

Hopewell PTA Meeting

November 5, 2014

Members Present: Jennifer Philipp, Allison Cawley, Catherine Ziets, Maria Ault, Jennifer Hedden, Tiffany Gyuricsku, Dawn Resch, Lori Limpar, Stephanie Jeitner, Jill Hedges, Thinzar Aung

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

II. Approval of October 2014 Minutes: Jennifer asked for a motion to approve. Jennifer Hedden approved, Maria Ault seconded, and all were in favor.

III. Report of Officers

A. President's Report (Jennifer Philipp)

1. There are only four Hopewell T-shirts left. If anyone is interested see Jennifer. They are \$7.00.
2. There is an issue with changing the executive board for next year. According to the PTA Bylaws, the president must be on the executive board for one year. Jennifer spoke with Wanda Mendez, a region representative, to discuss the situation. The executive board met prior to the meeting and discussed making an amendment to the bylaws for next year. Jennifer presented this to the members at the meeting stating the suggested amendment, "For the 2015-2016 school year, the President of the PTA is not required to serve on the executive board." It was noted that anyone who serves on the executive board must be a member of the PTA for at least 6 months. After the amendment is proposed, you must wait 30 days and then the PTA members will vote at the next scheduled PTA meeting on January 7, 2015.

B. Vice President's Report (Melissa Woodring)

1. We under budgeted for the Kidstuff Books so we are doing a pizza fundraiser. Hopewell receives 30% from the coupon sales.
2. We may do another pizza fundraiser in the spring. If you have any questions about these fundraisers, please contact Melissa Woodring.

C. Treasurer's Report (Allison Cawley)

1. Allison reviewed the budget report. As of October 31, 2014, the balances are \$22,889.56 in our checking and \$7768.86 in our savings. We are under budget \$937.50 with our Kidstuff Books, however, Allison mentioned we did budget high for this fundraiser.
2. The Rapid Return went through fabulous and the 2013 taxes have been filed. Jennifer talked about in the event you are chairing a committee and you are unable or uncomfortable putting out the money prior to the event. If this is an issue, please see Jennifer or Allison so they can arrange to get the money to you before the purchase. It may take a little more time this way, but it can be done.

D. Principal's Report (Lori Limpar)

1. Ms. Limpar said it was a busy October. She discussed National Fire Prevention Week. Rather than the children going to the fire station, the fire trucks came to Hopewell. This was arranged by our school nurse, Nicole Castetter whose husband is the fire chief. They did a great demonstration and delivered a nice message to the children about fire safety.
2. There was an assembly this past Monday as part of our CARES Program that focused on "doing the right thing".
3. Ms. Limpar reviewed the parent guide pamphlet that was sent home at the beginning of the year.
 - a) She discussed the importance of signing up for Sapphire and updating all emergency contact information. It is our record keeping system and you can update your information at any time. You can log in through the Southern Lehigh website under the "Parents" tab.
 - b) Ms. Limpar also discussed Blackboard Connect, the automated messaging system and the importance of getting everyone's current email address so these messages can be received.
 - c) Eventually, through the use of Sapphire, we will get to paperless report cards. Report cards will be distributed this Friday, November 7th.
4. Hopewell PTA will be hosting a giving tree, along with Lower Milford, to help needy families during the holidays. To help blend the school communities together, Ms. Limpar said we are planning three joint activities with Liberty Bell and Lower Milford. Hopewell will organize an Iron Pigs night out, Lower Milford will plan a family ice skating night and Liberty Bell is still deciding on an event. The PTA executive board will meet with Liberty Bell's and Lower Milford's PTA Executive Board on Tuesday, December 9. The place and time are TBD to discuss the planning of these events.

IV. Report of Committees:

Book Fair (Thinzar Aung and Madi Capoccia) Thinzar said the Book Fair will be held the week of conferences (11/17-11/21) Monday will be set up, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday will be sale days and Friday is scheduled for clean up. A letter will be sent home this week with information about the book fair. Sign up genius will be utilized to recruit volunteers to help work the book fair. Ms. Limpar said the Instructional Aides will also be able to help during those times.

V. Old Business:

Jennifer thanked Jill Hedges for an "amazing" job with the Fall social. The games were a huge success. A new DJ was used (he was half the price of the one used previous). The Sign-up Genius was a great success; many people used this to volunteer their time.

VI. New Business:

- A. Jennifer Hedden talked about Breakfast with Santa. The planning is going well. A letter was sent home this week. Santa is booked. Carla will use sign up genius for volunteers.

There are 8 vendors confirmed so far, they are looking for more. Jen talked about possibly doing raffles as an incentive to buy things from the vendors.

- B. A question was asked to Ms. Limpar about any updates to the building of the new school. Ms. Limpar said during one of the in-service days, architects spoke with teachers to get some input on how the inside of the classrooms should be. Ms. Limpar also mentioned the playground will need to be moved during the construction of the new school but for safety reasons; the playground cannot be moved again.

VII. Announcements

11/7: Report Cards distributed

11/11: Veteran's Day: Students are invited to wear red, white and blue or their scouting uniforms to honor our Veterans. We will be holding a brief flag raising ceremony at our flagpole (weather permitting) to honor all veterans.

11/18: Hopewell picture retakes- more info. to follow

11/17-11/21: Parent conference week: 12:50 dismissal all students. AM Kindergarten attends 11/17, 11/18 PM Kindergarten attends 11/19, 11/20, 11/21

Scholastic Book Fair- Look for the notice being sent home regarding hours

11/27, 11/28 and 12/1: No School....Happy Thanksgiving!

12/2: Spirit Day Wear red and green to make and decorate tree ornaments

12/6: Hopewell Holiday Marketplace:9AM-12PM. Come and shop, help trim our Christmas tree with handmade student ornaments , and enjoy breakfast catered by Diana's Cafe' (reservations needed for breakfast).

Next PTA Meeting will be on Wednesday, January 7, 2015 at 2:30 p.m.

VIII. Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 10:14 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by,
Catherine Ziets, Recording Secretary