

**Grandview High School**  
PTCO-GECO General Meeting Minutes  
October 12, 2004  
7:00 p.m.

Present at the meeting: Kurt Wollenweber, Carlyn Canady, Alison House, Garry Brewer, Mary Ann Neumann, Berthie Ruoff, Sharon Withrow, Monica Baham, Charlene Kulish, and Sue Parker.

Carlyn Canady called the meeting to order.  
PTCO-GECO met with GAIT for the first part of the meeting.

**AP Program** – Kelly Dunham, Post Graduate Center Counselor

Colleges like AP course participation in high school because it prepares students for the rigor of college courses. In addition, students can earn college credit for required courses and/or placement into advanced courses. AP coursework is a stronger indicator of college success than GPA alone.

Students may receive credit for scores of 3, 4, or 5 on the AP exams, depending on the college. For example, Gonzaga University, Stanford University, Carleton College, and University of Pennsylvania require a score of 4 or 5 in Language and Composition to award college credit for English. Northwestern University does not award any credit because students are required to take Freshmen English.

Most schools look at a student's GPA first, and evaluate students on the borderline individually. UNC and CSU, but not CU, guarantee admission to students based on an index score. Private schools look at the rigor of the courses in addition to the GPA. All of the students that apply to Stanford University have a 4.0 GPA, many community service hours, and have been a team captain. Stanford wants well-rounded students that will add to their program. A student need to determine what type of college he/she wants to attend and then have similar qualifications to other students applying to that college in order to be competitive.

[www.CollegeBoard.com](http://www.CollegeBoard.com) is a great resource for AP information. The total number of AP courses required in high school depends on the college. AP and Honors courses can also help students earn scholarships. Anyone planning to attend college should take at least one AP course before graduation. 29% of students who do not take any AP classes, 45% of students who take 1 AP class, and 61% of students who take more than 1 AP class graduate in 4 years from college.

AP Psychology, Human Geography, and Environmental Science are yearlong courses in high school that cover the same curriculum as semester college courses.

A parent asked why Honors level classes were not offered for 11<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> grade Language Arts. GHS requires 4 years of English. Students who take Honors English 10 must repeat the curriculum if they take English 11 instead of AP Language, because Honors LA courses are one year ahead of regular LA courses. GHS recommends AP Language and AP Literature for students in Honors LA. This issue will be discussed at a GAIT meeting.

Students who place into Honors level classes at CSU register before the other students, and can receive a Master's degree in 5 years.

**Principal's Report:** Principal Harry Bull discussed the tragedy regarding Jake Snakenberg's death. Jake Snakenberg had collapsed on the freshman football field and the coroner's report will probably reflect that death was due to secondary impact injury. An initial impact caused a concussion, possibly mild, which might have resulted in mild bleeding. The initial injury would not have been severe enough to cause death but another impact, or series of impacts, could have resulted in Jake's death. Even a slight jostling of his head could cause enough pressure to build up to cause death. It is also possible that a more serious impact could have occurred.

The standard protocol for adults to resume physical activity is to be symptom free for 7 days after an impact. Adolescents have not been studied to determine if the time frame is the same. No one knows when the initial injury to Jake happened; it could have been at an Arvada West football game or at practice the week before. Jake had complained of headaches the week before his death, however, he had a childhood history of headaches so this may not have seemed out of the ordinary for him. Video of the football game did not show any strong hits.

At this time, there are a lot of rumors floating around which are not true. Jake was not involved in an auto accident. The response time of the paramedics was entirely appropriate; they arrived within 7-10 minutes. It is customary procedure for the paramedics to drive their vehicle to the upper parking lot and then carry their equipment up to the field. The engine is never driven up to the field. In Jake's case, the time which elapsed from the initial call to 911 to the time of helicopter lift-off was within 45 minutes, which is what is expected. Cars parked in the fire lane is concerning, but did not impede the arrival of paramedics. Regardless of the response time, the outcome would not have changed.

The family is doing the best they can and are taking it a day at a time. They want members of the community to have information about Jake's death. Jake's mother talked to the football team about the importance of paying attention to their injuries.

Solid protocols exist for determining whether a student plays in the next game. Students need to recognize the symptoms of a concussion and report injuries to an adult. But many students don't want to let anyone know that there may be a problem because they want to continue to play. This issue needs to be tackled. Some injuries can be played through, but injuries that involve the head or core are serious. Athletes need to be aware of the symptoms of a concussion, including headaches, nausea, vomiting, etc. Brett Favre did not help the situation when he recently was knocked out in a game, told not to play, and then played anyway scoring a touchdown.

Student athletes are participating in an ImPACT program (Immediate Post-Concussion Assessment and Cognitive Testing). A baseline level of functioning is determined at the start of the season. If a student sustains a concussion, then he/she is re-tested with the program. Concussions occur more frequently in football, soccer, and pole vaulting.

GHS faculty and staff were commended for their handling of the situation, which did not allow the campus to become a media circus. Students were appropriate in their response thanks to parents, peers, etc.

Homecoming was great. The students had a fun week of activities including hallway decorations, float decorations, evening activities, a parade through the community, and a big bonfire. The varsity volleyball team is undefeated and won a close match against Smoky Hill HS. SHHS won the first game, GHS won the second game, SHHS won the third game, GHS

won the fourth game, and GHS won the fifth game 15-12 breaking a 12-12 tie. The varsity football team did not win this week.

Parent/Teacher Conferences are Wednesday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> and Thursday, November 4<sup>th</sup> from 4:00 – 8:00pm. Parents will receive first quarter report cards.

GHS is considering revising the Final Exam schedule so that students will take 2 or 3 exams each day and then go home. The administration is working on the schedule in order to maintain the expected number of contact hours.

High School Principals are also discussing the prospect of students taking CSAP tests over 3 days instead of 2 days. In spring 2006, a Science test will be added to the tests already given in reading, writing, and math. President Bush is talking about a National Exit Exam for all high school students.

State schools do not look at CSAP scores. Parents have the legislative right to have their child opt out of the CSAP exam, but a negative score penalizes the school. GHS will not meet AYP because 7% of sophomores did not take the CSAP test. AYP can be achieved if less than 5% of students miss the test. Parents need to be informed about the consequences to the school of non-participation. The legislature will discuss issues affecting AYP after the national election. For example, one percent of Special Education and ELA students have to be advanced to meet AYP, but that will never happen. Small, homogenous districts are able to meet AYP.

**Student Leadership:** Homecoming was a success. Leadership students will begin planning Prom. All of the students cannot fit into the gym; therefore GHS needs to figure out an alternative plan for the spring pep assembly and senior exit assembly.

PTCO-GECO and GAIT separated for their individual meetings. Everyone at the PTCO meeting introduced himself or herself.

**Minutes:** All reviewed the minutes from the September meeting. A few corrections were made. Monica Baham motioned to approve the corrected minutes and Charlene Kulish seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.

**Treasurer's Report:** Monica Baham reported that a few raffle tickets have been sold. The HDTV was purchased from "The Big Picture". Garry Brewer motioned to approve the Treasurer's Report and Mary Ann Neumann seconded the motion. The Treasurer's Report was approved. Carlyn Canady asked for outstanding receipts.

**PIN:** Sue Parker had several handouts from PIN including What is PIN?, 40 Developmental Assets, and Building Control Procedures. Pat Sullivan, former Arapahoe County Sheriff and current Director of Safety and Security, spoke at the October PIN meeting. Several issues were discussed, including:

1. Staffing of security specialists in middle schools and high schools. GHS does not have parents on the school safety team at this time. One security specialist works each evening to ensure safety in the building.
2. Lockdown versus secure perimeter
3. Parking issues, such as illegal parking in bus lanes, fire lanes, and handicapped spaces. Aurora police have been asked to ticket illegally parked cars at GHS.

4. Safety on the internet. I-Safe, a 45 minute program, is available from CCSD.
5. Code of Silence. Students need to step forward and confide in adults. CARE line is a 24 hour hotline, 720-554-CARE.

**Volunteers:** Charlene Kulish reported that she was impressed with the willingness of parents to help at events. She had enough volunteers for Homecoming. Volunteers are needed for Conferences. Carlyn Canady will talk to Candy Storgaard, Activities Secretary, to reserve 5 tables for PTCO at conferences. Tables are needed for Teacher of the Year, Fundraiser, Raffle, Poinsettia Sale, and Directories/After-Prom.

**Staff Appreciation:** Donna Maughn and her committee will provide dinner to the staff during conferences, November 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Raffle:** Carlyn Canady reported that Joan Ryan negotiated the purchase of a \$4500 65" Mitsubishi HDTV from "The Big Picture" for \$2000. 48 tickets were sold at the football game. Tickets cost \$5 each. All Board members are encouraged to sell tickets. Volunteers will sell tickets at King Soopers, Sam's Club, and Wal-Mart. Gretchen McGoffin is negotiating with Sam's Club to match what is raised at their site. Sam's Club wanted to give away items at a football or volleyball game, but will not be allowed because of a conflict with concession sales. Carlyn will ask "The Big Picture", furniture stores, and Mitsubishi for a poster of the HDTV to be used for advertising when selling raffle tickets.

**Teacher of the Year:** Monica Baham reported that another nomination form is in the November newsletter and forms will be collected at Conferences. Students will fill out forms in English classes. The selection process will take place the week of November 8<sup>th</sup>.

**Poinsettia Sale:** Carlyn Canady reported that Susan Grandchamp and Maggie Turner are the Chairs and will put an order form in the November Newsletter. Poinsettias can also be purchased at Conferences.

**Fundraiser:** Garry Brewer reported that Helen Nelson and Lisa Blake are the Co-Chairs. They need 300-500 envelopes with the school's return address for soliciting donations from area businesses. The committee will be planning parties for stuffing envelopes, making baskets, etc. The theme and ticket price need to be determined so that tickets can be sold at Conferences.

**After-Prom:** Rose Linger is the Chair. Carlyn Canady will pick up the After-Prom planning book that Cindy Nelson put together from last year. PTCO will consider hiring a company to decorate the school. Leadership hired a company for Homecoming and they did a great job.

**School Tours:** Advertise the availability of tours for parents in the next newsletter.

**Community Caring:** Flower arrangements were sent to both of Jake Snakenberg's parents.

**Booster Clubs:** Garry Brewer will communicate with the booster clubs and sports teams that they need to contact Candy Storgaard to advertise their events on the marquee.

**Web Page:** Carlyn Canady will e-mail a photo of the HDTV to Sharon Withrow to put on the web page.

**Publicity:** The raffle will be advertised in the Teacher's Lounge. Two posters will be put up on the railings. Candy, Penny, or Susan will be asked to sell tickets from the Activities office.

**Homecoming:** Carlyn thanked everyone who participated in the parade. Two large bags of candy and 1000 temporary tattoos were handed out along the parade route. Leadership students handed out flyers to homes along the parade route to advertise the parade. Carlyn recommends handing out tattoos again. Pep phones went over well at the pep assembly. Leadership students handed out glow sticks. She recommends that all of the performances occur before the class chanting competition.

**Directories:** Sharon Withrow reported that it took 3 weeks to receive the proof book from district printing and that when it did arrive it had many errors. She asked district printing to have the directories ready for distribution by October 19<sup>th</sup> so that they can be handed out before Fall Break.

**Shed:** The 8 boxes of D-Con need to be replaced. Carlyn will get more bait to keep the mice away. The netting from the side of the shed has been removed and a new shed is now located next to the PTCO shed.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

*Berthie Ruoff*