Huntington PTA Council: January 2011 Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order by Bari Fehrs, Council President, at 9:56 am January 4th, 2011.

Pledge of Allegiance, approval of December minutes, and Treasurer’s report.

President’s Report: Information obtained at the Suffolk region Board of Managers meeting was shared. The president discussed publicly acknowledging the Reflections participants for their contributions, and she reminded attendees that February is Founder’s Month and increasing PTA membership should be a continued goal. Mrs. Fehrs also urged us to keep advocating for the programs that are important to us this time of potentially drastic budget cuts. There is a district wide blood drive February 1st at JAI and the Memorial Service for Mr. Potter is to be held on January 12, at 7pm in the HHS Auditorium.

Unit Reports: Reports of current events at each school were submitted by the Council Delegates and are on file with the Council Secretary.

Guest Speaker: Dr. Kenneth Card; Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction, spoke of learning readiness and provided attendees with an article discussing this concept. He also discussed the four components of the “Race to the Top”, implementation on the core reading program, monitoring progress, and effectiveness of instruction. He also spoke of how teaching to standards is replacing “teaching to the test”. Dr. Card also talked about the Shared Decision Making Advisory Committee meeting, to be held February 9, 2011, with representatives from each school.

District Reports:

HFEE: The fundraising Gala is January 21st at the Woodlands. Barbara Cutrone is to be honored. Journal ads and raffle baskets are nearing deadlines.

Arts In Ed: Each of the primaries will be having a musical presentation from “Primary Focus”, with the theme being “anything is possible if you can dream it” this week. Programs are in development for a King Tut musical for 6th graders and a civil war program for the 5th graders, as well as motivational speakers for Finley and the High School. January 30th a fundraising presentation of the Silly Dilly Band and Alexander King of Jesters at the High School. Tickets can be purchased at the door for $10.

Board of Ed: Mrs. Fehrs reminds us to refer to the HUFSD website for agendas of Board meetings as to see minutes and notes from Board meetings. Details from the last Board meeting were provided, including a budget update, possible class size projections, and how the Long Range Facilities Planning Committee was responded to. Also mentioned were the Huntington Housing Authority and the Town Board’s seemingly inconsistent notification of upcoming meetings that pertain to important issues in our district.

Meeting Adjourned at 12:07 pm, next meeting February 1, 2011 at 9:45 am at the High School, Room 140: The Heritage Museum.