

PTA Meeting Minutes

September 7, 2016

Members Present: Carla Stock, Dawn Resch, Catherine Ziets, Jennifer Hedden, Shauna Werling,, Jill Hedges, Tara Moyer, Jessica Makowski, Sue Arthur, Whitney McEvoy, Elizabeth Wunderler, Anita Shah, Trisha Fistner, Kathy Schiffer, Melissa Rizzuto, Lynette Martins, Lisa Durkin, Nicole Emery, Jaina Thatch, Maria Ault, Yi-Wen Diy, Monica Scheinler, Melissa Moffatt, Hilary Bonenberger, Christina Wasem, Jeannine Harmony, Madi Capoccia, Cindy Spence, Susannah Detwiler, Nicole Fluck, Diana Cobb, Melissa Sutyall, Renee Damico, Pat Damico, Kelly Stawck, Tiffany Gyuricsko, Lori Limpar (Principal)

I. Call to Order: Carla called the meeting to order at 9:45 a.m.

II. Approval of May 2016 Meeting Minutes: Carla asked for a motion to approve. Maria Ault approved, Monica Scheinler seconded, and all were in favor.

III. Report of Officers

A. Treasurer's Report (Jennifer Hedden)

1. Jennifer began by reviewing the available balances in each account.
 - a) Checking account balance: \$31, 800.11
 - b) Savings account balance: \$7,783.69
 - c) Total cash balance of \$39, 583.80
2. Forms for our audit and taxes were filed for Rapid Return last month and everything came back in order.
3. Jennifer mentioned her Treasurer position is a 2 year position and we will need someone new to fill the position for next year. If anyone is interested, please let her know and that person can shadow her this year. It would benefit if the person is comfortable with Excel.

B. President's Report (Carla Stock)

1. Carla welcomed everyone and said if anyone has any questions or concerns, please feel free to come to her and we will do our best to accommodate them.
2. We have received many volunteer forms back already so the committees are being formed but we still need more help. We do need someone to chair the directory. We have two co-chairs for the Fall social which is already being planned.

C. Principal's Report (Ms. Limpar)

1. Ms. Limpar welcomed everyone. It's great to see so many new faces. This may be our largest turn out ever. Ms. Limpar said if you have any questions you may contact one of the three secretaries in the office: Carol Privatera, Liz Scneck and Jane Sheetz or refer to the SLSD website (slsd.org).
2. The kids were so excited to come into the new building the first day. It was videotaped and will be shared at a later time. We're happy to be in our new building: the new school is brighter, happier, a more colorful, cheerful modern building.
 - a) We are still working out some kinks and glitches. Dismissal is still a challenge. We contract with Brandywine Transportation and many of our bus drivers do double runs. It takes about 2-3 weeks for the bus route to become more routine.
 - b) We have 80+ new students that have moved into Southern Lehigh and assigned to Hopewell (this number does not include students from Lower Milford). Ms. Limpar said she cannot praise

the staff enough here. The teachers worked hard to get their classrooms in order, every room looked wonderful for the first day of school.

- c) There has been no Back to School Night scheduled due to the limited parking but Ms. Limpar would like to schedule it for some time this month.
- d) Ms. Limpar reviewed the 3 clearances required in order to volunteer in the schools (any interaction with the children requires clearances). They include criminal history, child abuse check and FBI fingerprint. It is not a school district policy but rather a Pennsylvania State Law. Two out of the three clearances can be completed online (fingerprinting can be done at one of the local sites). The clearances are good for 5 years and the central office has a master list of all clearances. The secretaries at school also have access to the list of people who have clearances. Bill Kennedy is the director of Human Resources if you have any further questions.
- e) There have been some logistic issues with arrival and dismissal due to the demo of the old Hopewell. Until the demo is done, we only have one way in and one way out. It is taking longer because everything that can be recycled from the old Hopewell is being recycled: aluminum, steel, concrete, wood. The new parking lot will be on the old Hopewell property. When the new parking lot is complete, parents will come in from Bowood Street. This will be the new parent entrance and exit.
- f) Status of the playground: Ms. Limpar said she would like to see us use the old playground. It was purchased by the PTA about ten years ago with the plan to add on to it in the future. It would require new posts and clamps. However, because the playground was disassembled, it becomes a safety issue. The district is looking into these issues now. When the playground finally goes up it will be located where the old Hopewell School was (and it will include visitor parking).

D. Vice President's Report (Dawn Resch)

1. Dawn discussed using the Hopewell PTA Facebook page as a way to communicate with other parents and share pictures of your children. It is a closed group and Renee Damico and Dawn Resch are the administrators. Please be careful to look for "Hopewell PTA" because there are many Hopewell Elementary Schools that exist.
2. Apparel Sales: There are options to purchase t-shirts, sweatshirts, pajama bottoms, hats and headbands. Tara Moyer will be helping with the apparel sale. All orders are due by September 16th and should arrive about two weeks later. Our first spirit day will be in October and students will be encouraged to wear their Hopewell t-shirts or the color blue.
3. Phantoms Night/Iron Pigs Night: Two events we plan with Liberty Bell to get the two elementary schools together. The Phantoms night will be sometime in the winter and the Iron Pigs night will be sometime in June. Lynette will help with planning these two events.
4. We will not be selling Kidstuff books this year.
5. BJ's enrollment/renewal: The school will receive \$5 with each BJ's enrollment or renewal membership.
6. Giant A+ Rewards: Log into Giant Food stores, put in your number and put in the school code and password and Hopewell makes money from your purchases.
7. Yankee Candle Fundraiser in the fall (in time for delivery by Christmas)

E. Corresponding Secretary (Shauna Werling)

Memberships: We have approximately 75 members so far. Shauna has extra copies if anyone needs one. The cost is \$7.00 for individual and \$12.00 for dual membership. A portion of it goes directly to our school.

IV. Report of Committees

A. Yearbook (Trisha Fitzner and Emily Hamm)

1. Looking for anyone to join the yearbook committee. If interested, give your email to Trisha.
2. Price and Publisher need to be decided. It was suggested to use a flash drive to download any pictures. There are many events coming up so the committee will get started soon.

B. Fall Social (Melissa Moffatt and Tiffany Gyuricsko)

1. This event is tentatively scheduled for October 21st.

C. Copy Room (Christina Wasem)

1. Looking for volunteers to help make copies for the teachers
2. Christina is going to set up a tutorial to show anyone interested how to use the copier.
3. A schedule will be set. Call before you come in for your scheduled day (in the event there are no copies to be made).

D. Holiday Open House (Carla Stock)

1. December 3rd from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.
2. Breakfast with Santa in the cafeteria, catered by Diana's Cafe. (We do not make any money from the breakfast). Children may also have their pictures taken with Santa.
3. Penguin Patch-A place for the children to shop to purchase gifts for family/friends. There are people there to assist the children with their shopping.
4. Giving Tree to support our community: Children can take a name off the tree and purchase a gift for someone in need in our community. The students also make ornaments for the tree and then help decorate it.
5. Several vendors that participate in this event
6. Looking for volunteers to help with this event.

V. Old Business: None

VI. New Business:

Hausman Fruit Farm: (Monica Scheinler and April)

1. A fundraising event with the elementary schools held on October 1st and 2nd at Hausman Fruit Farm located on Limeport Pike in Coopersburg.
2. There is a corn maze, hay rides, animals, baked goods. 10 % of all sales from the farm go to Hopewell so be sure to mention Hopewell at the register. There are concessions there, however, that is not included in the 10% that goes back to Hopewell.

VII. Adjournment: Meeting Adjourned at 10:46 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by,
Catherine Ziets
Recording Secretary