

**W. T. WOODSON PTSO GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
M I N U T E S
May 11, 2010  Woodson Library**

Attendance: Peter Brandman, Rita Manfredi-Shutler, Lorraine Reilly Sobson, Carole Post, Lauren Post, Sandra Hoch, Jennifer Lewis-Cooper, Catherine Potter, Donna Greer, Annie Schwartz, Sandy Barron, Nell Hurley, Jeff Yost, Vicki Chamlee.

I. Call to Order—President Nell Hurley called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

II. Minutes—Lorraine Reilly Sobson moved to accept the minutes from the April 2010 meeting as written. Approved unanimously.

III. Treasurer's Report—**Sandy Barron**—No disbursements. Report accepted.

IV. President's Report—**Nell Hurley**

A. PTSO Officers' Election—Slate: Nell Hurley, president; Donna Greer, first vice president; Annie Schwartz, second vice president/corresponding secretary; Leslie Grottle, treasurer; Vicki Chamlee, recording secretary. Motion to accept by acclamation. Passed unanimously.

B. Renovation Funds—Would like to add a focus in the front courtyard, get an LED sign, and clean up other courtyards. Discussion moved to June meeting.

C. Standing Rules—Pete Brandman offered to head committee. Vicki Chamlee volunteered to assist. Draft already available.

D. PTSO Communications—First PTSO newsletter of 2010–11 will be printed and mailed. Annie Schwartz volunteered to prepare it. Online versions have fewer users/viewers. Insert links in WEMail.

E. Second Annual Cav Kickoff, Tuesday, August 31—Students hosting the evening's event (fall sports, leadership class, and marching band) will pick up schedules 3:00–4:00 p.m. Seniors (main gym), juniors (dance studio), and sophomores (Cav Hall) will turn in forms and pick up schedules 4:00–5:00 p.m. (Freshmen will pick up schedules and lockers at Freshmen Orientation September 1.) Assembly with food, etc., at exterior basketball court, while vendors' marketplace, gym uniforms, PTSO books, and so on will be in auxiliary gym. At 6:00 p.m., weather permitting, band will lead everyone into stadium for Cav Kickoff/pep rally.

Hope to get most forms online, but first packet, with PTSO newsletter, membership, and book sales info, will be mailed out as usual. Principal Yost must approve all materials by mid-July to get ready for packet stuffing. *Parent suggestion:* Divide packets by grade to save paper. Mr. Yost will discuss with staff.

F. Spring Fund-raiser—Dayna Smith heading up summer reading book sale. Solicited lists from teachers. Will also offer title for character ed's school-wide required summer reading: *Listening Is an Act of Love* by David Isay. Mr. Yost has applied for a grant to purchase books for teachers and students. Issue arose to fulfill Superintendent Dale's summer reading requirement for all students and Mr. Yost's ideal goals for Woodson (*see Principal's Report C*).

G. FCPS Budget—Board’s approved budget has no increase in class sizes (high schools) but instituted fees for AP/IB exams and sports participation. Also new staffing and funding formulas approved for schools with populations of students receiving free and reduced-price lunch. Caution for 2010–11: stimulus funds cease, election year politics interfere (no new taxes?), retirement funding changes.

H. Boundary Issue—Two studies under way. Oak View E.S. might be redistricted. Lacey Center to be reopened in 2012 and assume spillover from overcrowded schools. Decision should be rendered December 2011.

I. Best Buy Adoption—Donna Greer to meet with company representatives and hear their offer on Friday, May 14. Will report in June.

V. Principal’s Report—Jeff Yost

A. Summer Institute—Will be offered this year.

B. Next Back-to-School Night—Thursday, September 30.

C. Ideal Goals—Last year (2008–9), wanted to reduce stress; thus, instituted the return periods for students and common planning for teachers. Next, to instill honor, revised honor code and established Honor Council, which will be in place 2010–11. Finally, want to develop appreciation for community. Modeled after program called Life Stories, in which the elderly share personal stories with students. After AP and SOL exams, students will assist at feeder schools and extend themselves beyond Woodson.

D. Bus Lot—Had a map of proposed new FCPS bus lot at Pickett and 236. House and barn will stay; all trees will be felled. Asked to keep the drivers’ personal parking spots accessible for after-school activities. Breaking ground in eighteen months.

E. Final Renovations—Indoor benches will be installed in various locations where they won’t pose an obstacle. Will hang banners on parking lot’s light poles; light the flag poles; build ornate fence with white capstones by stadium’s concession stand; establish a performance/class space in interior courtyard near CEDS area; and purchase student desks and laptop carts. *Parent query*: BRYC would like to move fence for WTW field by Frost to accommodate another soccer field.

F. Monopole Funds—Slated to come to Woodson.

G. Library Courtyard—Surveyed work done by the deaf and hard of hearing students. Will change signage so all students can access the area.

H. Cluster Asst Superintendent Search—One WTW teacher and one Frost representative are on the search panel. Interviews scheduled for Friday, May 14.

I. Schedule—Exams listed online, except for early bird exams, which occur the week before exams and include intensive materials that require more time to grade.

J. Requests—Please contact your student’s teacher or the principal for clarification on any issue about which you might have a concern. Also, parents have asked for another Principal’s Coffee before the end of the year. Will explore possibility.

VI. Committee Reports

A. Nominating Committee—Sandra Hoch—Please pass along suggestions for PTSO vacancies: hospitality chairs, Cav Cruise cochair, WEMail, etc.

B. Cav Cruise—Nell for Eileen Nelson—303 senior attendees and 192 volunteers signed up. Committees working well, but behind on fund-raising (Valentine’s fund-raiser canceled [weather], plant sales reduced, no joint fund-raiser w/band). Launching

graduation seat raffle, and Ahoy letter going out early May—end June. Fire Marshall has approved evacuation and emergency plan. Need junior parents to step up and help.

*C. Baccalaureate—Nell for Beth Whitehead—*On track. Invitations going out.

*D. Safety and Wellness—Jennifer Lewis-Cooper and Cheryl King—*Will again coordinate next year and working on plans. New rule to address: rising freshmen and sophomore parents will have to attend a drivers' education class with students.

*E. Cav Cupboard—Nell for Regina Printz—*Frig is stocked. Also framing WTW's student artwork to display. Mr. Yost will pay for enlargements and framing and hang artwork in front office as well.

*F. Special Education—Lorraine Reilly Sobson—*Reaching out to pyramid schools and offering support to extended community. Planning a "504 101" workshop to inform parents about 504 plans versus IEPs. Would also like to pursue parent-to-parent communications, offer "Piles to Files" information management skills, and conduct an introduction and transition to middle and high schools.

VII. Old Business

*A. Book Collection for English Classes—*Nell picked up 1,500 leftover books from Kings Park Library book sale. English Department will cull titles before offering them to students.

VIII. New Business

*A. Prom 2011—*Saturday, May 27. Although it is scheduled for Memorial Day weekend, it will not conflict with SATs!

IX. Motion to Adjourn—9:00 p.m.

Next PTSO meeting: June 15, 2010, W. T. Woodson Library, 7:00 p.m.