

# **Liberty Bell PTA Meeting September 10, 2015**

Board Members Present: Patty Spitzer, Angela Ast, Melinda Behrens, Kyle Gangewere, Katherine Sarnoski and Principal Sam Hafner

Patty Spitzer opened meeting at 9:15am

The PTA Board was introduced and Patty gave a brief description of each position and its duties.

Patty encouraged parents who might be interested in serving on the Board next year to shadow a Board member this year. She explained that all positions will be available next year as only two current members, Kyle & Katherine, may return.

Attendees were reminded that all volunteers need to obtain their Clearances this year. If they have not yet started the process, information is available on the District website. Clearances will be valid for 5 years.

## Principal Report

Welcomed new and returning families. Introduced three teachers/staff that were able to attend the meeting, Mr. LeBourgeois, Mrs. Conrad and Mrs. Collins.

Thanked the PTA for their hard work getting ready for school in the previous days.

Explained The Pride of Liberty Bell (Blue Ticket Award) and how it is used to reinforce positive school behavior and reward students who make good choices.

Picture Day is scheduled for September 28<sup>th</sup>.

Discussed the importance of using the crosswalks during drop off and pick up.

Encouraged attendees to get involved with the PTA, if time permitted.

## Budget

Melinda Behrens presented on the budget. She asked PTA members to vote on the current budget using an anonymous ballot.

Melinda explained what the PTA does using a handout entitled "Why does the PTA need so much money?!?! Where does it all go??"

Discussed the importance of Race for Education and explained that if we are successful with this fundraiser there would not be a need for additional fundraisers throughout the year.

Melinda requested 2 volunteers with an accounting background to audit last year's budget.

### Festivals

Angela discussed this year's festivals and how they are not intended to be fundraisers but rather a fun time for students & families.

Corey Hagen and Grace Hoyer are chairing Fall Fest, which is scheduled for 10/16.

Holiday Shop is being chaired by Kerri Heiser-Heffner and is scheduled for December 4<sup>th</sup>. If anyone is interested in selling or in need of a table, please see Kerri.

Spring Fest – is still in need of a chair.

Passport to the World –Angela gave a brief overview of the event and explained that many families who have participated in years past have moved on to the IS. Families were encouraged to participate even if they are not from a different country, per se.

Art Aid – Mrs. McDonnell is in need of an art aid for this school year to help her out.

Art Show/Bingo Night - Chair needed

Angela explained that the PTA is a Non-Profit – so if anyone has any ideas/resources for donations please speak with a Board Member.

### Facebook Page

Kyle explained that Liberty Bell has a Facebook page. This page is different from the district's FB page and is meant to function as a parent forum. All current Liberty Bell families are welcome to join the page. Parents were reminded not to post children's pictures to the page, as some families do not want their children's pictures on any form of social media.

### Volunteers

Volunteer forms have been coming in – keep them coming! We are in great need of chairs to lead events this year.

## Teachers

The teachers expressed concern that it is often unclear where staff help is needed. Please reach out to staff so they can get involved too.

## Race For Education

Patricia Allen spoke about the event and reiterated the fact that if the race is successful additional fundraisers will not be needed.

She explained that the money raised is not only used for large ticket items (outdoor classroom, sign) but also helps provide money for teachers, extra money for field trips and assemblies.

Pre Kick off letter will be coming home next week.

## Fall Fest

Grace Hoyer and Corey Hagen gave a brief overview of this year's Fall Fest, which is scheduled for 10/16. It will include a DJ dance party, costume contest, photo booth, and potential hayrides. Kona Ice and Stuffed to the Grills will both be present at this year's event.

They explained that 10/16 is also homecoming for Southern Lehigh so help from High School students would be minimal. Hoping for help from local colleges.

Also requested donations for hay barrels, set up/clean up and basket donations. If able to help with any of these, please see Grace or Corey.

## Kids Stuff

Laura Rush spoke briefly about Kids Stuff. She explained that it is a yearly fundraiser in which we participate. Last year, Liberty Bell raised approximately \$2,800.

The books will be sent home in the next few days. If anyone has time after the meeting to help stuff bags it would be greatly appreciated.

Patty adjourned the meeting at 10:00am.

## Votes

This year's budget was unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Katherine Sarnoski  
Recording Secretary