

**NJASC Meeting
Union High School
Minutes for Friday, April 20, 2007**

- I) Call to Order:**
A. President Sara Plotkin called the third meeting of the New Jersey Association of Student Councils to order at 9:38 a.m. on Friday, April 20, 2007.
- II) Roll Call:**
A. Secretary Annie Valentine took attendance. All members of the 2007 NJASC Executive Board were present and accounted for.
- III) Review of Minutes:**
A. Annie reviewed the minutes from the meeting at Westfield High School on Friday, March 20, 2007. There was a correction on the first page; the name of the high school is Bordentown Regional High School not Bordentown High School. Mina Ra motioned to accept the minutes with the aforementioned corrections. Kayla Stoll seconded the motion which passed unanimously, minutes accepted.
- IV) Presentation of State Charities:**
A. The Board heard from the 3 finalists for the state charity drive. The finalists were: Spread the Magic Foundation, The Valerie Fund, and The Children's Institute. Each charity was given a half hour to pitch their charity to the board. A vote was then taken on which charity will be the official charity for the 2007 year.
B. Spread the Magic was the first to give their presentation, the Valerie Fund was second, and the final to present was the Children's Institute. After hearing all of the possible charities, the board discussed each charity for 10 minutes. It was agreed upon that the charity must be based in New Jersey and must affect those living in New Jersey. The board also felt it was important that the money donated by the NJASC will have a significant impact on the charity.
C. Spread the Magic was the first charity up for discussion. Spread the magic is a charity started by 18 year old Chad Huros, a cancer survivor, and the charity's mission is to put on magic shows for children with cancer. The Charity performs many shows at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, where approximately 1/3 of the patients are from New Jersey. Spread the Magic is based out of Egg Harbor Township and all the magicians work pro bono.
D. The second charity discussed was the Valerie Fund. The Valerie Fund was started in 1978 by Mr. and Mrs. Goldstein whose daughter Valerie died of cancer at a young age. The Valerie fund strives to provide both medical treatment and emotional support for children afflicted with cancer and have over 8 centers in New Jersey alone.
E. The Children's Institute was the final charity discussed. The Children's Institute is a private, non-profit school that works with autistic children

ages 3-21 years old. The school provides one on one learning for children with varying degrees of autism and also provides outlets of support for families with autistic children.

- F. After all 3 charities were discussed, Mina Ra motioned to eliminate Spread the Magic from the running for the state charity drive. Executive Member Stephen Flynn seconded the motion which passed unanimously. Vice- President Jonathon Weisbrod motioned to accept the Valerie Fund as the state charity for this year, Kayla Stoll seconded the motion. Middle level rep Michaela Brown motioned to table the motion, Annie Valentine seconded. Motion tabled unanimously. The Valerie Fund was then further discussed and at 12:53, Prerna Bhatia motioned to take a break. Annie Valentine seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. Sara Plotkin reconvened the meeting at 1:01 pm and the board voted on accepting the Valerie Fund as the state charity. Kayla Stoll motioned to accept the Valerie Fund as the state charity, Stephen Flynn seconded. Mina Ra and Jess Derrico opposed and Prerna Bhatia abstained. Motion passed with a 6-2 vote and 1 abstention. The Valerie Fund is the 2007 state charity.
- G. Prerna Bhatia motioned to give \$500 to each of the other 2 finalists. Kayla Stoll seconded the motion which passed unanimously. Mina Ra motioned to give \$162,007.08 as the goal amount for the state charity. Michaela Brown seconded the motion which then passed unanimously.

V) Treasurer's Report

- A. Mina Ra reported that as of April 20th there was \$94, 241.21.

VI) Correspondence:

- A. There was no correspondence.

VII) Committee Reports:

A. Vice President's Report:

- i. There was no report.

B. State Board Of Education Representative's Report:

- i. Kayla reported that at April's State Board of Ed. Meeting there were student speakers who presented to the board. Among them were Michael Sampson and Manny Abru.

C. Charity Report:

- i. Jessica reported that we had selected the state charity which is now The Valerie Fund.

D. Special Projects Report:

- i. Stephen reported that he had received Buena and Southern Regional's evaluations for the Standards of Excellence Award but

that Phillipsburg High School and South Brunswick had dropped out. Buena had a score of 110, and Southern had a score of 104.

- ii. Jonathan motioned to accept Buena and Southern Regional High Schools as the winners for this year's Standards of Excellence Award, Prerna seconded. All in favor, motion passed unanimously.

E. Review:

- i. Prerna reported that she has finished the first rough draft of the review but that she still needed pictures and bios from some of the officers.

F. Middle Level Representative:

- i. Michaela reported that she had sent a letter to Governor Corzine asking him to proclaim Student Council Week for the week of the Spring Confere but had not yet heard back.

VIII) Advisor's Reports;

- A. Wendy and Lou reported that LTC Staff Training will be on May 12th at TCNJ. The new and old staff will take a tour of the facility and then have breakout sessions in Loser Hall.
- B. It was also brought up that some medical forms for nationals still need to be handed in. The NJ delegation will be leaving from Philadelphia International Airport on the morning of Friday June 22.

IX) Old Business:

- A. There is still a need for student entertainment for the spring conference.
- B. The Community Smile award deadlines have been extended until the 27th of April.
- C. The Board was reminded to wear their NJASC polo shirts to 6 Flags.

X) New Business:

- A. Due to the presentation of the state charities, the "new business" regarding the selection of a new state charity has already been discussed under "State Charity Presentation".
- B. Wendy and Lou informed the board that each member of the board will be hosting a workshop during the spring awards ceremony.
- C. The possibility of pushing the advisor of the year award to the Fall Business Meeting was discussed. The board weighed the pros and cons and felt that in order for NJ's Advisor of the Year to be eligible for the Warren E. Shull Award at that NASC Conference, the application deadline is now to be in September. Johnathan motioned to move the Advisor the of Year award to the Fall Business Meeting and Annie seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

XI) Adjournment:

A. Kayla motioned to adjourn the meeting at 2:05, Prerna seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. Sara adjourned the meeting at 2:06 pm.