expressed:
 - a. Guest speaker – Ursula Ferrall
 - b. Teachers’ Luncheon – Holly Wallace.

Principal’s Report:

- Veronica Rogers indicated that Teachers’ Luncheon was again well received by all of the teachers. They are very thankful for the event. There are also luncheons planned for March and May.
- The finals are coming up shortly. The dates are posted on the website.
- The Leadership group helped gather canned food for the Tea Fire victims. They should be thanked for their efforts.
- The 2nd semester begins on January 20. Students with “Basic” competency will be helped more aggressively in the future. We now have home work help at lunch (Monday-Thursday, Jannette Peinado). Also, the Library is open during the 7th period for doing home work.

- Speed limit – a reminder - the parking lot speed limit is 15 mph. People should be attentive to this as it is safety issue.
- ISP is going well. The students have submitted 5 new choices. We now have ca. 300 students getting extra help during ISP period and 500 students doing enrichment activities.
- Presidential Inauguration – the speech from President Obama will be watched on January 20 by all of the students.

Next PTA Meeting: will be on February 9, 2009 7 pm in the Staff Lounge.