

PTA Meeting Minutes

September 9, 2015

Members Present: Catherine Ziets, Jen Hedden, Allison Cawley, Shauna Werling, Melissa Maffatt, Tiffany Gyuricsko, Lauren Demosthene, Suzanne Lang, Korie Apgar, Lori Limpar, Lea Spahija, Sonny Lemmons, Stephanie Jeitner, Renee D'Amico, Stacey Hostetter, Dawn Resch, Jessica Makowski, Monica Scheinler, Kelly Renquist, Carla Stock, Elaine Thode, Melissa B-Sutyak, Jeong Florkowski

I. Call to Order: Allison called the meeting to order at 9:33 a.m.

II. 2015-2016 PTA Executive Board: Allison introduced the new executive board

President: Jennifer Philipp

Vice President: Allison Cawley

Treasurer: Jennifer Hedden

Recording Secretary: Catherine Ziets

Corresponding Secretary: Dawn Resch

III. Approval of June Meeting Minutes: There were no changes made and the minutes were approved.

IV. Report of Officers:

A. President's Report:

1. The membership drive began. To date, we have 51 members. If you haven't sent your membership in, please do so. There are two types of memberships: individual and dual.
2. We are working on filling all our committee chairs. Tricia Kutt is looking for help with the yearbook: book keeper, online photos, page designer, photographer, scheduler to schedule volunteers. Photographers are needed as early as September 11th and September 24th and 25th. Please contact Tricia Kutt if you are interested in helping. A flyer will be going home shortly.
3. Stephanie Jeitner talked about the Copy Committee (she is chair). Copies are made Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays). Give as much time as you can.
4. We are looking for a new President for next year. In order to serve as President you must be on the executive board one year prior. Email Jennifer Philipp if you are interested.

B. Vice President's Report (Allison Cawley):

1. Kidstuff books: The books sell for \$25.00 and we receive \$12.50 for each book sold. There are great coupons in there. For every 5 books you sell, you get one book free. These books will be going home in the next day or two.
2. T-shirt sale (flyer going home next week)
3. Race for Education: We are possibly working with Lower Milford (joint fundraiser). The race would take place at Lower Milford due to the current construction at Hopewell. Ms. Limpar will discuss more details with the principal of Lower Milford to work out the logistics. All proceeds from this event would go toward a new playground or the reconstruction of the old one.
4. Dawn talked about Family Fun Day at Hausman Fruit Farm on October 3rd from 10-5. There will be hayrides, pumpkin picking, corn maze, hay maze, food, crafts and much more. 10% of sales from Hausman products will be donated back to Hopewell (be sure to mention this at checkout)

C. Principal's Report (Lori Limpar):

1. Ms. Limpar asked the PTA members to introduce themselves, as there were many new faces at the meeting.
2. Ms. Limpar highlighted the Budget Report and the many activities that take place during the school year.
 - a) Holiday Open House
 - b) IRON PIGS NIGHT OUT Joint activity with Lower Milford and Liberty Bell.
 - c) Spring Festival
 - d) Scholastic Book Fair: We'll need volunteers to help run the fair to be held the week of November 16th-20th.
 - e) Every other year we have an arts event/children's author visit
 - f) Hardship Program: for families that might be in need
 - g) CARES Program (Behavior Management Program): We have a nice connection with Sensei Rob Wetmore from Leading Edge Martial Arts. He comes in twice a year, once at the beginning and then the last day of school. He does a hands on active assembly, discussing important things such as stranger danger, self control, and anti-bullying strategies. This is one of the kids' favorite assemblies of the year.
 - h) Spirit Days are held throughout the year. 9/11: Red, White and Blue Day. 9/25: Southern Lehigh Spirit Day: Wear Hopewell Shirts/Spartan Blue or Southern Lehigh team apparel
 - i) Monthly Newsletter sent home every month, with a calendar of events.
 - j) Ms. Limpar encouraged parents to get involved to help with the many activities offered throughout the year. Many of these things can be done at home and she encouraged doing it with a friend.
 - k) Ms. Limpar reviewed the new state law for volunteer clearances effective July 1, 2015. The new law states that anyone who comes into the school to volunteer must receive three clearances: a criminal history check, child abuse history clearance and an FBI fingerprint clearance. If you have lived in Pennsylvania for ten years, you are exempt from the FBI fingerprinting (just print out the form online). These clearances are good for three years. Go to the SLSD website. Click onto the Parent link and it will take you to the volunteer link to get your clearances. Once you are clear, you are good for three years for all schools.
 - l) Ms. Limpar shared the past yearbooks with the PTA members. It is a great keepsake for your child for less than \$20. The yearbook committee works hard to make sure every child is in the yearbook.
 - m) Open House is scheduled for Wednesday, September 15th from 7-8 o'clock. Please do not bring children. It is a night for teachers to review curriculum.
 - n) Construction for the new school is well under way. They started a little late but are on an aggressive schedule, they are expected to catch up with the time they have lost over the summer. The plan is to open the new building by next fall. Ms. Limpar will display the new building plans the night of Open House in the cafeteria and bring it to the next PTA meeting as well.
 - o) All of our new fundraising efforts this year will go toward replacing our playground. (Our hopes are to be able to use parts of Hawks Hide-out).

D. Treasurer's Report (Jennifer Hedden)

1. Looking at the budget report, we are doing really well for the start of the year.

Our account balances are:

Savings: \$21,825.68

Checking: \$7,774.57

Total: \$29,600.25

2. Rapid return was completed and returned back.

3. Memberships are coming in now. We currently have made less than \$350 so we still need more to come in.

V. Unfinished business: Ms. Limpar talked about the Hopewell Habitat. Years ago Home Depot volunteered to clean up this outdoor learning area. They put down fresh mulch and flowers, however, it is now in need of clean up again. Monica Scheinler has volunteered to help with this. She is looking for volunteers to help her clean up the habitat.

VI. New Business: None

VII. Next Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 7th @9:30.

VIII. Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 10:12 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Catherine Ziets

Recording Secretary