

Hopewell PTA Meeting

April 1, 2015

Members Present: Jennifer Philipp, Jen Meaney, Catherine Ziets, Allison Cawley, Jen Hedden, Dawn Resch, Maria Ault, Lori Limpar

I. Call to Order: Jennifer called the meeting to order at 9:34 a.m.

II. Guest Speaker: Bill Kennedy, Director of Human Resources at SLSD, was a guest speaker addressing the changes that will occur with clearances effective July 1, 2015.

A. Beginning July 1, 2015, an adult applying for an unpaid position as a volunteer responsible for the welfare of a child or having direct contact with children will need clearances.

B. All prospective volunteers must obtain the following clearances:

1. Report of criminal history from the Pennsylvania State Police

2. Child Abuse History Clearance from the Department of Human Services

3. If it is a paid position or the volunteer has lived outside the state of Pennsylvania in the last 10 years, a fingerprint based criminal history is required.

C. Clearances must be obtained every 36 months

D. Any questions, please call the office of Human Resources (ask for Melinda, secretary) or refer to the school website, "How to become a volunteer and stay a volunteer"

III. Approval of February 2015 Minutes: Jennifer asked for a motion to approve. Allison Cawley approved, Maria Ault seconded, and all were in favor.

IV. Report of Officers:

A. Treasurer's Report: (Allison Cawley) As of March 31, 2015 the balances are as follows:

1. Checking account: \$22,113.25

2. Savings account: \$7,770.71

3. A letter will be sent home in the next 2 weeks to Hopewell families asking for PTA donations.

4. Allison will present the budget for the 2015-2016 school year at our next meeting.

B. President's Report (Jennifer Philipp)

1. We are still in need of a President for next year. Jennifer's tenure is up June 30th. She has reached out several times with no response. Jen has offered to serve as Vice President next year to assist the new President.

2. Melissa Woodring will be stepping down next year as V.P. of fundraising. We need someone to take her place and we need fundraising ideas for next year.

3. The Amendment change to the PTA Bylaws was approved. The amendment states, "For the 2015-2016 school year, the President of the PTA is not required to have served on the 2014-2015 Executive Board." The requirement to be a PTA member for at least six months still stands.

C. Principal's Report (Ms. Limpar)

1. Lower Milford may only have five classes next year and they may not have kindergarten classes.

2. Hopewell PTA may want to join forces with Lower Milford and merge with their PTA. We can ask Jeremy in the business office to give us advice on combining funds. It may be nice to include Lower Milford in our fundraising events.

3. Race for Education may be replaced by Reading for Education (due to the construction of the new school, we will not be able to have the race at our school). Allison Cawley and Dawn Resch may be co-chairing this fundraiser.
4. Play day is scheduled for May 19th (rain date May 20). Miss Rockal will be sending home information about the day soon.
5. The nurse's station is in need of clothes for 2nd and 3rd graders.
6. Classroom placements for next year: Any special requests need to be submitted to Ms. Limpar by May 1st. You will not receive a response. Class selection is determined as a group effort from: principal, reading specialist, school psychologist and classroom teacher and they look at each child individually.
7. Footwear: Ms. Limpar discourages children from wearing cheap flip flops, as it is a safety issue.
8. PSSA Testing is scheduled for 4/14-4/23.
9. Kindergarten registration will take place at Lower Milford on April 7th, and 8th.
10. Hat day is tomorrow, April 2nd.
11. School Spirit day is April 10th (Favorite College Attire)

V. Report of Committees:

- A. Iron Pigs Update: 726 tickets have been sold from all three elementary schools (278 were from Hopewell). We will be seated on the first base side. Nithin Jayant, from Mrs. Gilley's first grade class won the four free tickets.
- B. Yearbook: Gail Keller will be moving on next year and Tricia Kutt cannot devote as much time next year, so they are looking to create a yearbook committee rather than a two person chair. Gail and Tricia are finalizing and submitting the book to publishers on April 3rd. 250 yearbooks have been sold and 48 dedications.
- C. Hopewell Festival: The committee is in its planning of the festival to be held Friday, May 29, 2015.

VI. Old Business: None

VII. New Business: Elections for the 2015-2016 PTA Executive Board will take place next PTA meeting: The positions already filled are: Treasurer: Jennifer Hedden, Recording Secretary: Catherine Ziets, Corresponding Secretary: Dawn Resch

VIII. Announcements:

- A. 4/1: PTA Meeting @9:30
- B. 4/2 Report cards distributed
- C. 4/2 Spirit Day: Easter Bonnet/Hat day
- D. 4/3, 4/6: No School- Easter/Spring Break
- E. 4/7, 4/8 Kindergarten Registration for next year @ Lower Milford
- F. 4/10: Spirit Day: Wear your favorite College Attire
- G. 4/14-4/23: 3rd Grade PSSA ELA and Math Assessments
- H. 4/28, 4/29: 3rd grade field trip to Burnside Plantation in Bethlehem

IX. Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 10:36 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by,
Catherine Ziets, Recording Secretary