

Business Alliance Minutes September 23, 2009

Summary

Upcoming Business Alliance dates/location:

Next meeting- Tues, Oct. 20 at Wakefield North (9th grade center) at 8 am.

Nov 17 at WMS at noon.

School requests-

WHS-Incentives for teachers such as paper, gift cards, small items. Consider meeting with student clubs during Smart Lunch.

WMS- consider tutoring, speaking to classes, taking part in the Career College.

PTSA Requests-

Bring items for use in baskets to be raffled at Mistletoe Market. Bring to next meeting. Plan to attend the Mistletoe Market. Small business sponsorships available.

Our PTSA Board Meeting is Tuesday, October 20 at 6:30pm.-main campus - media center

Principal Coffee is Thursday, October 1 at 8:00am Main campus

Minutes

- We opened the meeting with an update from Tripp Crayton, principal of Wakefield Middle School.
- Mr. Crayton stressed the importance of the Business Alliance to WMS. He suggested one way the BA could help the school is by offering to be a guest speaker for some of their classes or club meetings. Some topic examples were How to save money, How to manage a checking account, etc. Ms. Ellie Watkins is the contact person at WMS.
- In addition, the middle school relies on the BA to make its Career College a success. About 80 businesses participate and serve as guest speakers at the event.
- Mr.Crayton suggested that BA members could serve as tutors in a 1 on 1 or group setting.
- Introductions were made and new members were welcomed. Everyone was asked to make sure their names and contact information were included on the BA roster.
- We discussed the times and locations of upcoming BA meetings. Our goal is to get as many BA members, parents and teachers involved as possible in order to achieve our goals and interact with students. We will be utilizing Moodle to create a database that will include our members and ideas for the group.
- We'll meet on Tuesday, Oct, 20 at WHS North (9th grade center) at 8am. Please try to bring with you an item or 2 that could be used in baskets that will be raffled

at the upcoming Mistletoe Market. If you see a bargain item, pick it up and bring it with you.

- On Nov 17, we'll meet at WMS at 12:00.
- Tues, Dec 8, we'll meet at 3:30 at either Wake Tech or The Cotton Co. Teachers will be present at this meeting.

- Mr. Savage gave a report about the high school. He explained Smart Lunch and described how it is a one hour lunch period where students can seek remediation, attend club meetings or participate in intramural sports. He suggested that this would be a great time for BA members to interact with students. Michael Williams handles the Smart Lunch schedule.

- The Regional Summit took place on September 24th from 6-8 in the media center.

- Mr. Savage stressed that at this time the school has NO money for such things as teacher incentives. This may be an area that the BA could show their support for teachers. Such items as gift cards to stores or restaurants would be appreciated.

- Mr. Savage also announced that Sandy Gasper, PTSA president and BA member was recognized for her volunteer work and outstanding service to the school at a gathering at the McKimmon center on Sept. 23. Sandy has held a leadership role in the Mistletoe Market, Just Think First, and of course the Business Alliance, as well as many other vital jobs for the school and the community. Mr. Savage presented Sandy with the School to Career Council Outstanding Volunteer Award. This honor was well deserved.

- Sandy Gasper presented her report as PTSA president and mentioned ways that the BA members could be involved in Mistletoe Market. This is the school's main fundraiser. As mentioned earlier, basket items are appreciated and small business sponsorships are available. The event will be better than ever with over 100 vendors, a café food court and entertainment.

- Barbara Wiggins spoke about the BA's strategic plan. We need to decide what goals we'd like to pursue individually and as a group. She stressed a focus on being more connected outside meetings. Each month we'll have a visual that will drive meetings. The goal is to get teachers and members more involved and we'll get a clear sense of what we need to do.
- On Oct. 1, the Senior English classes will participate in mock interviews during 2nd and 3rd period. Ms. Wiggins asked for volunteers.
- She also suggested that BA members could be involved in staff development at the school.

- Debra Stamp encouraged members to fill out our contact information forms and to look at our strategic plan to see where we can best serve the BA. She encouraged smart lunch participation and donation of incentives for our teachers.
- Robin Fred was introduced. Robin is instrumental in assisting the BA use the Moodle site as a communication tool. Members will be able to access the times of upcoming meetings, general information and initiatives, contact information and BA news. This is where we will post minutes, schedules and committee information.
- Moodle will also be available to teachers so that they can obtain resources they need such as speakers. It is a safe environment that will require secure access.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie Kieffer