

**GPA Agenda**  
**April 12, 2010**  
**Gateway Library, 5pm to 6pm**

1. Welcome
2. Principal's report: Middle School update, WASC update.
3. Tina McGovern, Development Director: Upcoming Star Wars benefit; Annual Fund update.
4. Treasurer's update, Terri Ahuruonye
5. Upcoming Events:  
Car Wash on April 20 - benefits student activities;  
Iris Smith on the incoming Freshmen Root Beer Float Party in May;  
Prom - May 22;  
Graduation - June 12.
6. Special Focus - College Counseling, Joel Rangel and Celine Schafer:  
Brainstorming ways to get more college prep information to parent/guardians.
7. WASC Discussion
8. Adjourn.

**GPA Notes**  
**April 12, 2010**  
**Gateway Library, 5pm to 6pm**

1. Welcome

Attendees: Julie Hagelshaw, Ginny Gjedsted, Sharon Olken (Principal), Cindy D'Amato, Joel Rangel (college counselor), Jackie Quella, Daisy Hernandez, Iris Smith, Chris Loughran, Pat & Bill Watson, Tina McGovern (Development Director), Martha Fullmer, Hut Landon, Sandra Proctor. Larry (WASC representative), Trevor (WASC representative), Celine Schafer (college counselor), Angela Grimes (AP), Gary and Antonella Goldsborough, Doris Vasquez

Approval of Feb & Mar notes. Sharon move, Cindy seconded.

2. Principal's report: Middle School update: Tomorrow night (Apr 13) at District offices and Board of Education. Request filling the room to make a good presence. Met with all but 1 Board member individually. All supported, but there was the concern of current budget situation. Gateway has legally met all requirements. Most important for them to vote. 20 speakers have signed up with Principal to address Board of Ed members. If approval, new school will open in 2011-2012. If there is a "NO" vote, then Gateway group will reconvene and appeal to the State. School population is estimated to be 300 when fully enrolled.

WASC update: thoughtful, supportive group. Before they leave, it is expected that they will share what they recommend. Options: if there are concerns, the school will receive 1 year accreditation; mild concerns receive 2 year accreditation, or full accreditation of 6 years with a mid term review. Sharon will know at end of Wednesday. It is imperative that the school do this process: it confirms that diploma means something. All schools do it.

Gateway Board of Trustees meeting Wednesday to approve salary line items for teachers. There will be no layoffs; no cuts to education programs; no salary freezes. Teachers will have fewer work days, not school days. School will be able to issue contracts after this meeting.

3. Tina McGovern, Development Director:

Phone-a-thon: Goal \$115k, at \$103k. Great team, announce raffle winners for month with pictures

Upcoming Star Wars benefit: sold 133 tickets, seats 270 available. Doors open at 6pm, photo w/ Darth Vader, presentation, movie and special prize as leaving. Theater not open to public. Per Ginny from Tina: \$15 ticket to Star Wars contact Tina. 1<sup>st</sup> come 1<sup>st</sup> served. Email Tina McG.

4. Treasurer's update, Terri Ahuruonye (absent) pass to next month

5. Upcoming Events

April 21: family conferences:

April 23: School-wide Community Service Day. Each advisory chose an event, such as clothing drive, bowl-a-thon, car wash.

April 24: Car Wash to benefit student activities, 10:30 – 3pm; EVENT CANCELLED 4/19/10 VIA EMAIL MESSAGE FROM GINNY G. (email at end of report)

April 26: STAR testing. Testing in AM; classes in PM

April 29: Evening of Action. Senior social justice evening. Kids present research papers. In hallways and classrooms. Food? Possible

Iris Smith on the incoming Freshmen Root Beer Float Party in May 24<sup>th</sup>; Freshman families host; Need volunteer families and coordinators; Suggested that Green Zebra needs to be in the Communicator, and sell at party; suggested that there may be a challenge for volunteers on a Monday night, as it is a heavy homework night. May get less participation.

Prom - May 22;

Graduation - June 12.

6. Special Focus - College Counseling, Joel Rangel and Celine Schafer. Brainstorming ways to get more college prep information to parent/guardians. Per Celine, at Gateway, it's a class. Counseling has a site, but it's not user friendly for parents. Switching to Google for user ability. Will have per grade access. One parent suggested a countdown for deadlines. Suggested that students use same name and social security # on all documents. (Don't use nicknames.) GPA requirements vary for schools. Looking at bringing in college counseling at 9<sup>th</sup> grade seminar. Advisory discussion to kids. If discussion, information isn't going to parents Counselors teach and need help. Set up yahoo group for college discussion.

\*Advisory discussion for future meeting. Teachers not communicate to parents. Only when parent initiate.

College Open houses

Publicize college night

Link to stuff.

Calendar for college visits.

Utilize email for communication on colleges

Get into Berkeley through music.

New books needed: Fisk books for donation. Hut Landon to work with Celine on getting books.

Fundraising options: Exilir Saloon, parents & staff  
Book sales at bookstore (Hut Landon)  
Pasta Pomodoro 20%  
Chevy's 20%

7. WASC discussion. How to get involved? Cindy had dinner with kids of different ethnicities and they said that their parents don't think they need to volunteer. Maybe meetings should be translated?

Assessment. Power school. Teachers write comments. Cindy explained that Power School (PS) has a glitch. If a teacher holds and returns work, but it's not noted in PS, there's a problem because the parent doesn't know that. Human error.

Per Daisy, how to monitor kids, email teacher, usually get quick response.

Grades have to be updated 2 times each period.

Trevor (WASC representative) noted that the support services available to kids is amazing. TLC (Leaning Center) attendees are not made fun of.

Procrastination is an issue and how to help kid.

Per Trevor, 90% parent giving.

Need proactive ways for parents to be involved.

Suggestion, GPA page/blog/discussion. Yahoo groups.

Adjourn 7:36pm Motioned by Hut, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Gary

**Submitted by,**

**Julie Hagelshaw**

EMAIL FROM Ginny Gjedtsted

Date: April 19, 2010

To: attendees of GPA meeting and other planning persons (email addresses deleted)

RE: Carwash

Hello All,

I just wanted to let you all know that the car wash is cancelled for this Saturday due to conflicting schedules for the organizers. I will let you all know as soon as it gets rescheduled.

Ginny