

PTA Meeting Minutes

October 5, 2016

Members Present: Carla Stock, Dawn Resch, Jennifer Hedden, Shauna Werling, Trisha Fistner, Catherine Ziets, Lisa Durkin, Stacey Hostetter, Melissa Rizzuto, Rochelle Hufgard, Jessica Makowski, Nicole Emery, Christina Wasem, Jennifer Druck, Jeannine Harmony, Maria Ault, Sonny Lemmons, Jill Hedges, Eileen Crawford, Sue Arthur, Madi Capoccia, Elizabeth Wunderler, Holly Veneziale, Monica Scheinler, Lynette Martins, Elaine Thode, Ms. Limpar

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

II. **Approval of September 2016 Meeting Minutes:** Carla asked for a motion to approve. Maria Ault approved, Stacey Hostetter seconded, and all were in favor.

III. Report of Officers and Guest Speakers

A. Treasurer's Report (Jennifer Hedden)

Balance as of 9/30/16 in our checking account: \$32,345.11

Balance as of 9/30/16 in our savings account: \$7,783.69

Total Cash on Hand \$40,128.80

Lower Milford gave us a \$50 gift card which will be donated to the school store to purchase items to sell. We also received a check for \$30.25.

To date, we have made \$820 in PTA memberships

B. Guest Speakers:

1. Bill Kennedy from Human Resources reviewed necessary clearances in order to volunteer in school. Mr. Kennedy walked us through the steps to obtain clearances:

Go to the SLSD website. On the left hand side, click "Volunteer Information" and click "Read Me First". This is Volunteer Information FAQ and provides links on where to go to get your clearances. You do not need FBI clearances if you have been a PA resident for 10 years plus. Just because you have your clearances, doesn't mean it's okay to volunteer. You still need permission from the school principal or the teacher. Clearances are good for 5 years for all schools. Any interactions with students require clearances. Keep originals and call the Human Resources office with any questions.

2. Rochelle Hufgard (Intervention Specialist at Hopewell Elementary)
She is also the School-Wide Positive Behavior Support Chairperson.
The purpose of this program is to reinforce positive behavior.

Mrs. Hufgard provided a brief overview of the program:

If students are being Respectful, Responsible, and Ready (3R's) they will be recognized by the Hopewell staff with pouncer paw tickets. Children save all their pouncer paws in their classrooms and then once a month they can purchase something/buy a privilege at the school store. This will be a nice transition to the program used at the Intermediate school (they focus on 6R's)
There are classroom paws as well which will be tied into our school -wide assemblies.

Looking for volunteers to help run the school store once a month (8:45-9:30). There is a volunteer sign -up sheet if you are interested in working the school store. If you would like to donate something to the store, it will be appreciated.

C. Ms. Limpar (Principal's Report)

1. Hopewell Happenings sent home once a month. There is a lot of helpful information in it and a calendar of monthly events. There is a correction with the Halloween parade. It will be held on Friday, October 28th.
2. Ms. Limpar reviewed bus safety rules and encouraged parents to have these discussions at home with your children.
3. Giant A+ Rewards Program: Go to Giant Food [Stores.com/A+](https://www.giantstores.com/A+) Plug in your number to register your card and every time you shop a certain percentage goes to Hopewell. At the end of the year our school receives a check.
4. Amazon Rewards Program www.smile.amazon.com Sign into your account and choose Hopewell Elementary PTA. Be sure it's Center Valley. We will receive .5% from purchases. Hopewell will receive a monthly report as well.
5. October is Bullying Prevention Awareness month. Dr. L. is organizing some activities with the children.
6. There will be a Kindergarten program session this Thursday, October 6th @4:15-4:45. This is not an open house and no tours of the building allowed. It is to meet the kindergarten teachers and learn more about the program.
7. No school this Friday 10/7 and Monday 10/10 for teacher in-service.
8. Ms. Limpar reviewed blackboard connect. There are two You tube videos on the Hopewell PTA Facebook page on how to register for blackboard connect and how to sign up for a sapphire account.
9. Open House is scheduled for next Thursday, October 13th from 5:30PM - 7:00PM. There will be a scavenger hunt and the students are welcome to attend with their parents to show them around the building. There will be no formal presentations given by the teachers.
10. Thursday, October 20th at 6 p.m. is the Community Open House and ribbon cutting ceremony. More details to follow. This event is organized by the superintendent and the school board.
11. Fall Social is scheduled for Friday, October 21st from 6-8. This event is for Hopewell students only. Tickets can be purchased in advance (and can be purchased at the door). Tiffany and Melissa are looking for volunteers to help with this event. We have a volunteer sign-up sheet if interested.
12. Halloween parade will be held on Friday, October 28th at 2 P.M. A.M. Kindergarten will have their parade at 10:45 a.m. This event is weather permitting because it is held outside. It takes anywhere from 15-30 minutes for all classes to walk around the circle two times. No weapons allowed or real scary costumes. The children should not wear their costumes to school. It will be a school spirit day. Children are encouraged to wear orange and black.
13. Ms. Limpar, along with Dr. L., Mrs. Hufgard, and Mrs. Castetter met with a couple from the community next door (Traditions) They are two retired teachers interested in getting involved in our school community. They have a social committee in their community and would like to get involved in the Hopewell Community. This will be a nice partnership for our school.
14. Hopewell Habitat: Due to the land swap, we no longer own the land on the other side of Bowood where the habitat was. We will have small gardens, but nothing as large as the Hopewell Habitat as it is difficult to maintain the area.

D. President's Report (Carla Stock)

1. Thank you for all the parents who have volunteered for the various committees.
2. Mrs. Moser has approached the PTA about purchasing playground equipment for recess. The total for the purchase which includes shipping and handling comes to \$470.29. A vote was taken and all were in favor.

3. A school directory will be put together soon. If you are interested in being included in the directory, fill out the form and return it to school.
4. Carla introduced Melissa Rizzuto who will act as a liaison with teachers and parents. Melissa will be sending home a form. Check what you would be interested in helping with and then a spreadsheet will be created for teachers and homeroom parents.
5. Superintendent's Meeting is scheduled for October 18th. A few members of the board will be attending this meeting. If anyone has any questions or concerns, please email Carla by Thursday, October 13th and she will share them at the meeting. Status of the playground will be brought up at the meeting as many parents have been asking about when there will be a playground for the kids.

IV. Report of Committees

A. Book Fair: (Madi Capoccia)

1. Madi is looking for someone to co-chair with her.
2. The book fair will be held November 14th through November 18th. Monday is set up and Friday is clean up. Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday are the selling days in the afternoon of conference week. The book fair will be open Thursday evening as well. The location of the book fair is TBD.

B. Teacher Appreciation (Stacey Hostetter and Elaine Thode). The committee will be providing dinner for the teachers and staff on Thursday, October 13th. The theme is "Around the World" We are still in need of hot dishes. See sign up genius if interested in donating an item.

C. Fundraising (Dawn Resch)

1. Apparel Sale: \$6,000 in sales Thanks to Tara Moyer for helping with the sale. A few extra were ordered. If something doesn't fit, email Tara. You can exchange a size if we have it. The order should be in by the end of October.
2. Lynette will be contacting a few local restaurants (Chick Filet, Red Robin, Inside Scoop). We can raise money by just going to these restaurants for the day. Lynette will get more information on this.
3. Yankee Candle Fundraiser On-Line Only All you have to do is shop and then put in our group number and our school makes 40% of all sales. The sale runs through January 11th. The forms will be sent home this week.

Any questions, contact Dawn Resch.

V. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 10:55 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by,
Catherine Ziets
Recording Secretary