

GPA Notes
March 16, 2010
Gateway Library, 6pm to 8pm

1. Welcome: Ginny Gjedsted

Members present: Bonnie Kalbrosky, Gary Goldsborough, Jude Deckenbach, Sandra Proctor, Martha Fulmer, Ginny Gjedsted, Martha Sandoval, Hut Landon, Tina McGovern, Mabel Chen, Julie Thompson, Aaron Watson, Carroll Child, Angela Grimes, Antonella Goldsborough, Julie Hagelshaw.

2. Principal's Report: Aaron Watson (teacher, garden club mentor and committees on Board) for Sharon Olken

WASC update: Accreditation process (a review of the school that determines that a diploma from the school means something). Review is over a full year, including self study, review of strengths and weaknesses, action plan and a site visit. Site visit by accreditation committee is to see that students learn, process of self study, and that the school has the capacity to carry out their plan. This visit is scheduled April 11-14 (Sun-Wed).

Successful process culminates in a 6-year accreditation. Major goals: math (increase student achievement), literacy, student participation, POL, family communication.

Need parents to help on Sunday (April 11) from 4-6pm for conversation with committee. "What makes Gateway unique?"

Committee also wants to meet with parents on Monday, April 12th at 5pm. This meeting will replace the current GPA meeting scheduled for 13th April.

Gateway budget update:

3 funding streams affecting Gateway are state budget cuts, stimulus funds have ended, rainy day fund ended. For next year, there is a projected deficit of \$650,000 for school. Projecting no layoffs; increased fundraising target next year, by \$150k. Board of Trustees has authorized an additional use of \$300,000 from reserves. School will also be cutting costs of \$100,000, including temporary furlows and other 1 time solutions. Fundraising will encompass all families. \$4 million of Board designated funds in reserve. \$900k additional reserves + \$1.9 million for school supplies.

Gateway Middle School update:

Submitted Charter to District. Focus on college prep, how students learn. District may not pass it if they don't want a new middle school. Tonight's meeting at School Board, they are looking at financials, and whether there is enough people to do it. The 2nd step is educational program feasibility. Gateway is hoping to be approved by end of

April (have 60 days to approve through SFUSD Board) and enable Gateway to be eligible for Federal grant of \$600,000 to open the school in Fall 2011.

If not approved in April, there is a later point to get approved. Board of Education could send the charter to State of California. However, that would mean that school would not be part of SFUSD. Gateway is hopeful for approval, however there is also a political element that may not be in favor of approving. If not approved, the District has to provide rationale. Is there a facility for the new school? No. Gateway would need a site. HS Impact? Each school would have its own head of school, with a principal overseeing both. Financially, the new school wouldn't drain from high school because middle schools are better models with simpler programs. Projected size of middle school is 275-300, with a 22:1 ratio. It is the intent to be a "feeder" school to the high school. There is a Board of Education meeting on Monday April 5, at 6pm at 555 Franklin. Tuesday April 13th is the decision date by the Board of Education.

Freshman application update for Fall 2010: 600 applications for 125 slots. Sent out 180 acceptance letters.

Angela Grimes (AP):

Talent show: Ms. Dalton is organizing it for March 26th. So far 8 acts. All funds raised to go to Haiti. \$5 students; \$10 adults; food possible. 7pm in the Auditorium

Spirit Week all next week (March 22-26) and is organized by Amanda Goldman. Themes include a PJ day, twins day, dress up day, sports day. Spring Fling is on the 26th and a culmination of Spirit Week, with games, clubs sell food. Email agoldman@gatewayhigh.org with any questions.

3. Fundraising: Tina McGovern.

Annual fund update: This year's Annual Fund has done well and we will meet goal this year!!! Thank you to all. \$92,261, with 40% participation.

There is a Star Wars movie fundraiser April 16th, 270 seats available. Sponsorships sold. Showing the first Star Wars movie at Lucas Center in the Presidio. Open to Gateway community. \$500 per ticket or \$1000 for 4 tickets. Free parking.

4. Treasurer's Report: Terri Ahuruonye
Not present.

5. Upcoming Events: Ginny Gjedsted.
Spring Fling all next week
Car Wash April 10th
Prom May 22
Graduation June 12

6. Guest Speaker: Kathryn Amenta Financial Wisdom for parents and teens. Friend of Tina McGovern.

Works with cash flow, budget, emotional money.

Kids & money. When your decision is aligned with your values, it is ok.

Flaunting, "I have more than you do" is a self esteem issue or the parents are doing the same. Then it's a learned behaviour rather than low self-esteem.

There is Peer pressure to spend what they don't have.

Don't use "I can't afford this" with kids, but use other words, like "We made other choices."

Jealousy: kids want what their friends have. Self esteem, what I want when I want it.

Sibling jealousy

Learn to be an active listener

Fright: Financial crisis: explain the unemotional truth. Explain strategies that are in place.

Create a plan and follow up.

Teach them savings: Should have enough for 3-6 months to live.

Miserly behavior. Learn how to share and give. Must be modeled.

Allowance: pay in cash. How much? Should have a spending, saving and charity component. Don't use money as control or holding back. Restrict other things instead.

Want to get extra money for additional things. Chores as part of living in the family.

Younger \$1 per year of age.

Work & college: have the talk early. Parent pay for the whole thing or kid to share in expense.

Credit cards: among teens: 1:3hs senior use; 1/2 have in own name credit cards. Under 18 yrs without parent signature; 50% college freshmen have one credit card. By sophomore year, 90% have at least 1 card, with an average \$1500 debt!

Need to save and create budget for living.

Cannot teach the kids what you don't know.

Bridget Allen financial/ college planning: www.scholarco.com

529 account for savings with gifts.

Library of grants near 450 Sutter Street

7. Adjourn, 8ish pm

Next meeting, April 12, 2010, 5pm.

Submitted by,
Julie Hagelshaw