

## Secretary Minutes - January 4, 2010 PTO Meeting

The meeting was called to order by Rene'e Perry, President of FHS PTO. There were 10 people present at the meeting. The 3 officers are *President*, Rene'e Perry, *Secretary*, Ann-Marie Roderiques, and *Treasurer*, Liddy Pepin. There were 3 parents also present: Jo-Anne and Robert Shields and Glenn Silva. We also had 3 guest speakers: William Garcia, *Social Worker*, Douglas Medeiros, *Guidance Counselor* and our newest member of our *Guidance Team*, Ashley McPherson.

Mr. William Garcia, FHS Social Worker, introduced the newest member of FHS Guidance Team, Ms. Ashley McPherson. She attended University of Florida and did post graduate work at Wake Forest concentrating on counseling in a school setting. Ms. McPherson was a guidance counselor at Sandwich High School where she initiated a program for juniors and seniors who became mentors for the underclassmen. She also started an After-School Club combining the academic and social factors of a high school environment. She currently resides in Dartmouth with her family. Mr. Douglas Medeiros, a guidance counselor at FHS, counsels the sophomores from A-Z and the juniors and seniors whose last names start from A-L. He has spearheaded college programs such as the *College Fair* where he invited area colleges to come to FHS to meet and interview the students. There is also a program that is called **FASFA** night (**Federal Application for Student Financial Aid**), where parents of college-bound students are provided with an overview of the financial aid application process. The application process will now be online. Bristol Community College will be conducting on the spot admissions, with the preliminary testing at FHS sometime in February or early March.

Mr. William Garcia, Social Worker was also one of the guest speakers. He is the spokesperson for a group of students who wanted to start a program called the freshman initiative. The purpose of the initiative is make students more aware of the dangers of using drugs or alcohol. The upperclassmen representatives are the role models and they speak to the eighth graders at the middle school. The **Pi** symbol is the logo that is printed on the T-Shirts that were given to the students who wanted to participate in the program. The group held monthly events to encourage participation such as hosting pizza parties and bowl-a-thons. The Breakfast Club is also another program that Mr. Garcia has spearheaded. It is a one of a kind club where students with IEPs meet with other students and they get to socialize and find common interests. The club is a vehicle that personalizes school for all students.

The Secretary's Report from December 7th's PTO meeting submitted by Ann-Marie Roderiques, Secretary of FHS PTO, was read and approved.

The Treasurer's Report from December 7th's meeting submitted by Liddy Pepin, Treasurer of FHS PTO, was read and approved. The ending balance is \$5,275.71

Old Business that was discussed by the PTO committee was the giving out of the gift cards to the students who scored proficiently on the MCAS tests. There were four gift cards totaling \$320 given out. Laurie Medeiros and Guiliano Cote each received \$100 respectively. Nathan Rock and Morgan Izdebski each received \$60 respectively. Another old business item on the agenda was the announcement of the date for the Battle of the Bands fundraiser. It will be held on April 9th, 2010.

The New Business discussion was on the revamping of the FHS PTO scholarship application. Glenn Silva, our internet liaison will be meeting with Rene'e Perry to discuss the updates to the application.

The meeting was adjourned. The next meeting will be held on February 1, 2010 in Rm.115 at 6:30 p.m.