

PTA Meeting Meeting Minutes

October 4, 2016

6:30 PM

Elementary Library

Anne Rhoads, Michelle Kearsing, Bonnie Catlin, Amber Lounsbury, Danielle Badamo-Overbaugh, Sarah Motta, Denise Herwick, Jessica Brill, Megan West, Abby Schweter, Andrea Heidelmark, Wendy Stewart

I. Welcome/Call to order

Mrs. Herwick motioned-Amber seconded.

II. Review and Approval of June Meeting Minutes

A. Megan motioned to approve; Amber seconded.

III. Officer/Chairperson Reports

A. President-Past Events

1. Back to School Carnival

- a. High attendance despite the rain plans inside.
- b. Gross income: \$927
- c. Costs: \$750 Entertainment + \$225 Expenses
- d. Face Painting was very popular. Bethany Becker had huge lines.
 - i. Need to decide how to handle the demand for her face painting.
 - ii. Magic Show was well received.
 - iii. We ran out of popcorn. Reorder with Big Top.
 - iv. Need fewer hotdogs-next year 250-300.
 - v. If have indoors next year, reposition the face painting and leave a longer break between magic shows to help manage the crowds better.

B. President-Future Events

1. Trunk-or-Treat (5:00-6:30)

- a. Amber is organizing the cars.
- b. Have the car sponsors hand out the candy.
- c. Stanton's will donate cider and apples.
- d. Deanna is picking up the pumpkins on 10/21 for the teachers.
- e. Hannaford, Topps, Stewarts, Price Chopper (gift card) and Dunkin Doughnuts have been sent donation letters. We are still waiting to hear back from them, so we need to follow up.
- f. Need to revisit line set-up, possibly a "U" to help with the lines.
- g. Prize for the winning pumpkin is a certificate. If we have extra cider, we can give that away to them also. We did that last year.
- h. We need bags for pumpkin voting tickets.
- i. We will have water and cider for beverages.
 - i. We need to check the spouts again on the wather coolers

- ii. One of the coolers was moldy. Jen will bleach it.
- k. Revisit the process for the the car judging contest.
- j. Certificates for pumpkins need to be printed.
- k. Smelly markers for pumpkin contest winners!

2. Apparel Sale

- a. We are not doing it with the PTSA. Student Council would like to keep it.
- b. Socks will be taken off.
- c. Leslie suggesting shorts that are specific to girls.
- d. It was mentioned that boy shorts would be removed. We'd like to keep them on.
- e. Tentative dates: October 17th-23rd.
- f. Send lots of reminders to parents. Do a sale countdown.
- g. A member can post it on the GCS Parent's Page for all.

3. School Picture Day

- a. No one has volunteered to help cover the 12-2.
- b. Picture Day will be held in the library.

4. Student Banking

- a. NBC will send an employee the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of every month.
- b. Deposits can be made 8:15-8:45.
- c. 9 Accounts will opened.
- d. Need to send a parent form to remind parents they can sign up.
- e. Parents need to bring a copy of their child's social security card and their driving license.
- f. October 12th is the first in-school deposit date.
- g. Would we like to offer stickers, etc for kids who make a deposit.
- h. Megan will get smelly stickers.
- i. Jen will make a flyer.
- j. Make a half-sheet of deposits dates for families to take as they sign-up.

5. Krauses

- a. Packets to families-January 16th-February 3rd.
- b. Packets returend to Krause's by March 8th.
- c. Order delivery March 20th and March 31st.
- d. We can not add apples, as they are more sensitive to temperature.
- e. We are sticking with chocolate for now.

6. Hoffman's Car Wash

- a. Made \$300 from the spring sale.
- b. We will discuss the details of doing this as a holiday fundraiser at the November meeting.

7. Free Student Lunch

- a. The kitchen is purchasing both the PBJ and applesauce.
- b. The cost is \$1 per lunch, do we want to do this?
- c. It was decided that Peter will get the applesauce and let them know that he needs to be notified when the supply is getting low.

8. Pie Sale

- a. Anne will communicate with Black Horse Farms.
- b. Jenn will organize the rest of the project, including the rewrite of the order form.

- c. Flyers will go out October 24th.

C. Treasurer's Report

1. Balance: \$13,298.53
2. Outstanding Debits: \$1,664.00
3. Available Balance: \$11,634.53
4. Outstanding Credits: \$1,664.00

D. Principal's Report

1. Large Gym Floor
 - a. The project is moving along quickly and on schedule.
2. Move to a school-wide model of OT/PT
 - a. A room has been set up for kids to access the sensory equipment.
 - b. The Sensory Room is now the last classroom down by the art room.
 - c. This room is to be accessible for the entire school.
4. School-wide assembly program
 - a. Mrs. Rochler taught the K-2 kids a song and Mr. Mahan read Chrysanthemum.
 - b. She taught the 3-5 kids a song. Mr. Mahan read the book, Just Kidding.
 - c. Responsive Classroom suggests these books for character education.
 - d. Mr. Mahan was asked to include the titles/pictures of these books in the newsletters.
 - e. He may need to apply for a grant to support the purchase of these and other similar books for the classrooms.
 - f. It was suggested that multiple copies be purchased for the classrooms for buddy reading.
5. Run for Readers
 - a. Planning is underway to make this a bigger event.
 - b. A hope was to do a colored run, but need to figure out how to cut the costs.
 - c. Looking to settle on a date in the spring.
6. Board of Regents
 - a. Looking to make a change in the NYS learning standards.
 - b. These changes are available for all to view on the Board of Regents website.
 - c. Public comments are welcome.
 - d. These changes refer to ELA and Math standards.
7. YMCA
 - a. The school asked them to start the liscensing process that takes several months to complete.
 - i. 50 families showed interest
 - ii. There was a lot of interest in half-day coverate and vacation coverage.
 - iii. More information will follow.

IV. Committee Reports

A. BLT

1. Work is going on to identify trends seen in the writing skills of each of the grade levels and responding to student need 3 times per student year. Spontaneous writing prompts are going to be used to make data driven decisions. The Lucy Caulkins model is going to guide the development of our writing curriculum.
2. Work is going on targeted at improving student engagement.
 - a. Goal: Every teacher much compliment each child once, the compliment must come via snail mail. Special area teachers will also participate. Staff will be volunteering to touch base with students who may need an extra hello or a bit of attention.
 - b. Community building. Staff given postcards to send home and use to communicate to parents.
 - c. Dawson Dollars: Mr. Mahan's father made an new doghouse.
 - d. Concern: 3rd grade given minimal instruction in cursive writing, if at all. Our kids can not sign their names. Even high schoolers have this issue. They need to be able to do this. What do we do with this? What level of functional use do they need? Mr. Mahan will talk to team leaders.
 - e. Superintendent would like to update the Code of Conduct.
 - i. Need a parent volunteer
 - ii. Time commitment: October 18th and 20th, 4-7pm
 - iii. An exemplar from NYC is being used to guide the process.
 - iv. Bullying, gender, etc need to be included in the revisions
 - v. Dress code is more of an issue at the MS/HS and will be addressed.
 - vi. Please send out a PTA request for participation to the membership.
 - vii. If no response, then out to the school community.

B. GATE

1. Working on the following:
 - a. Bubble Ball will be brought in as a fundraiser during the winter.
 - b. Cornell Cooperative Extension will be coming in to do enrichment at the elementary level and the middle school level.
 - c. Looking to resurrect the Chess Club. A posting will be going out shortly.
 - d. Pizza Symposium Series:Gaming designers are being brought in to show kids the potential in this field.
 - e. An OM interest meeting is tomorrow night.
 - i. 3 coaches are available and we are looking for more.
 - ii. Coaches are facilitators to lead kids to think outside the box.

C. Advocacy-N/A

D. Membership-N/A

E. Nominating-N/A

IV. New Business/Questions

- A. Emergency Dismissal
 - a. That information is used when assuming that we may not be able to call you.

- b. Pretend there is no technology. Where does your kid go? Ex. Car accident or the water is out and the kids have to go home. Assume we can't call you. Where would your child go where you can meet them.
 - c. Bus Drivers-Would/should they drop off if no one is home? Currently the expectation is that it is the bus driver's discretion.
 - d. Teach the kids how to handle such a situation and how to keep themselves safe when things don't go as planned. Give kids tools for how to handle the world we live in.
- B. Lunchlines
- a. Line length is much better now.
 - b. The issue seems to have resolved itself.
 - c. Parents urged to contact the director of food services for food related concerns.
- C. Dismissal
- a. There is an extra long line for everyday pickups.
 - b. There is confusion for people who are not everyday pick-ups.
 - c. Can the process be stream lined?

IV. **Adjournment**

- A. **Next Meeting** - November 1st at 3pm - Elementary Library
- B. Anne motioned to adjourn, Bonnie seconded.