

Grandview High School
PTCO-GECO General Meeting Minutes
January 11, 2005
7:00 p.m.

Present at the meeting: Harry Bull, Kurt Wollenweber, Sharon Withrow, Carlyn Canady, Alison House, Mary Ann Neumann, Garry Brewer, Martina Manzone, Berthie Ruoff, Sue Parker, Maria Rentzios, and 10 Leadership students.

Sharon Withrow called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.
PTCO-GECO met with GAIT for the first part of the meeting.

Principal's Report: Principal Harry Bull welcomed everyone to the meeting. The Final Exams schedule will return to a previous format which is a more realistic final exam process. Exams will be given from 7:30am – 12:30pm on Wednesday and Thursday, and from 7:30am – 10:45am on Friday. Last year's final exam schedule did not work as well. CSAP exams will be given to freshmen and sophomores over 3 days from March 16th – 18th. Three exams will be given each day from 7:30am – 12:30pm. This exam schedule will allow students to focus on the exams. Many juniors and seniors schedule college visits during this time, while other students snowboard for several days.

Cherry Creek School District needs to reduce the budget by \$4.37 million. Harry Bull gives Dr. Moses credit for decreasing the budget without too much impact at the school level. One of the ways that the budget will be decreased is with the reduction of retired teachers with 110 contracts. Retired teachers can work 110 days in a calendar year and still collect retirement, so in effect they can teach one more year; 110 days from August through December and another 110 days starting in January. These teachers have the most experience and higher salaries. CCSD will limit 110 contracts to one year. At present, teachers can work 110 days at 50% and still collect retirement year after year. \$1.5 million will be saved by paying lower salaried teachers. External contracts and administrative budgets will be decreased. Para educators will be reduced through attrition, change in service, and change in future hiring practice. A 50% reduction in High School Achievement funding will save \$250,000 and a 15% reduction at the middle schools will save \$186,000. Elementary schools will have a 15% reduction in funding for reading programs. There will be no increase in per pupil expenditure next year. The elementary director and human resources positions will not be filled. The ratio of security personnel will change from 250:1 to 275:1 affecting one staff position at Grandview. Bus transportation in the neighborhood immediately east of Grandview will be eliminated and sidewalks will be installed so that students can walk to school, resulting in \$130,000 savings. \$272,000 will be saved by eliminating the central switchboard and there will be a \$35,000 reduction to the safety plan. CCSD is in the process of reducing the budget but none of the changes are final, yet. The state legislature would need to change the laws to prevent these reductions every year. The legislature is refunding \$500 million to taxpayers and reducing the budget by \$250 million for a total budget reduction of \$750 million; their hands are tied by amendments. The challenge to the legislature is to take a complex issue and put it in a language that voters can understand. Only one initiative can be voted on at a time, so voters would have to realize that voting on several issues at once could impact the result of all the initiatives. If the amendment issues are not resolved, then schools will be impacted significantly. The government

needs to review the inconsistencies in “No Child Left Behind”. The program is fully funded at the percentage approved by congress, but the funds available are not enough to fully implement the program. The school is saving money on energy costs and has saved \$700,000 to date. Grandview may lose 7-8 teachers resulting in an 18.5:1 ratio of students to staff instead of the current 18:1 ratio. The elimination of teachers could result in the elimination of programs. CCSD allocates funds per pupil and GHS decides how to allocate those funds at the school.

Grandview has proposed to have a joint PTCO and Accountability meeting with the feeder schools April 12th. The principals would speak and then break into small discussion groups. A barbecue meal would be provided by Grandview.

Dr. Monte Moses was elected the Colorado Superintendent of the Year and is one of four finalists for National Superintendent of the Year.

Dr. Harry Bull was recognized as the CMEA Music Administrator of the Year.

Student Leadership: All of the students prefer the final exam schedule. The Winter Dance is February 18th after the basketball game at 9:00pm. GHS is hosting the Centennial League conference January 27th at SARC from 9am – 2pm. Prom will be at Invesco Field. The cost of the event was about \$25,000 last year, but by using CCSD Printing Services the cost will be reduced this year. Smoky Hill HS will have their Prom at Invesco Field at the same time, but in a different area. The Leadership students helped to build a house for Habitat for Humanity and adopted a family for community service. The junior class is selling yellow bands to help fund prom. The Youth/Adult Summit is March 12th and Leadership students are required to participate. Leadership students will sponsor a Teacher Breakfast on February 16th.

At this time, GECO-PTCO and GAIT separated for their individual meetings.

Minutes: All reviewed the minutes from the November general meeting. Garry Brewer motioned to approve the minutes and Martina Manzone seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.

Treasurer’s Report: There was no report because Monica Baham is ill and Maggie Turner was not present.

Teacher of the Year: Sharon Withrow reported that the Teachers of the Year, Tari Wood (Science) and Cathy McDavid (Math) were recognized at the Pep Assembly on December 15th. The deadline is January 21st to get letters to be included in the notebooks. The books are due to CCSD by January 28th.

PTCO Fundraiser: Mary Ann Neumann requested help to find large Live Auction items, such as Condo rentals, tickets to sporting events, etc. Each Board member is asked to try to get 1-2 items for the Live Auction. Auction contracts are available. Grandview HS is donating parking passes, athletic passes, and front row seating at graduation. Sharon Withrow will contact Leon Lundie for the passes. The invitations will be sent out this week. Volunteers are asked to help stuff the invitations on Thursday at 9:00am. The departments have been contacted about donating baskets for the silent auction and the staff is encouraged to attend. Mary Ann has arranged with Gail Sindelar to have some small chamber groups provide entertainment. A DJ from KISS-FM will be the auctioneer.

Senior Scholarships: Five \$1000 scholarships to institutions of higher learning will be given to students based on their community service and leadership, not GPA. Applications will be available February 1st in the Post-Grad Center and will be due by March 14th. Ten finalists will be interviewed to determine the five scholarship recipients.

After-Prom: Carlyn Canady met with Rose Linger and they have decided to increase gaming to the entire cafeteria. Blackjack, Texas Hold'em Poker, and Roulette will be available. More parent volunteers will be needed to deal cards than last year because there will be more tables. Volunteers will be recruited at college night on January 20th and at senior parent meetings on April 26th & 27th. Please contact parents of juniors and seniors to volunteer and for donations.

8th Grade Parent Nights: February 1st and 3rd

2005-2006 PTCO Executive Board: The candidates will be presented at the April Meeting.

P.I.N.: Sue Parker reported that Grandview needs to pay the \$50 dues. The next PIN meeting is February 1st and representatives from the Youth Advisory Board will speak. Samantha Spady's mother will speak on January 20th at 6:00pm at Cherry Creek HS. \$1 bracelets will be for sale with a "Fun doesn't come in a bottle" theme. A speaker will discuss STD's and abstinence at 7:00pm on February 10th at CCHS. The Youth/Adult Summit will be at Grandview HS on March 12th promoting assets in the community. Adults are encouraged to attend. There will be speakers, break-out groups, and a job fair. The next parenting class is Thursday, March 17th at 9:30am with a cost of \$25. There will be a Drug and Alcohol forum at CCHS in April.

Legislative Network: Martina Manzone will attend the meeting in March.

Parents' Council: Dues need to be paid.

Staff Appreciation: PTCO will provide lunch to the teachers on March 17th during CSAP testing.

Teacher Grants: PTCO will wait to see how much money is raised at the fundraiser before allocating funds to teacher grants.

The next general meeting will be Tuesday, February 8, 2005.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Berthie Ruoff