

PTA Meeting Minutes

November 2, 2016

Members Present: Carla Stock, Catherine Ziets, Jennifer Hedden, Madi Capoccia, Hilary Bonenberger, Kathy Schiffer, Jill Hedges, Eileen Crawford, Melissa Moffatt, Tiffany Gyuricsko, Nicole Emery, Elizabeth Wunderler, Christina Wasem, Stacey Hostetter, Anita Shah, Sue Arthur, Elaine Thode, Avani Shah, Tara Moyer, Lori Limpar(Principal), Kathleen Evison (Superintendent)

- I. **Call to Order:** Carla called the meeting to order at 9:33 a.m.
- II. **Approval of October Meeting Minutes:** Carla asked for a motion to approve. Melissa Moffatt approved, Renee Damico seconded, and all were in favor.
- III. **Welcome Mrs. Evison (Superintendent):** Carla introduced the new superintendent, Kathleen Evison. Mrs. Evison is looking forward to working with everyone. If anyone has any questions for Mrs. Evison, the best way to contact her is through email at evisonk@sbsd.org.

IV. Report of Officers and Guest Speakers:

A. Treasurer's Report (Jennifer Hedden)

1. Account Balances:
 - Balance in our checking as of 10/31/16: \$33,531.58
 - Balance in our savings as of 10/31/16: \$7,784.33
 - Balance cash on hand is \$41,315.91
2. The Hopewell Fall Social brought in about \$200.
3. We are at a record high for PTA memberships. We currently have 164 members. We brought in additional \$243 this month from PTA memberships.
4. The dues were paid to the state up to October.
5. A deposit has been sent to Iron Pigs for a family event scheduled for June 10th with Liberty Bell.

B. Principal's Report (Lori Limpar)

1. Parent-Teacher Conference week is November 14-18. Hopewell will be using SignUp Genius. You should have already received an email from your child's teacher to sign up for a conference. You will receive a reminder about 2 days before your conference reminding you of the date and time scheduled. There will be a 12:50 dismissal all week.
 - AM Kindergarten attends 11/14, 11/15
 - PM Kindergarten attends 11/16, 11/17, 11/18
2. National School Bus Safety Week was October 17-21st. Ms. Limpar reviewed bus safety rules and encouraged parents to do the same at home with their children. The buses are very crowded, some having 60 students on a bus, 3 students to a seat, so it is very important to follow these bus rules to be safe.

3. We had a very successful apparel sale organized by Dawn Resch and Tara Moyer. We will be having our first School Spirit Day this Friday, November 4th and students are encouraged to wear their new school apparel or the school colors blue and orange.
4. Veteran's Day is Friday, November 11th. There is a committee organizing a flag ceremony, inviting veterans to join us for the flag-raising ceremony. Our boy scouts and girl scouts are invited to wear their uniforms as well. There will also be a student assembly afterwards, showing a brief video.
5. Picture Re-takes are scheduled for Tuesday, November 22nd.
6. Schools will be closed November 24th, 25th, and 28th for the Thanksgiving Break. On Tuesday, November 29th, there will be a spirit day. Students are encouraged to wear red and green and will be making hand-made ornaments for the school Christmas tree.
7. Saturday, December 3rd is the Holiday Marketplace. There will be breakfast with Santa (and pictures with Santa) and a marketplace with different vendors. There will also be special place for the kids to shop at the "Penguin Patch." The children also get to help decorate the school tree with the ornaments they made. This is not a fundraiser; this is a family-fun event.
8. Ms. Limpar talked about Giant Food Stores, which has been a great supporter of our school. If you shop at Giant, you can register your card and our school will receive a nice rebate. If you have already registered your Giant card in the past, please go back and verify that your card is still in the system. You may need to register your card again. The money we receive from Giant helps to pay for such things as school assemblies. There are instructions on the back of the November newsletter on how to register your card.

C. President's Report (Carla Stock)

1. Thanks to Melissa Moffatt and Tiffany Gyuricsko for a wonderful job with the fall social. Thanks also to Nicole for the decorations and Sasha for the props.
2. Thanks to Stacey Hostetter and Elaine Thode for the Teacher Appreciation dinner. The theme was, "Best Teachers in the World".
3. Thanks to April Hausman. Hausman Farm kindly donated some fall decorations for our foyer. There have been a few school events at her family farm, including a class trip taken by the kindergarteners.
4. Thanks to Dawn and Tara for organizing the school apparel sale.
5. Carla discussed the Holly Jolly Staff Appreciation.
6. There are some families living in the neighborhood next door, "Traditions", looking to get involved in our school. Their community is currently collecting baskets for Thanksgiving that will be given to ten families in need. They are also collecting clothes for the school nurse. They are looking forward to partnering with Hopewell.

7. We are looking for a treasurer for next year. If anyone is interested, please see Jen Hedden. Melissa Moffatt will be taking over for Catherine Ziets next year as recording secretary.
8. We are looking for someone to chair the Spring Festival. Tara Moyer expressed some interest.
9. Parent Communication Council: Looking for parents to attend the board meetings and take notes and share it with us at the next PTA meeting.

D. Vice President Report (Dawn Resch)

1. The Yankee Candle Sale is doing very well. All orders are taken online. To date, we have sold \$3100 and our school will receive a \$1200 profit from those sales. This fundraiser runs through January.
2. We will be selling Hopewell ornaments. This is not a fundraiser. These will go on sale sometime in November.
3. Save the date: June 10, 2017: Family Fun Night at the Iron Pigs Ball Park.

E. Book Fair & Teacher Appreciation (Madi Capoccia and Tara Moyer)

1. The book fair will be held the week of parent-teacher conferences, November 14-18. The book fair will be open after school from 1-5 on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday and will also be open Thursday evening from 6-7:30. We are looking for more volunteers. You can sign up through Sign-Up Genius if interested in working the book fair. Ms. Limpar said she could also send a message through Blackboard Connect if more volunteers are needed for the book fair. The book fair will be held in the Collaboration Room.
2. Teacher Appreciation Committee will be providing breakfast for the teachers and staff on Tuesday, November 15th (the teachers will get to preview the book fair too). Almost all slots for items for breakfast have been filled (only two items left).

F. Superintendent's Meeting: Jen Hedden attended this meeting.

1. The status of the playground was discussed and it was determined that the district will fund the playground. However, the \$13,000 we raised specifically for the playground will be used to purchase additional pieces. Mrs. Evison spoke about the current situation with the playground. She will recommend to the facilities committee that it is the responsibility of the district to put the playground back. It is a complicated process because whoever installs it has to be a certified, licensed installer so the warranties are covered. We have prices and quotes for this and will be taking it to the board for approval. The vendor they are working with had done the original playground. The board ultimately needs to approve this.
2. A question was asked about the future of a full day kindergarten in Southern Lehigh School District. Currently, there are 2 full day programs, one at Hopewell and one at Liberty Bell. There are 15 students in each class. This is a pilot program for children who were prescreened and are children who need to catch up. Mrs. Evison said so far, it has been successful, and we have seen some nice gains. The majority of students coming into Kindergarten in Southern Lehigh School district come in ready. Most have had preschool experiences.

3. Update on Lower Milford School Building: The board is pursuing appraisals to see how much the building is worth. Then a decision will be made to sell the building or keep the building. There is a code issue. Once you change the use for the building, things may have to be brought up to code (if used for something other than a school (church, office buildings, etc.).
4. YMCA Committee: Any questions/concerns about the future YMCA, please go to YMCA FACEBOOK Page.
5. SLSD Website: The website designed in 2007 is going to be upgraded. It will be an adjustable app. which will be compatible with any device. The vendor we use for the website was bought out by another company (Blackboard Connect). We need to make a switch at some point. One of the goals is to make the website more user friendly, more organized and simpler.

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 10:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Catherine Ziets
Recording Secretary