

October 7, 2003

The meeting was called to order at 7:40 p.m. by PTO President Janis Boulware.

Officer Reports:

President Boulware called upon the various officers to issue their reports, and introduced Linda Herrera, as student recruiter from the Houston Community College. Parents were impressed to hear the charge may be less than \$600/semester, and the college credit is transferable in most instances to Texas public universities. If Bellaire students take HCC courses, while attending Bellaire, the tuition is waived, and the students are just required to pay for books, i.e., the \$141/course is waived.

Elizabeth Jefferson, a BHS student leader, addressed the PTO about Students Against Destructive Decisions, and Ms. Duhon, a Substance Abuse Counselor was introduced.

The *PSAT* for 10th and 11th students is on October 21, 2003.

Central Market *Central Market* cards are available for all the Bellaire High School family, friends, and neighbors, whose shopping trips will produce 5% of their total bill as new revenue. The cards can be picked up at the main office.

Treasurer Becky Grinstead presented the latest Treasurer's Report. *VP Membership Elli Samuels* reported that the Membership Drive is quite active, and a Bellaire teacher, *Ms. Elizabeth Floreani* followed up with each student to determine exact status of whether or not parents joined the PTO.

Committee Reports

Junior News-*Arlene Lassin* reported fundraising for our Juniors has commenced for their Senior After Prom.

Teacher Grants-*Cheryl Levy* reported that several excellent requests were received for teacher grants.

Gimme Shelter Project- *Carol Brush* is meeting with volunteers to work on funding. Carol can be reached at clbb813@aol.com if able to volunteer.

Food Sales- *Linda Rosen* reported on brusque pizza sales, and \$5,890 in profit.

VIPS-*Jeannette Sebesta* reported a need for help with the Library.

SDMC-Member *Rose Hache* reported that at the 9/25/03 meeting, the Shared Decision Making Committee heard from *Mr. Brian Wolf*, who chairs the Renaissance Committee. Some issues studied are the creation of a meaningful homeroom, teacher development, and small

learning communities. The next several meetings will be devoted to the GPA issues, including but not limited to sequencing.

Bylaws Review-*Carol Brush* chairs a committee reviewing the by-laws of the BHS PTO, which require amendment. A draft of new bylaws may be ready by the next PTO meeting.

Principal's Report:

Principal *Tim Salem* reported it was the first day for new counselor *Angelina Rodriquez*, who will cover C-D-E and up to Fr.

A custodian was hired to freshen and service restrooms on all three floors all day.

October 24th a Debate Tournament will be held at our school, and so students leave early.

November 1 is the SAT I.

November 11th is the second report card day.

Celebration cards were displayed by *President Boulware*, and 300 stamps were purchased.

Pianos- Parents with a connection to a piano supply are requested to come forward to assist Bellaire with trading seven old uprights for four new Kawai uprights.

Bike Stands-Bellaire parent *Rita Balchus* of the Houston Bikeway Program, agreed to donate bike racks to the school. It will be part of our beautification of our campus. Parent *Nancy Brown* volunteered to check into making the placement and realization of the generous gift.

Two Funding Requests:

The PTO seriously considered and acted upon the following funding requests by a variety of BHS departments and activities.

English Department- A request for funding three teachers at the National Council for Teachers of English Council in San Francisco was moved by *Natalie Lamont* and seconded by *Linda Rosen* for a total of \$2000.

Sally Mason-Volunteers assisting the school with replacement badges require \$1000 for a digital camera. It was moved and carried by a majority to provide said funding.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30PM. The next PTO meeting is December 2, 2003 at 7:30PM in the Multi-Purpose Room. There is no PTO meeting in November in honor of *President Boulware's* 20th wedding anniversary.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise Giuffrida, MD
Secretary