

California High School Academic Boosters  
November 15, 2010  
CHS Library

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Present: see below

1. Academic Teams presentations – Representatives from Speech and Debate, Robotics, Mock Trial, Model UN, DECA, Academic Decathlon, and Science Bowl presented information about their teams, including meeting times and competitions that they are involved in. Detailed information about each team is attached to the minutes.
2. Kathleen Seabury from Photo came with a poster board thanking Academic Boosters for the cameras we funded this year.
3. Principal's Update – Mark Corti
  - Parent Education – One of CHS focus's this year. A Positive Discipline class was held lasting 7 weeks which had a good core group of parents. There is interest in extending this class.
  - There will be a meeting Wednesday night for parents of 21 students on campus to discuss the Reality Mentor Program (an organization in Hayward). These students have been identified to have a teacher mentor.
  - Winter sports started Nov. 8<sup>th</sup>.
  - Field trips – All district high school principals have agreed to allow in state field trips every year and out of state field trips every other year. (Championship events are different, and can travel out of state for higher levels of competition.)
  - Math meeting was held with the district curriculum leaders (Mrs. Dillman and Mr. Pitts attended from Cal High). There are concerns in finding ways to get all students to be proficient in math. The UC's are now going to require students to take precalculus/trig. Other concerns with intervention – the students who need it are not going. It would be best for some students to have A period math and a regular math class. There is a math lab in the morning, and tutoring offered by NHS students during tutorial. They hope to see program improvement in a few years.
  - District looking at issues with asking for donations for locks, PE uniforms, and textbooks.
  - This year in December there will be a diagnostic CAHSEE for all 10<sup>th</sup> graders, to identify those students who are not proficient so that they may have intervention before the actual CAHSEE.
4. Student Report – Nitin
  - The homecoming dance had 1700 students attend. There were 6 security guards hired. They received feedback that parents thought there was not

- enough supervision. There were 30 staff members present. There were problems with check-in, and a u-haul was in the way which also caused problems.
- Character Counts – The theme changes each month, and leadership makes over 100 posters every month. At the end of the year there should be more than 600 posters all around campus.
  - College reps are coming into the counseling office on a regular basis.
  - Brown bag business speakers - they are looking for more volunteers to come in and talk to the students.
  - There will be a basketball pep rally in the event center on Thursday night at 7.
  - Political campaigns – there were 50 – 60 students working as interns this year.
  - Shadow Day with the City of San Ramon – will be held in the spring for 30 students from CHS and DVHS.
5. The minutes from October were reviewed and approved.
  6. Financial Report Review – Siri
    - Approved checks:
      - o #886 \$332.05 College Night
      - o #887 \$16 – Software license renewal
  7. Donation Drive & Matching Funds – (summary by Jenny for Becky)
    - We are still getting more matching funds, and we are above budget.
    - Last year at this time 650 families had made a donation. This year we have 600 families, but we are above budget because of our donation amount request increase.
  8. Escript income – continues to come in.
  9. Testing Updates – Shekhar
    - Cancelled the practice SAT in November (3 day weekend).
    - There will be a Practice ACT and Practice SAT in the spring.
    - A check will be coming soon from AMES.
    - Website coordinator – not finalized yet. Shekhar still working on.
  10. College Night –
    - Marcy will take on this position for next year.
  11. Site Council – minutes were emailed out to the Academic Booster board.
  12. Round table – ideas for meeting topics in 2011 –
    - January – resources available for students (meeting for parents) – there are resources in the counseling center, and also tutoring available for students during school that many parents are not aware of.
    - February – Technology updates
    - April and May will include nominations.

- Other ideas include having a “show and tell” – teachers that received grants can talk about what they have used their grant money for and how it has helped them.
- Any other ideas? Please send them on to Jenny.

13. Teacher Grants – Henry He

- We have received thank you notes from teachers for funds.
- There were 4 pending grants from last month.
  - o Music 004-1 Music sheets – The district said they are not allowed to use textbook funds for this. This is the most important thing for Mr. Johnson. **We approved** up to \$4000 for this.
  - o Music 004-2 Music stands. 2 years ago the band size was smaller. This is why he needs more stands than he asked for in previous years. We do have enough stands for our current students. The extra are needed for special events, where there are more musicians attending. **Not approved** for now – he can resubmit after we get more information on the band booster funds – where do they go? We’d like them to look at other sources for funds.
  - o 2010-006 MacBook Pro - Henry discussed with Mr. Quick the possibility of using windows and a less expensive laptop. The mac comes with all of the software he needs, along with extra features that he plans to use. **Approved** up to \$2000.
  - o 2010-009 Aprons and chef coats. The 2<sup>nd</sup> line is \$6 per uniform. We didn’t get an answer about having the sewing class do this (if we had the embroidery machines). **Approved** for up to \$550, one line only, and using regular shipping. (We’d like to see them doing more things to showcase their talents – cooking for events, parents, etc.)

14. The next meeting will be **Tuesday**, January 18<sup>th</sup> (Monday is a holiday).

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Kawaguchi

**Academic Decathlon** – contact (Anatoly Alexeeff, [aalexeef@calhigh.net](mailto:aalexeef@calhigh.net))

At Academic Decathlon we create a relaxed atmosphere for students to learn and teach others about a wide range of subjects. The decathletes prepare for two intense days of testing their knowledge with other students from the county. This year the theme of the competition is The Great Depression, challenging the students to learn history, geology, and read The Grapes of Wrath.

**Science Bowl** – contact (Andrew White, [awhite@calhigh.net](mailto:awhite@calhigh.net))

Science Bowl is a jeopardy-style, quick answer math and science competition put on by the US government to promote science education. The questions are very advanced in biology, chemistry, physics, astronomy, earth science, general science (includes computer science) and math. There are regional competitions for the high school level teams each winter. The winning team from each regional competition gets an all expenses paid trip to Washington DC to compete in the National Finals in the spring. The winning school receives funds for their science program.

**Robotics** – contact (John Korzick, [jkorzic@calhigh.net](mailto:jkorzic@calhigh.net))

The Cal High Robotics team is looking forward to an exciting season. We will be designing and building robots to enter the Vex, First and Mate competitions. Students work in teams and learn 21st century career pathways skills.

**DECA** (Distributive Education Clubs of America) – contact, Mike Pottinger ([mpottin@calhigh.net](mailto:mpottin@calhigh.net))

DECA is a business and entrepreneurship club that teaches students the principles of the modern business world. From solving real life business problems to proposing an international business plan, DECA will integrate students into the field of entrepreneurship in the world of today.

**Model United Nations** – contact (Doug Devries, [DDeVries@calhigh.net](mailto:DDeVries@calhigh.net))

In Model UN, students step into the shoes of ambassadors from UN member states to debate current issues on the organization's agenda. Students make speeches, prepare draft resolutions, negotiate with allies and adversaries, resolve conflicts, and navigate the conference rules of procedure - all in the interest of mobilizing "international cooperation" to resolve problems that affect countries all over the world.

**Mock Trial** – contact (Brian Barr, [bbarr@calhigh.net](mailto:bbarr@calhigh.net))

The Mock Trial Program is sponsored by the Constitutional Rights Foundation (CRF). Each year CRF creates a mock trial that addresses serious matters facing young people today. Each team works with teacher and attorney coaches to prepare their version of the criminal case, both from the prosecution and defense perspective. Students assume the roles of trial attorneys, pretrial motion attorneys, witnesses, clerks, and bailiffs. Through these role-playing techniques, students learn about the content and processes of law in an exciting and vibrant way. Also, by studying the case and preparing strategies and arguments for trial, students increase their public speaking skills, analytical ability and team cooperation.

**Speech & Debate** – contact (Anthony Watts, [awatts@calhigh.net](mailto:awatts@calhigh.net))

The Cal High Speech and Debate team is a team organized into two parts: Speech and Debate. Each facet focuses on developing the art of competitive public speaking and forensics/argumentation. Our team has competed all over the Bay Area in Golden Gate Speech Association Tournaments, as well as at private competitions at Stanford, UC Berkeley, and Santa Clara University. We are currently affiliated with the National Forensics League and continue to grow yearly. The Speech team focuses on humorous interpretation, dramatic interpretation, and impromptu speeches. The Debate team focuses on Lincoln-Douglas Debates which are 1 on 1 value debates modeled after the 1858 debates between Abraham Lincoln and Stephen Douglas.

**ATTENDANCE**

<b>Name</b>	<b>08-16</b>	<b>09-20</b>	<b>10-18</b>	<b>11-15</b>					
<b><u>Board members</u></b>									
Scott Armanini		√							
Sireesha Balabhadra	√	√	√	√					
Shekhar Battu	√	√	√	√					
Cox, Philip		√	√	√					
Mark Corti	√	√	√	√					
Downum, Robert		√	√						
Henry He	√		√	√					
Jia Li									
Karen Kawaguchi	√	√	√	√					
Isabel Lau				√					
Becky Mose			√						
Jenny Mumma	√	√	√	√					
Sharon Rowenhorst	√	√	√	√					
Marcy Williams		√	√	√					
<b><u>Student Rep</u></b>									
Nitin Yenigalla		√		√					
Wesley Enos			√						
<b><u>Visitors</u></b>									
Ash, Lisa		√							
Berastain, Vanessa		√							
Calderon, Anna		√							
Egawa, Yukiko		√							
Friedman, Sue		√							
Goyal, Sunaina		√							
Hurd, Rachel		√							
Koos, Deborah		√							
Larson, Paula		√							
Maiti, Baishali		√							
Syed, Raza			√						
Sexton, Cindy		√							
Szeto, Rita		√							
Walker, Steve		√							
Wen, Jane		√							