

Alexis I. DuPont High School  
PTSA Meeting Minutes  
January 9th 14<sup>th</sup> 2007  
[www.aiduponths.com](http://www.aiduponths.com) link to PTSA

Attendees: list is on file with Secretary, 23 persons in attendance, all officers present

Call to Order: Co President Cathy Thompson [ch.thompson@verizon.net](mailto:ch.thompson@verizon.net) called the meeting to order at 7:05pm. A revised meeting/agenda format will be attempted. Students will be recognized at the beginning of all meetings and are encouraged to attend and bring issues/concerns or whatever they would like all of us to hear to the meetings. All committees will be recognized and given several minutes to address their committee news.

Secretary's Report: Sharon Sedita [sedita10@aol.com](mailto:sedita10@aol.com) the minutes from November 14th were approved

Treasurers Report: Patti Donato [pattidonato@comcast.net](mailto:pattidonato@comcast.net) Patti was not in attendance, but a report was submitted by Cathy

Year to date: income \$6,887.00 Expenses \$4,407.00 Ending Cash \$19,581.00

**Administrators Report:** Mark Pruitt, Assistant Vice Principal was in attendance

- The Tiger Marching Bands' 5<sup>th</sup> trip to the Rose Parade in Pasadena California was a great success. There were no issues with the student's behavior or conduct. A great time was had by all
- DSTP season has begun. Testing dates are March 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>, MATH, March 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> READING, March 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> WRITING. DSTP Academy will take place the last 3 weeks of February.
- Referendum is expected to be voted on tomorrow night January 10<sup>th</sup>. It is expected to take place on February 28<sup>th</sup>. Mark believes AI has done an outstanding job with managing this years budget cuts, but is also confident without the passage of a referendum it will become much harder to do so next year.
- An incident that took place in a classroom yesterday was brought to Mark's attention. Mark was not in attendance at school yesterday and could only comment that the student has been suspended. Overall he feels the climate of the school is good and that there has only been one fight this year. The fight took place in the cafeteria shortly before the holiday break. 2 students were suspended as well as 4 other students who were active spectators. Mark encouraged any parent who has a concern about the school climate or safety should contact him directly [mark.pruitt@redclay.k12.de.us](mailto:mark.pruitt@redclay.k12.de.us)
- A parent inquired about tutoring. Tutoring is available by many teachers usually 2 times a week for information about tutoring contact Kathy Tilghman Asst Vice Principal [Kathy.tilghman@redclay.k12.de.us](mailto:Kathy.tilghman@redclay.k12.de.us)

**Guest Speaker:** Stewart Taub: Referendum Steering Committee [www.voteforredclaykids.com](http://www.voteforredclaykids.com)

- Stewart is a parent volunteer who is committed to passage of the proposed referendum. He expects the referendum vote to be held on February 28<sup>th</sup>. He also expects the board to propose a 3 year phase in of the new tax assessment of .25 cents per \$100.00 of assessed home value, to be phased in 15 cents, year one, 5 cents year two and three
- The current school district budget is BALANCED with a small surplus of approx. 200,000.00
- If the referendum is not passed, 3 million in additional cuts will need to be made next year. A .7cent tax increase is needed to keep the budget balanced and NOT reinstate any of the programs or cuts that were made this year. Additionally the teacher's contract is up for renewal next year and fuel prices have not dropped.
- Parent committees are being setup in every school and these committees will be asking for votes and working phone banks. Additionally voting sites have been added

- For more information or to help get out the vote go to [www.voteforredclaykids.com](http://www.voteforredclaykids.com)

## **Committee Reports:**

**SmartDrive/YELL:** Celia Huber Chairperson [celia.huber@pnc.com](mailto:celia.huber@pnc.com)

57 Students have signed up to participate in this year's SMARTDRIVE competition

**Guidance** Laura Fitzgerald, Guidance Counselor [laura.fitzgerald@redclay.k12.de.us](mailto:laura.fitzgerald@redclay.k12.de.us) and Merrie Pritchett, PTSA Chair [mpritch@udel.edu](mailto:mpritch@udel.edu) No report- You can add your e-mail address to receive guidance highlights by contacting [taryn.smith@redclay.k12.de.us](mailto:taryn.smith@redclay.k12.de.us)

**After Prom:** Stacey Hoppman [hoppman6@aol.com](mailto:hoppman6@aol.com) and Elaine Burg [venusonsaturn@aol.com](mailto:venusonsaturn@aol.com) co-chairs, not in attendance, report given by Sharon Sedita

- DARE has increased its donation this year to \$3,200.00 from the previously reported \$1,500.00. It is still unknown what amount of funds the Junior Class will be contributing
- Decorating starts February 27<sup>th</sup> at H.B. duPont Middle School from 7-9 pm in the Art Room. Everyone (except students) are invited and encouraged to participate
- A donation letter will be sent in the next few weeks to all AI parents. A discussion was held and those in attendance at the PTSA meeting believed that this letter will be a conflict with the NO BAKE-BAKE Sale and donation letter that is also being sent in the next few weeks. It was recommended that AFTERPROM wait until March before sending their donation letter. Sect. note-After Prom has decided to send their donation request letter around March 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Fundraising:** Dee Burnett [burnett10@aol.com](mailto:burnett10@aol.com)

- Stocking Suffers of Fan Gear was sold at the band concert earning \$280.00. The cost to purchase the fan gear has been covered and all future sales will be profit. Future sales could be held at upcoming basketball, wrestling and swimming events. Any PTSA parent who would like to sell the gear at any of these events- please contact Dee
- **Not My Garage Sale-** Ann Exline Starr [ann.exline.starr@gmail.com](mailto:ann.exline.starr@gmail.com) and Honor Smith [honor.smith@verizon.net](mailto:honor.smith@verizon.net) No report- Year to date income (as stated on the Treas. Report) for this fundraiser is \$629.00
- **No Bake-Bake Sale:** Linda Hanna [lhana@psre.com](mailto:lhana@psre.com) donation letters will be mailed shortly and will be placed in the newsletter. Linda will call the Data Service Center about how to expedite the mailing. Valentines week will be the in-school sale dates. Linda has designed a picture of a cupcake for the kids to decorate, write a message or sign. These cupcakes will be hung in the cafeteria corridor and sold during lunch periods that week. The cost of a cupcake is \$1.00
- **Student Dance:** Sam Hoppman [sunkisses496@aol.com](mailto:sunkisses496@aol.com) and April Burg, [orangerocker99@aol.com](mailto:orangerocker99@aol.com) students are co-chairing the dance. Not in attendance, report given by Sharon Sedita. Janet Coger parent chair was in attendance and will follow up with the students. The dance will be held on MARCH 14<sup>th</sup> Friday night 8-11pm. Ticket cost is \$8.00 and will be sold the week prior Monday –Thursday during lunch periods. Tickets will be on sale at the door for \$10.00. NON AI students will only be able to purchase tickets at the door. The theme is March Madness/Glow in the Dark. The students have been in contact with Mr. Golder and have secured a DJ, budgeted for custodians and police officers. Clarification on the custodians need to be made(how many hours will they need to be paid for)

**PTSA Membership:** Ruth Coughlan, Patti Donato [rcoughlan@comcast.net](mailto:rcoughlan@comcast.net) [pattidonato@comcast.net](mailto:pattidonato@comcast.net) Ruth was excited to report that AI High School has the highest PTSA membership of ALL high schools in the state. Our membership is close to 400 almost 2 times higher than Newark and Brandywine. Brian Coughlan and John Daniels spent several hours over the holiday break sending Thank-You e-mails to ALL persons who have made donations to the PTSA. Thank-you John and Brian

**Teacher Appreciation:** Donna Lash, Donna Bredbenner [dl49@comcast.net](mailto:dl49@comcast.net) [bredbennerd@libertytravel.com](mailto:bredbennerd@libertytravel.com) Donna Lash is working on a date for the next event. Taria Pritchett, student,

made candy treats for all 110 staff members for the holidays and enclosed a Happy Holiday note from the PTSA thank-you Taira

## **Newsletter:**

Deadline for the next newsletter is January 11<sup>th</sup> 2008 for February publication, all inquires should be directed to Amy Hurff [amyhurff@verizon.net](mailto:amyhurff@verizon.net) or Leslie Wagner [lwagner109@aol.com](mailto:lwagner109@aol.com)

**Treats for Troops:** Mike Mozer –Student, Bud Mozer [my3sons3@comcast.net](mailto:my3sons3@comcast.net) and Terry Mozer [lifegood2007@comcast.net](mailto:lifegood2007@comcast.net) No report

**Student Directory:** Debbie Walls, [dacwalls@netzero.com](mailto:dacwalls@netzero.com) the student directory is finished and will be mailed shortly. A printing error was made resulting in extra copies. Any parent who will sign the pledge can get a copy of the directory. Debbie has placed a request in the current directory for all parents to review the contents and contact her with any issues. She is already working on next year's directory....thanks Debbie

**Reflections:** Merrie Pritchett [mpritch@udel.edu](mailto:mpritch@udel.edu) this years theme is "I Can Make A Difference By" The reflections program is a National PTA sponsored event. There are 6 categories LITERATURE, VISUAL ARTS, PHOTOGRAPHY, MUSICAL COMPOSTION, DANCE CHOREOGRAPHY, and FILM/VIDEO PRODUCTION. The deadline for submissions is January 18th 2008. Merrie is looking for ENTRIES. Traditionally there are not many entries at the high school level. More info. on Reflections can be found at [www.aiduponths.com](http://www.aiduponths.com) at the PTSA/Reflections link.

**Climate Control Committee** Holli Davis [holidav@aol.com](mailto:holidav@aol.com) and Krista Brazell [sweetstuffff@hotmail.com](mailto:sweetstuffff@hotmail.com) no report- NEXT climate control committee meeting is scheduled for the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of February

**Library:** Sally Pitts-Rakes [2000blackmodel@msn.com](mailto:2000blackmodel@msn.com) and Pat Merritt [tazpatty@juno.com](mailto:tazpatty@juno.com)

Sally continues to bring the library approx. 2 boxes of undeliverable magazines from the post office every month. She is also continuing to work on a recycle program with the library. The cell phone recycle program that was proposed is currently being done at AI through the EAC Club and Ms. Hubner. To date, through various fund raising efforts the library has received approx. \$1,500.00. PTSA had budgeted \$500.00 to the library and will follow up with Suzanne on how she would like this donation.

## **New Business:**

- The AI Chapter of Habitat for Humanity will be holding a Talent Show for more information contact [celia.huber@pnc.com](mailto:celia.huber@pnc.com)

Meeting adjourned 8:25pm

Next Meeting February 13th, 2008

Minutes submitted by Sharon Sedita [sedita10@aol.com](mailto:sedita10@aol.com)