

Grandview High School
PTCO-GECO General Meeting Minutes
March 8, 2005
7:00 p.m.

Present at the meeting: Harry Bull, Kurt Wollenweber, Sharon Withrow, Alison House, Martina Manzone, Mary Ann Neumann, Monica Baham, Berthie Ruoff, and Sue Parker

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

Principal's Report: Principal Harry Bull welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for their continued attendance. The April GAIT meeting will be a joint meeting with the Accountability groups from the feeder schools. PTCO-GECO will meet separately.

The musical, Brigadoon, was a great, fun production and the pit orchestra did a wonderful job. The Masterworks concert is on Wednesday, March 9th at Augustana Lutheran Church, 5000 Alameda at 7:00pm. This concert will feature the top performing groups, including, Chamber Choir, Wind Symphony, Bella Voce, and Chamber Orchestra.

Boys' Basketball will be playing in the Final Four at the Coors Event Center on Thursday, March 10th at 7:00pm. The pep band will play at the event.

The Cherry Creek School District Youth/Adult Summit will be on Saturday, March 12th at Grandview H.S.

Spring sports have started. The Boys' Swim team has 40 swimmers, which is a good number for Colorado.

Two thousand students, 90%, completed pre-registration online this year. Next year, pre-registration will be expanded to include incoming 8th graders.

A change in the distribution of deans is being discussed. At this time, two deans offer a lot of support and structure for 9th graders. Parents would like to see this arrangement maintained at the 10th grade level. The counselors would match the dean arrangement, with 2 counselors and deans assigned to freshmen and staying with the same group for sophomore year. The two counselors and deans would then loop back to freshmen. Students would not have the same counselor and dean for all 4 years. The counselors for juniors and seniors would have an expertise in older students. Right now, all counselors work with freshmen, sophomores, juniors, and seniors and the counselors have to prioritize their duties depending on the time of the year. Parents value the current alphabetic system for counselor assignments because the counselors get to know the students and families by having the students for their duration at Grandview. Parents also thought that counselors that knew their students could write better letters of recommendation for college.

If a student has an unexcused absence, then the student must attend 1½ hours after school the next day. Grandview would like to change the time to 2 hours, from 3:00-5:00pm. If the student does not attend the after-school session, then he/she must attend Saturday school. If a student misses Saturday school, then there are other consequences. The consequences are meant to cause students to think before skipping class. However, parents are affected by having to pick up their child at 5:00pm. Parents need to support the school by not excusing an absence. More sophomores do not attend class than juniors and seniors because upperclassmen want to attend class to get into college.

CSAP testing for freshmen and sophomores will be next week Wednesday, March 16th through Friday, March 18th from 7:30am – 12:15pm. Busses will depart at 12:30pm. Teachers are asked not to assign homework or extra assignments. Students will have back to back 5-8 days before and after the testing due to the odd number of days. CSAP tests in science will be added at the sophomore level next year. At the 6th grade level in middle school, CSAP scores can affect class placement for 7th grade. Therefore, students have an incentive to perform well on the exam. At the high school level, many students do not take the exam because parents exercise their right not to have their child tested. Students need to have ownership of the test results. Utah is prepared to vote on declining federal funding for the No Child Left Behind legislation. Minnesota is also looking at this issue. NCLB is a good idea, but a bad law. The legislation raises standards each year until 100% of students are proficient. A parent suggested that the federal government may have set such high standards because it wants all of the states to decline the federal money and support education through state tax dollars only.

Student Leadership: No Leadership students attended the meeting.

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

Minutes: All reviewed the minutes from the January general meeting. Sharon Withrow motioned to approve the minutes with one correction and Monica Baham seconded the motion. The minutes were approved. The February general meeting minutes were not available.

Treasurer's Report: Monica Baham presented the treasurer's report. Monica will double check the amount for PTCO-GECO donations with bookkeeping. Sharon Withrow motioned to approve the treasurer's report and Mary Ann Neumann seconded the motion. The treasurer's report was approved.

P.I.N.: Sue Parker reported that Grandview is the site for the Youth/Adult Summit on Saturday, March 12th starting at 8:30am. Parents are encouraged to attend. There will be free food, giveaways, door prizes, speakers, break-out groups, and a job fair. Topics discussed will include taking risks in your life. The next PIN meeting is April 5th and the topic is "What are they thinking?" about the teenage brain. There will be a Drug and Alcohol forum at CCHS on April 14th at 6:30pm. Sue handed out invitations to the annual PIN Brunch on Tuesday, May 3rd from 9:00am – 12:00pm at Cherry Creek Presbyterian Church, 10150 E. Belleview. Dr. Marianne Neifert, Dr. Mom, is the guest speaker discussing "Your Child's Self-Esteem and Emotional Health". RSVPs are due April 19th.

After-Prom: Berthie Ruoff reported that the After-Prom committee met and decided to move the registration to the lower academic hallway with students passing through the deans/counselor hallway. The students would then enter the atrium where there will be belly dancers, a DJ, food bazaar, fortune tellers, and a tattoo booth. The casino will be in the cafeteria and inflatable games will be in both gyms. Two Mikito machines will be in the second gym, as well. Photo Booths will be in the upper atrium with spots for group photos in addition to the "Wedding Chapel". Turbans and veil headdresses will be used for the weddings. Digital photos will be taken and their distribution is still being determined. Entertainers, such as a hypnotist or magician, will perform shows in the auditorium. Trike races will be in the upper academic

hallway. All students will receive a Glow-necklace when they enter. Gift Certificates to area restaurants, movies, video stores, etc. will be the prizes. There will not be any big ticket prizes. Parent Volunteers will be entered in a drawing to win an overnight stay at Magnolia Hotel. Carlyn Canady was able to get 50 Magnolia Hotel gift certificates. The committee suggested that the Senior Biographies be posted at the Senior Breakfast instead of at After-Prom.

Fundraising did not meet our expectations and a \$5 fee will be charged for After-Prom. The \$5 charge will be printed on the After-Prom invitation that will be in the same envelope as the Prom invitation.

Senior Scholarships: Applications are in the Post-Grad Center and are due March 14th. Kurt Wollenweber has sent e-mails to faculty encouraging senior students to apply for the scholarships. The committee will meet on March 22nd to determine the ten finalists who will be interviewed to determine the five \$1000 scholarship recipients.

2005-2006 PTCO Executive Board: The nominating committee will present the slate at the April general meeting. Berthie Ruoff and Garry Brewer are on the nominating committee.

Teacher of the Year: Monica Baham reported that Margaret Lisecki is putting together the albums. A trophy and album will be presented to each winner at the Senior Awards Night.

Teacher Grants: Mary Ann Neumann reported that a letter will be in each teacher's mailbox by the end of the week. Less than the \$6000 budgeted will be available for grants. The grant deadline is April 4th.

Legislative Network: Martina Manzone reported that the bus trip to the Capitol has been changed from March 15th to March 22nd. Martina is not able to attend, but Monica Baham will take her place. The bus departs from the ESC office.

The next general meeting will be Tuesday, May 10, 2005.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Berthie Ruoff