

## CPA Parent Council (Association) Meeting

May 8, 2008 7-9 PM BHS Library

Tory called the meeting to order at 7:10 pm.

Meeting was attended by 11 parents (Bo, Tory, Ken, Karen, Rich, Janis, Veronica, Chanelle, Edith, Cathy; Debra), 1 staff advisor (Wyn Skeels), and an incoming instructor (Daniel Liou)

Rich was assigned as timer, Karen was assigned as recorder, Ken was assigned as process observer.

At 7:20 pm Daniel Liou began to tell us about his upcoming role for 2008-2009 at CPA. Daniel is currently completing his doctorate at UCLA in education. As part of his study he will be working at CPA next year, teaching a class for 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> graders entitled, "The Sociology of Urban Education", which will include internships for the students who participate. Class will consist of 16 students of diverse backgrounds and ethnicities. The course of study will include how to perform research, gather data, manage data & being proactive in school decision making, among other things. Additionally, Daniel will specifically be looking at how students make decisions, and will serve dual roles working with parents as an advocate, helping students get into colleges, discovering student needs, and more. CPA leadership will specifically be using the data gathered in the class to determine if there is a match between the needs discovered and CPA's stated mission and goals. Daniel's background is rooted in Berkeley, beginning at what is now Rosa Parks Elementary and he is a BHS alumni. He did undergraduate study at UC Berkeley and is the first in his family to attend college. He chose to do his research in Berkeley because of those ties, and because the Berkeley was one of the first schools in the nation to "voluntarily self-desegregate". Additionally, his experience at CP Academy, and the help he received from Flora Russ and Wyn Skeels played a large part in his choice of CPA for his study. He comes to CPA at no charge and we are not liable to pay him in any way.

At 7:40 pm Tory began to report on the progress of our final Community Building event – the annual year end student showcase and staff appreciation CPA BBQ. This event will take place on Sunday, May 25, 2008, from 12:30 – 3pm, in the facility at San Pablo Park. The facility has been reserved from 11 am to allow for set up. Some parents mentioned not receiving the newsletter (which included a flyer about the event), and it was determined that

**Action item** - Janis would email the flyer in WORD format to Veronica.

**Action item** - Veronica will print at least 250 flyers on colored paper and send them to Wyn Skeels by

way of her son.

**Action item** - Wyn will make sure the flyers get distributed.

**Action Item** - Rich will bring bottles of champagne as appreciation gifts for teachers who attend. (*Ken mentioned that he is able to get a discount on bottles and asked Rich to coordinate with him to take advantage of the discount.*)

**Action Item** – Tory & Cathy will put together the program, which is to include Ms. Bell’s production of “A Midsummer Night’s Dream”, student presentations, and teacher appreciation.

**Action Item** – Tory will speak with Annie about getting the flyers into the next mailing.

At 7:45 pm Rich gave a report on the website status and communications. He indicated that for some reason, parent hits on the site, which normally run about 150/day, were up to 250/day. He also said that he will provide to Bo all information necessary to run the site within the next couple of months for a smooth transition into Bo’s running the site next year. Bo requested that anyone with suggestions for improvement, change, additions or questions with regard to the site contact him with their concerns ASAP by email: [Bo@wub-fur.us](mailto:Bo@wub-fur.us)

At 7:47 pm Wyn and Ken began their report on the leadership council meeting that occurred earlier the same day (5/8/08; 5 – 7 pm). There will be staffing changes: Jim Dopman is taking a temporary 1 year leave of absence to be a stay-at-home Dad. He will be gone the entire 2008-2009 school year, but plans to return for the 2009-2010 year. There will be a temporary hire to fill his position in his absence. Ms. Freitas is also taking a leave, though hers is intended to be a permanent move. She is taking a position at Lick Wilmerding School and will most likely not return. Parents expressed dismay that with her exit we seem to be headed into the same type of ‘english teacher shuffle’ that our current seniors have experienced since their freshman year, with a new teacher every year. However, it was made clear that there will be a (hopefully permanent) hire to fill her position as well. Counselor Caren Olson will also be leaving, but Principal Jim Slep has promised a counseling replacement.

Wyn Skeels also reported on renovations and improvements in process, including H202 being split into 2 spaces. We are getting a rolling lab of 16 computers, and most classrooms will have 12 computers when all renovations are completed. He indicated a need for volunteers to move computers 6/10 – 6/12/08 and said he would email Tory the times volunteers would be needed.

At 8:00 pm Rich began discussion of Fundraising Issues in Chris Byrne’s absence. There is about \$13,500 in our account, of which only \$1800 is not earmarked for specific purposes. There is about \$10,000 for Writer Coach Connection and AP classes. There are 5 grants out there that might be available to us but proposals need to be

sent out. It was determined that a few of the parents who were to check into grant sources had for various reasons dropped the ball. Karen Davis agreed to follow up on Target; Cathy Quides indicated she just didn't have time to do it and turned hers over to Ken. Ken is working on Vanguard, and put out a request that if anyone knows Danny Glover, who sits on Vanguard's board, please speak to him about getting some funds to us.

Tory spoke about CafePress – our online virtual store with CPA stuff (t-shirts, mugs, stickers, magnets, etc.) for sale. The site may be accessed by going to [www.cafepress.com](http://www.cafepress.com) Rich said he spoke to Jaime Knight, who said that Janelle Bugarini was in charge of the artwork, but Janelle said the kids were in charge of it. Rich also spoke to Howard, Manager of Advance Graphics, who said they keep all artwork and that he would find which 'quadrant' the artwork was in(???)

At 8:30 pm, parents were informed about the students' letter writing campaign. Tory stressed the need to get parent participation up. Bo suggested that the name of our committee be changed from the Parent Council to the Parent Association, and the suggestion was approved by all present.

August 23<sup>rd</sup> is the date for the CPA freshman orientation for the 2008-2009 school year. The first Parent Association meeting will be held September 4, 2008. Ken suggested that establishing a parent fundraising oversight group be an action item on the 1<sup>st</sup> meeting agenda.

Janis presented a bottle of champagne and a thank you card to Rich Hemphill for his vital work on behalf of CPA over the past 4 years. He has been an indispensable part of the CPA communication system, and all parents present agreed that he deserved accolades for all of his hard work over the past 4 years.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:46pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Davis