

H.W. Mountz PTA Minutes

Wednesday, January 20, 2016

8:46 a.m. Call to Order

Recording Secretary's Report

Mrs. Snyder reported that the December 2, 2015 minutes had been submitted and reviewed. A MOTION was made to approve the minutes, seconded, and APPROVED by all.

Corresponding Secretary's Report

Mrs. Mizhir reported on the following notes of thanks sent to the PTA:

- From Mr. Livingood, the Middle School team and students of 6L for the new chromebook cases.
- From Nicki Orr for the holiday festivities and portable charger gift.
- From Senora Piccolella for the holiday gift.
- From Ann Marie Henry for the holiday gift.
- From Becky Zielinski for the response cards mini-grant.
- From Gwen Abbot for the book donation to her class library.
- From Mrs. Orr and Mrs. Henry for the book donation to their class library.
- From Linda Gillick at "Ocean of Love for Children with Cancer" for the Gift Cards sent, totaling \$445.00.

Treasurer's Report

Checking account balance is \$116,121.86 and the Savings account balance is \$4497.83 as of 1/20/16.

- Mr. Marzullo asked that when members are seeking reimbursement, please fill out a Reimbursement Form (located on the PTA webpage) and also attach receipts (taped) to a blank piece of paper for ease of filing.
- Mr. Marzullo provided a Financial Snapshot of the 2016 PTA budget to date and advised of the potential checking acct. balance for June 2016 - \$49,929.
- Mrs. Moran raised a question regarding the budgeting for additional Stand-Up (SU) Desks.
- Mrs. Walsifer provided an explanation regarding the cost of the desks as well as accompanying accessories.
- Dr. Boccuti clarified that the BOE will not be putting additional SU desks in the 2016-2017 budget at this time.
- Dr. Boccuti commented on the positive set up of the pilot for the SU desks and the importance of garnering data from this program.
- A discussion took place regarding the stools for the desks and tracking data to see the frequency of their use.

Dr. Boccuti's Report

Welcome extended to Dr. Boccuti! Thank you expressed from Dr. Boccuti for the warm welcome from the District and the PTA.

Mrs. Walsifer's Report

- Thank you extended to the PTA and parents for all that was done for the Blue Ribbon Day celebration.
- Thank you extended for the PTA-sponsored staff breakfast on 1/18.
- An e-mail blast to be sent out re. "Black Out Recess" – no technology during 20 min. recess to encourage fostering relationships and communication among students.

BOE Liaison Update

Mrs. Valori present and encouraged a continued open line of communication with the BOE.

Committee Updates

Book Fair

- Mrs. Ressa provided an update via e-mail. Volunteering to cover the Ad Journal for the KT.
- The Spring Book Fair will run 5/2-5/6.
- The Winter Book Fair had total sales of \$3824.90 and Mountz profits totaling \$2102.77.

Holiday Gift Fair

- Mrs. Lynch reported positive feedback from teachers, parents and students.
- Negotiating with our previously used outside company for a higher rebate to be given.
- Expenses totaled \$3694.84 while revenues totaled \$3792 this year.
- Mrs. Walsifer extended thanks to the Chairs of this committee and requested it to be open to middle school students next year due to its success.

Giving Tree

- Mrs. Petrosini spoke regarding the reduced number of tags (under 100 this year) led to all being taken.
- Mrs. Petrosini forwarded thanks to the School from the organizations which benefited from the Tree.

Blood Drive

- Mrs. Petrosini announced that the Drive will be on Saturday, 2/27 from 9-1 in the APR.
- A pizza party will be awarded to the homeroom with the most volunteers sent in.
- Dr. Boccuti will look into the possibility of baby-sitters being used in the Library so parents may volunteer.

Indoor Recess Initiative

- Mrs. Gresh is requesting additional 20-min. games/toys to be donated for the initiative (ie. Legos, puzzles).
- The school already has ping pong tables; accessories needed.
- Mrs. Walsifer made a suggestion to color code toy containers by age for ease of use.

Assemblies

- Mrs. Matuch presented the following as assembly possibilities for the remainder of the school year:
- Cyber-Safety Program: Tom Rich will present during the day to students and in the evening for parents. Possibility to invite Sea Girt school and outside community to share the cost for the evening portion. Total cost: \$2750.00
- 2. “Kids on the Block” run by Monmouth Co. Parks. A puppet show showcasing tolerance and acceptance. Positive feedback not received from this assembly in the past. Total cost: \$500.00
- 3. Judy Freeman “Musical Librarian” – An author who aids parents in choosing books for their children emphasizing the importance of book choice to aid children in reading more. Total Cost: \$2000.00
- 4. Neil Nichols teaches geography: all grades welcome. U.S. map used for Elementary School; World History used for Middle School students. Total cost: \$1500.00
- Cyber-Safety Program and Neil Nichols geography deemed the two top choices.
- Dr. Boccuti commented on the importance of Cyber-Safety and the need to *educate* our children, not simply block access.
- A suggestion was made to use the SL Community House if entertaining the idea of sharing the cost.
- \$3725 will be available for the (2) top choice assemblies if money is lifted that in years past went to a mini-grant.
- \$500 deficit if both assemblies are chosen.
- Mrs. Lynch spoke regarding a free “Licebusters” assembly to educate parents regarding Lice.
- Dr. Boccuti explained he will be updating the district’s lines of communication where needed (ie. Twitter)
- Mrs. Walsifer commented that the district will host a Nutrition assembly, free of charge, in classrooms based on the grade’s curriculum. A parent night will be offered too.
- Mrs. Petrosini made a MOTION to go over the Assembly budget in order to cover both the Cyber-Safety assembly and Neil Nichols Assembly. Mrs. Mawn seconded the motion. APPROVED by all.

Kitchen Tour Co-Chairs needed plus the following Committee Chairs:

- Website
- Decorators
- Social Media
- On-line Ticket Sales (assist 2016, take over 2017)
- Local Marketing

Old Business

- PTA thanks Cathleen Gresh, Christine Mawn, Emily Snyder, and Sara McHugh for ordering and wrapping the Staff Christmas gifts.
- PTA thanks all parents who baked cookies for the Staff during December.

- PTA thanks SLED, Mrs. Walsifer (amazing MC), and all Moms who helped make the Blue Ribbon Celebration for Staff and Students so special.
- Sunshine Committee's new Chair is Kelley Mizhir. A discussion took place re. reaching out to families during an event.

New Business

Stay informed about PTA by visiting our Webpage on the school's website. Just click on "Our District", then "Organizations".

Announcements

Next PTA meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, 2/24 at 8:40 a.m.

Meeting adjourned at 10:05 a.m.

Submitted by: Emily Snyder, Recording Secretary