

W. Charles Akins High School PTSA
Wednesday, April 3, 2024
Akins ECHS – CCC (Room 146)

MINUTES

In attendance: Trudy Richards (parent/secretary), Leah Duran (STUCO/student), Ann Hartsfield (STUCO/teacher), Carrie Poole (student), Pia Rodriguez (student), Thomas Loving (student), Lolu Wilkins (student), Ian Goldberg (student), Jess Rest (community members), Cecilia Gutierrez (teacher/parent), Angelica Ancira (parent/president), Michael Herbin (principal), Melinda Van Horn (staff), Shekema Dunlap (staff), Paula Hawn (parent), Connie Miralrio (staff member/parent), Meg Kozel (VP/staff)

The meeting was called to order at 5:39 pm.

Topic: Trudy Richards presented the minutes from the March 2024 general meeting.

Action: Meg Kozel made a motion to approve the minutes as written, Paula Hawn seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Topic: As Kozel had just recently returned from maternity leave, Richards presented the treasurer's report for March and proposed budget amendments, including the addition of several new line items to better clarify income and outflows and the movement of leftover funds under some line items to the Teacher/Staff Appreciation fund.

Action: Hawn made a motion to approve the proposed budget amendments as presented, Jess Rest seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Topic: Ancira gave an update on the Phill the Box fundraiser. The bin was inadvertently removed from Akins after spring break, but is scheduled to be returned soon to the same place in the parking lot. The total received from this fundraiser so far is \$310.

Action: None taken.

Topic: Richards announced that the application window is still open for the inaugural Akins PTSA Scholarship, although the deadline for a student to join PTSA to be eligible for 2024 was March 22. The deadline to apply for the scholarship is April 10, 2024. So far we have no applications,

but up to 3 are expected. It is unclear at this point whether the program will be continued for next year.

Action: None taken.

Topic: Richards announced that PTSA currently has 107 members.

Action: None taken.

Topic: Rest gave an update from the Nominations Committee, announcing the slate of nominees for the positions of president, treasurer, and secretary. Connie Miralrio nominated herself from the floor for the position of vice president.

Action: None taken.

Topic: Angelica Ancira presided over the election.

President - Angelica Ancira
Vice President - Connie Miralrio
Treasurer - Trudy Richards
Secretary - Jess Rest

Action: As there was only one nomination for each open position, Ancira declared all nominees as elected to the relevant positions as listed above.

Topic: As there was no representative available for a fundraising update, no report was given for these topics.

Action: None taken.

Topic: Leah Duran gave an update on the Student Activity Committee and Student Council plans for the remainder of the year, including prom and senior field day. Prom will be held on April 27th. The PTSA has committed to help with the candy bar in the movie room. Richards said that PTSA has already begun collecting glass containers of various sizes for this event and will be contributing at least \$200 worth of candy, as well as other supplies (tongs, bags for candy, etc.). Ann Hartsfield said that set-up could begin at 4 pm and that they would also need tablecloths for the candy tables. Hawn said that she has glass containers and ivory tablecloths to lend. Rest said that she will price the candy that the Student Council has asked for.

Action to be taken: Richards will coordinate the pickup of borrowed containers and other items, as well as helping to set up at the event. Rest will check candy pricing. Clean-up after the event still needs to be organized. Richards will handle returning all borrowed items after the event.

Topic: Herbin provided the principal's report. He gave an update on the 04/08 eclipse viewing. Akins will operate on a revised bell schedule for that day, and unless there is rain, students will be outside during totality. April will also be busy with EOC/STAAR testing, prom, and the trustee awards.

Action: None taken.

Topic: Academy Coordinator Dr. Shekema Dunlap provided academy updates. She detailed assistant principal Manuel Garcia's recent completion of his doctorate, listed Green Tech teachers of the month, and talked about recent Infinion internship interviews in the STEM academy.

She also said that academy coordinator Kasey Roebuck was asking for donations to the makerspace in the teacher workroom. Richards said she'd been in touch with Roebuck and just needed a list of actual items needed so that the PTSA could purchase some of those items.

Action: None taken.

Topic: Richards informed membership of the PTSA partnership with The Men's Wearhouse. If at least 25 students mention Akins when they rent tuxedos, Akins will get a \$500 contribution. The company has also committed to donating two free tuxedo rentals to students in need. Kozel said that she will handle distribution of those free rentals.

Action: None taken.

Topic: Richards said that CCC counselor, Claudia Arellano, had requested \$100 to help with senior breakfast costs and that, since funds were available in the student support budget, she'd recommend that this request be approved.

Action: Cecilia Gutierrez made a motion to approve the proposed expenditure, Hawn seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Richards will ensure that the check is delivered to Arellano.

Topic: Richards announced that April 12th was the deadline for the AISD panorama survey for parents. She also said that a community member from the Meadows at Double Creek emailed to detail her concerns with the recently-installed monopole on campus and ask for PTSA support to rally against the completion of this project.

Lastly, Richards announced that the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department will be donating two DNA sequencers and other supplies to the STEM Biomedical Engineering program at Akins and that Dr. Govea is very excited to receive and begin using this equipment.

Action: None taken

Meeting adjourned at 6:22 pm.