

Samohi PTSA General Meeting

Jan 13, 2009

Minutes

Meeting commenced at 7:05pm.

Treasurer's Report

- Motion to accept report moved by Patricia Payro, seconded by Stephen Saks. Unanimously approved.

Annual Giving

- PTSA President stressed the importance of participation not just the contribution amount

Principal's Report

- Semester finals exams next week - will conclude first semester
- Proxy server used by students to expand web surfing location, is a breach of District's acceptable computer use policy
- California High School Exit Examination (CAHSEE) testing in March
 - Struggling students are receiving special attention
- Seeking suggestions for ways to engage more parents
- Discussed State and District budget issues and possible impact on Samohi
- Discussed enrollment numbers – numbers rising slightly. Predictions last year were for falling population

Discussion Topic - IS SAMOHI WORKING FOR YOUR KIDS?

Dr Pedroza fielded questions on:

- **Academics**
 - Samohi endeavors to implement a smooth transition of lesson plans from a teacher going on maternity leave to the substitute teacher.
 - Homework
 - Parent concerns about volume and consistency across Houses
 - Too much over winter Break
 - Dr Pedroza explained that District is currently examining policy

- Discussion about commencing school year in Aug so first semester ends at Winter Break.

- **Pinnacle – student online grade access**
 - Teachers expected to enter grades at least once per week
 - Parents complained about inconsistency with input frequency
 - Recommended grading time frame – 1 week for papers; 2-3 days for quizzes

- **Campus Life / Comfort / Safety**
 - School has very strict alcohol and drug policy
 - Drug issues require involvement of police
 - Suggestion to establish parent support groups along House lines

Meeting closed at 8:40 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen Saks

Alternate Co-recording Secretary