

**LA JOLLA HIGH SCHOOL PTA  
GENERAL MEETING MINUTES  
NOVEMBER 5, 2004**

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by President, Patti Nussbaum, who explained that the October 1 minutes had been approved by the readers, and were posted on the school website. She then asked for three readers for this month's minutes: thank you Madelyn Bennett, Liz Lindenfeld and Maureen Lochtefeld.

It was reported that due to the Homecoming pep rally, ASB President, Michael Thompson would not be able to attend the PTA meeting to give an ASB update.

Steve Grant, Library Media Teacher, spoke about the SDEA, Classified Staff and Administrators unions supporting a drive to get 100,000 signatures on a petition requesting that the school board dismiss the current superintendent, Alan Bersin. He asked that any parents interested in either signing the petition or soliciting additional signatures pick up forms. These groups would like to present the petitions at the December 14 board meeting – the first where the newly elected board members will attend.

President's Report – Patti Nussbaum reported:

- Thank you to Linda Kalkstein for working with the Counseling department on the UC/CSU application workshop.
- Thank you to Jamie Ginsberg for organizing the Principal's chat at La Jolla Presbyterian Church and to Jackie Helm for sponsoring the event.
- Thank you to Candy Satterlee for doing all the data input for the Family Directory.
- Thank you to Angie Preisendorfer and team for mailing the Family Directories.
- Thank you to Lee Trahan, Becky Gardner and Amy Cheshire for attending the Ninth District PTA's Critical Issues Conference.
- Encouraged parents to buy tickets and attend "Stars in our Eyes" annual Rotary fundraiser concert on Friday, February 4 in Parker Auditorium. Rotary gives scholarships to LJHS, Bishop's and La Jolla Country Day students.
- Encouraged parents to read Margaret Ohara's letter in the La Jolla Light regarding Halloween events in Bird Rock. Parents need to be aware of their children's whereabouts and activities.
- Various clipboards are being circulated asking for volunteers – please sign up to help.
- Reminder for parents to check the school website and read the bulletin, and don't hesitate to call Patti Nussbaum with questions or concerns.

It was noted that our own Patti Nussbaum received second place in the "Best Volunteer" category in the recent La Jolla Light poll. Las Patronas came in first place, and it is amazing and fortunate for La Jolla High School that Patti does so much for our community! She was offered the sincere thanks and congratulations from the group.

Financial Reports – Amy Cheshire presented financial report and read the list of checks written, which is attached to these minutes. Angie Preisendorfer moved to ratify the checks. It was seconded and approved by the membership.

Programs – Jamie Ginsberg reported on the October 25 Candidate's Forum, that over 100 people attended. Jamie reported she is working on a new program with the focus of alcohol use by teens – possibly for the spring, and noted that there will be an evening principal's chat at LJHS in January, where hopefully our school board representative, John DeBeck will attend as well.

Ways and Means – Betsy Klene read the 7 Mini Grant requests from teachers. She noted that by the time the forms are presented to the PTA, the mini grants have been approved by Mr. Shelburne. The individual mini grants were discussed and voted on: Susanna Flaster moved to approve Mr. Rush's request, it was seconded and approved; Julie Matibag moved to approve Mrs. Bertier's request, it was seconded and approved; Elizabeth Allan moved to approve Mrs. Weien's request. Discussion ensued regarding what the district should provide. It was suggested that Mrs. Weien exhaust other options for finding cabinets for her room, and Jamie Ginsberg offered to follow up. It was seconded and approved. Yvonne Oberle moved to approve Mrs. Brammer's request, it was seconded and approved, Lorraine Mautner moved to approve Mr. Eaton's request, it was seconded and approved. Lee Trahan moved to approve Mrs. Marin-Rodriguez's request, which was seconded and approved. Christina Orciuoli moved to approve Nurse Lisa's request which was seconded and approved. Ms. Behnke had a late arriving request for \$1,222 for publications to be distributed to students and parents. It was discussed that this would take up the entire counselor allotment, but as Ms. Behnke is the head of the counseling department, this didn't present a great problem. Angie Preisendorfer moved to approve the request – it was seconded and approved by the members.

Amy Cheshire reported that in October, we moved to approve mini grants that ended up costing more than the amount approved (although each was under the \$350 maximum). Cheryl McCarthy moved that we approved the increased amounts. It was seconded and passed.

Membership – Bee Mittermiller reported that in October, we received 47 new memberships which generated \$705 in dues, and \$540 in donations, for an October total of \$1,245. To date, we have received 563 members with dues totaling \$8,445 and \$5,005 in donations.

Liz Lindenfeld reported that there had been some confusion, with parents writing checks to the PTA during registration for Grade Level Dinners and Family Directories, thinking, in many cases that they were joining the PTA. The PTA did not solicit memberships with the registration material (although they will check into doing that next year) so unless you joined the PTA subsequent to your child's registration, you did not join. She also wanted to let parents know that due to the deadlines, the newsletter does not reflect up-to-date lists of members.

AP Workshop – Julie Skrdla was not able to attend, but Michelle Ganon reported for her that volunteers were lined up for tomorrow's conference. The PTA provides breakfast and lunch for the AP teacher's conference which is held at LJHS, and it is a large fundraiser for the PTA.

Newsletter – Karen Lawrence reported that there will be a mini-issue produced covering December and January, which should be mailed the week of November 23.

Health & Safety – Christina Orciuoli reported that we have a new Life Skills teacher, Ms. Nichols who, with Christina, attended a high school conference, "Students Kick Ash" about preventing smoking. The program is generated by students through clubs and they create programs for middle schools as well. Students running the conference had been the beneficiaries of middle school programs, and been motivated to continue at the high school level.

CPR – On January 10-15, and 18-21, 10<sup>th</sup> graders will receive CPR training through their PE classes - including during 6<sup>th</sup> period as well, with students in fall sports receiving the training. Parent volunteers are needed to help during the two weeks, and no experience or CPR training is needed to volunteer. As tenth graders are receiving CPR training, ninth graders will be receiving a unit on nutrition.

Yearbook – Senior Ads – Carole LeCren, English teacher and yearbook advisor extraordinaire, spoke about Senior ads. Although the November 1 deadline has passed, there may be some more room, and anyone still interested in placing a senior ad must call Ms. LeCren's voice mail on November 8.

Critical Issues Conference – Amy Cheshire reported on “The Adolescent Brain – an Oxymoron?” conference that was held on November 3, saying it was an informative and helpful event. Eric Jensen was the keynote speaker, spoke about various adolescent issues – primarily anxiety, depression and mood disorders, and their treatment. Amy felt that of particular interest is the role that nutrition can play in treating these conditions.

Family Directories – Angie Preisendorfer reported that 611 directories had been sent out, and extras are available for sale at \$6.00 each.

Hospitality – Volunteers for the annual December staff breakfast will be solicited at the December PTA meeting.

GATE - Michelle Ganon reported that representatives from various schools are participating in a cluster task force for the district, regarding GATE cluster delivery. If parents have questions or concerns regarding GATE, they are encouraged to contact either Michelle Ganon or Jamie Ginsberg.

Parent Prep – Parents were reminded not to forget about SAT II’s, which are subject tests. Students should take these in the spring after completing the highest level of the subject taken, and urged not to wait until junior or senior year if they are taking a high level course as a sophomore. There is a financial aid workshop on December 9 in the LMC, and it was mentioned that even merit scholarships require that parents fill out the FAFSA form. College night is scheduled for February 16 at 6:30 in the auditorium. Another May parent forum is being considered, where parents sit on a panel to discuss various aspects of their experiences with the college application process. If you are interested in serving on the panel, please contact Linda Kalkstein.

Governance – Linda Dowley gave a report, citing various issues covered at the last Governance meeting (report filed with minutes). The next Governance meeting is Wednesday, November 17, at 2:30 in room 513.

Foundation – The Taste of La Jolla made a record \$24,000 this year. Appreciation was expressed to parents who helped. SOS (Save our Sports) the Buick Invitational Golf Tournament will be January 20-23. Tickets are available, and all proceeds go to the school. The Foundation Golf Tournament is May 20 – please note the date change. There are banners in the gym, sponsored by local businesses. If anyone knows of a business which might be interested in sponsoring a banner, please contact Bee Mittermiller. Jackie Helm encouraged parents to sign up for e-scrip, which is an easy, painless fundraiser for parents. LJHS participation is up 80% over last year, and the Foundation expresses thanks to parents involved.

Grade Level Reports: 12<sup>th</sup> Grade is selling towels to offset Senior Dues; 11<sup>th</sup> Grade (Candace Person) reminded parents that the Homecoming football game is tonight and the dance is tomorrow night. Tickets to the dance must be purchased in advance (either today or at the game tonight) and students MUST bring their student ID to be admitted – whether they are LJHS students, or a guest attending from another school. 10<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade reps reported that their grades have been working on their floats for tonight. 10<sup>th</sup> grade wanted to thank Guardian Towing for donating their truck for the sophomore class float.

Principal’s Report –

Mr. Shelburne reported:

- The school play, running until this Sunday, is highly recommended.
- Homecoming – Mr. Shelburne asked that those working on floats for tonight remember to tell those

driving on the track to not turn wheels while vehicle is not moving – it will damage the track.

- Homecoming Dance – there is a dress code, printed on the ticket. Parents should review the dress code.
- A replacement has been hired for Carrie Jacques who is on maternity leave. The replacement has a BA and MA in English, and LJHS is waiting for clearance from the district. Hopefully she will start Monday.
- A new basketball coach has been hired – Kamal Assaf. He comes highly recommended, as he is currently a teacher at the Bishop’s School.
- Lockers in the 300 building, which were moved this summer and newly placed against a wall, have sustained some damage from the rain. An awning as been ordered, and benches purchased with underwriting from the Rotary Club have been ordered and will be placed where old lockers were.
- The district has been contacted about the hazard faced from wet tile floors in the 500 building. A teacher slipped and broke her elbow during the last rain.
- Work is being done on the wrestling room floor. There was subterranean erosion which is being addressed.
- The district is installing a new computer program for all schools, called “Zangle”. It should be put in place in November or December. There are some major concerns about this program – it is being tested currently, but appears to have some problems. We have no choice but to institute this program, so parents and students are urged to be patient.
- UC A-G issue: Mr. Shelburne gave a rundown on a new and complex issue facing our school, relating to honors course weighting by the University of California. The issue is being discussed at the board meeting on November 9, and Mr. Shelburne will keep parents abreast of the board’s decision and any impact on our site and course offerings.
- Mr. Shelburne was asked about his knowledge about the district’s desire to change the school start time or all high schools. He is aware that a working group exists to examine the issue, but feels that a number of stumbling blocks exist which would preclude the district from changing the start time at LJHS. Again, he will keep parents posted.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:45 am. The next meeting will be on Friday, December 3, 2004 at 9:00 a.m. in the LMC.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Linda Dowley, Recording Secretary