



## MINUTES

**Tuesday, October 4, 2016**

- Call to Order - 6:30 PM, V. Poindexter
- Treasurer's Report - T. Kennedy read the monthly financial report: Motion moved and seconded by B. Ola-Buraimo and V. Poindexter
- Activity Report - V. Poindexter:
  - Homecoming Fri., Nov. 4, 2016, Mr. Filmore had a conflict with meeting tonight however the theme is "Night In Hollywood"; TIME is 6:30 - 10 PM at the Holiday Inn; DOORS CLOSE at 8 PM; CHAPERONES are needed - sign up sheets are on the table; different shifts: 6:30 - 8 PM, 8:30 - 10 PM, and 10:30-11:30 PM; there will be food, drinks, and a photo booth
  - THERE WILL BE A 3 PM DISMISSAL the day of Harvest dance/Homecoming
  - SPIRIT WEEK is Oct. 31st - Nov. 4th
  - Fuddruckers Fundraiser (Alternative Lunch for Fri., Oct. 21st): \$6 Money is due by 4 pm Fri., Oct. 14th; 3 choices; Snacks will be available too; Lunch forms available during lunch periods and office after the meeting
- Southland Administration Updates
  - **Dr. Hale:** Major events discussed already;
    - > **Oct. 19th ALL TEST DAY** for F/So./J with a **1 PM dismissal**; Freshmen and Sophomores will take the PSAT and Juniors will take their second practice of the SAT; seniors will work on college applications with Mr. Lane and Mr. Anderson
    - > Month of October: 10/10 - No School  
10/14 1st Qtr ends  
10/17 Choices College Fair 9 Special Education representatives on site to assist)

10/18 ID photo retakes (UNIFORMS)  
10/24 P/T conferences - no school 12:30-8 PM  
10/28 Jostens will be on premises for Jr/Sr  
class rings

> *SAT test - April 5 and ACT is May 3rd;*

> **TRANSCRIPTS:** Students need to understand what it is and how information is broken down such as cumulative GPA and grade level; all of this information can be seen by colleges of choice; Parents please talk with your child about this document and share with them how EVERYTHING will be seen because we want our juniors to be prepared;

> **COMMON APPLICATION** is available online; this is a way to apply to 40+ schools with one application there's also a **BLACK COMMON APPLICATION** for HBCUs; students can complete and upload one time and those participating schools will receive app

> **Examples of College Essay Prompts:** Start writing NOW; give examples to Mr. Lane or Mr. Anderson; ask help from writing teachers; **STUDENTS WRITE THEIR WAY INTO or OUT OF COLLEGE;** Parents please stress the importance of essay writing; practice online; we want our students to be prepared before senior year: *Most essays ask about "a failure in life"* and the expectation is for the student to write something **"PROFOUND"** so they need to dig a little deep about this; another question would be to *explain "why their heritage is important to them"* - students must be convincing to be accepted into college

> **PHONES:** Due to an incident within the school; all cell phones are NOT allowed to be turned on during the school day; Students have access to school phones if they need to contact their parents throughout the day and in the evening with extra-curricular activities; If parents need to be contacted prior to busses leaving, students may ask their 9th period teacher to call if need be; *Dr. Davis did discuss the situation at hand*

- Audience question/feedback

\* Parent asked for clarification with the status of the special education staff: Dr. Hale reassured the parent that they just hired a S. E. teacher and is still looking for a para-pro. and currently the S. E. teachers and paras. are splitting the work load and ALL students are receiving their services

\* Parent asked if the juniors will take the ACT: Dr. Hale said yes, however the state of ILLINOIS is strictly SAT and won't shift to the ACT until after the official SAT; there will be practice prior to the MAY 3rd ACT test (this won't affect seniors)

\* Parent asked What is the difference between SAT/ACT? Dr. Hale - More writing; it's not geometry heavy; fewer questions with more time per question; The junior class will be the first class to take both; Some seniors, depending on college, has taken the SAT; you can check with Mr. Anderson to see if your child's school requests SAT

\* Parent asked to clarify membership dues versus the Pledge: V. Poindexter - Membership is \$10/school year which covers the operating cost; and we ask for each family to "PLEDGE" \$100 for the course of the 4 years of school for ONE CHILD and \$25 for each additional child; these pledges help with the 3 scholarships that the PTSO awards each year, however, if the parent does NOT make the pledge, their child will NOT qualify for the PTSO scholarship senior year; **this pledge can be made in installments over the course of the 4 years**

> *If the donations increase and fundraisers go well, we can award more than 3 scholarships.*

\* Parent wants to volunteer but she works 9 - 5 PM: V. Poindexter shared that we will work together to use the talents of everyone that wants to volunteer at later events such as Harvest (Homecoming) dance etc.

\*\*\*\*\*RAFFLE\*\*\*\*\*

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 PM

**Next PTSO meeting Tuesday, November 1, 2016 @ 6:30 pm** (Meeting dates are the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the month and subject to change due to holidays, school events, etc.)



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