



SHHS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION • P.O. BOX 14415 • ARLINGTON, TEXAS 76094 • WWW.SHHSTEXANS.ORG

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**Wednesday, August 10, 2016**

**Location: Angelo's Pizza, Steak, and Spaghetti – Pantego, Texas**

**Attendees: See Sign-In Sheet**

- Darla Peznell: Welcome and Call to Order at 7:02pm
- Darla Peznell: Moment of Silence/Pledge of Allegiance
- Erica Garcia: Minutes
  - Melynda Merrifield moves to accept June minutes as read; Jayme Thomas seconds; motion approved.
- Nicia Harrison: Treasurer's Report
  - Judy Thomas moves to accept June treasurer's report as read; Mike Mullen seconds; motion approved.
  - Al Critz moves to accept July treasurer's report as read; David Inman seconds; motion approved.
- Darla Peznell
  - Reminder about the SLAM Fest: back to school festival that raises funds and school supplies. Festival on September 13, 2016 at SHHS. Admission is \$3 per adult, \$1 per child.
  - President recaps the Board Installation and thanks Kylie Hill and Sheila Young for their service.
  - Official appointment for Donations Coordinators is announced. Jayme Thomas and Judy Thomas will be both be coordinators for the 2016-2017 school year.
  - Presentation to Mr. Benavides for \$3,000 for his SHHS Principal's Discretionary Fund. This fund helps students who have potential and need support. It helps athletes, band members, students attending academic competitions, etc.
- Mr. Benavides
  - Back to school:
    - SHHS is ready to start the school year full-staffed with the exception of two positions that are in the works. This is the first time in four years that the school will be 100% staffed at the start of a school year.
    - New positions/hires include new AP and new drop-off prevention specialist for freshman.
    - 39 new staff members, 11 of which are brand-new teachers
  - The official accountability report will be released August 12, 2016.
  - This year's focus for SHHS is on literacy. (In the words of Mr. B, it's about "progress, not perfection.")
  - 2016 Senior Class was roughly 700-720 students, with 33 summer grads.
  - Facilities:
    - Construction has been approved on 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Center.
    - MAC will be finished in September.
    - One-way drop off/pick up has been approved by the city (West to East

- o on Sam Houston Drive.)
    - All parking will be on east lot ("dollar lot").
  - o Students love the new Band Director! Ms. Sanchez is in charge of Bell Guard.
- Darla Peznell
  - o President thanks the Budget Committee and outlines what their job was.
  - o Proposed budget for 2016-2017 is reviewed line by line and questions are answered.
  - o Laurie Flynn moves to accept proposed budget as read and formally make it the 2016-2017 budget; Mike Ledford seconds; motion approved.
- Erica Garcia
  - o Secretary discusses memberships and membership drive! Renew memberships online or in-person. Lifetime members should confirm their information is still correct. Class with the most number of memberships will win reserved seating at Fall Fling. (Details to come.)
  - o Now is the time to re-link the Kroger Community Rewards Program (#3148) to your Kroger Plus Card – this happens every August. Also, there are additional ways to "shop to give" – via Target cards, Tom Thumb rewards cards, and Amazon Smile.
- Brenda Allen Wolf
  - o Arlington Fourth of July Parade had its challenges with the retirement of Mr. Barge, instrument rentals, and weather. However, the association did great with the volunteers that came out. A big special thank you to Kimon and Michelle Wherley for their dedication to creating the trailer used in the parade. We won two awards! Photos to be posted to facebook soon.
  - o North Texas Giving Day (September 22, 2016) is a day where local north TX non-profits raise money online. Donations over \$20-\$25 each qualify us for additional funds. It would be possible to raise all funds needed to stock the Food Pantry for a year.
    - There is an in-person spirit rally to be held in Arlington. There is a Spirit Award that has prize of additional funds attached to it. (Think of it as a "pep rally.") Discussions include having members wear red, white, and blue – bring your Texas spirit! Possibly have cheerleaders, band, drill team.
    - Mike Mullen, Al Critz, and Melynda Merrifield graciously pledged to donate \$100 each on NTX Giving Day.
  - o Back to School Teacher Breakfast is on August 22, 2016. Report to east side (by cafeteria) at 6:45am and be ready by 7:30am to serve.
    - Donations (in-kind, monetary, food) and volunteers are needed!
  - o Teacher lunch is being held on August 24, 2016. Report to east side (by cafeteria) by 10am to help grill burgers and hot dogs.
    - Al Critz and Bob Callas volunteer to assist.
  - o Pride and Spirit Committee volunteer sign-up sheet is passed around. The committee will be formed and be in charge of researching, gathering, and presenting the history and traditions of SHHS.
    - Long Tall Texan Award – create system, work with alumni and administrators
    - Class Yells, Big Sam Bell, Howdy Day, Water Tower, etc.
    - Update alumni showcase at SHHS
  - o Raising Funds at Raising Cane's is scheduled for September 15, 2016 (5-9pm) at

South Cooper Street location. Attend, mention you're there to support SHHS Alumni Association, and we get a % of the funds raised that day!

- Spirit Sticks Workday coming soon! We will be making spirit sticks for SHHS events. Donations of toilet paper rolls, candy (that does not melt – no chocolate please), tissue paper, and ribbons needed!
- Saturday Workday coming soon! We will be updating the alumni showcase, as well as helping decorate/organize the food pantry.
- Questions/Concerns?
  - Membership drive updates and details regarding Fall Fling reserved seating to be posted.
  - Fall Fling update: We are looking for donations of prizes – both individual items as well as completed baskets. Gift cards are also appreciated! Items to be raffled include 32" inch television, grill set, tablet, bike, wreath, and paper shredder.
  - Discussion regarding Bell Guard raised by David Inman. Brenda Wolf will work on a POC at SHHS.
  - Volunteers needed to sell SHHS alumni merch at football games. First game of the year is September 1, 2016. We will also attempt to sell at Homecoming. Claudia Perkins volunteers to help, and Al Critz is willing to provide a table for set-up.
  - Facebook giveaway ends August 12, 2016 at 5pm CST!
- Motion to adjourn by Bob Callas; Jayme Thomas seconds; motion carries. Meeting adjourns at 8:36pm.