

H.W. Mountz PTA Minutes

Monday, April 8, 2019

9:08 a.m. Call to Order

Recording Secretary's Report

Noelle Henry reported that the March 4, 2019 minutes have been submitted and reviewed. A **MOTION** was made to approve the minutes, motion seconded and **APPROVED**.

Corresponding Secretary's Report

Suzanne Newman reported the following notes of thanks:

- From Shawna Sogluizzo for the Wilson Reading mini grant.
- From Mrs. O'Reilly for the art room bookshelf and art books mini grant.
- From The Ochse Family for the Kitchen Tour thank you gift.

Treasurer's Report

Diane Moran reported that the Checking account balance is \$175,379.62 as of 4/8/19. Diane Moran reported we have a large portion earmarked for big end of year items such as Graduation, Field Day, Middle School Band Trip, Scholarships, and Library Renovation. If anyone wants a detailed explanation of how we budget and spend money, please ask. Please submit all receipts for reimbursement asap.

Committee Updates

Someone Special Dance (Diane Moran and Jodi Carton)

Was held Sunday, March 24th, at the Spring Lake Golf Club and it was something special! The theme is "Under the Stars". There was a photo booth and DJ. Approximately 110-120 people attended.

Mother Son Dance (Jen Winn and Colleen Panzini)

Was held Sunday, March 31st, at the Spring Lake Golf Club. Boys dressed as their favorite College or NBA Team Player. Moms dressed as their favorite college, NBA player or referee. Lots of dancing, games and prizes. Approximately 50 moms and 60 boys attended. Jules the photographer was there and all moms took home an engraved wine glass.

Teacher Appreciation Week (Emily Snyder and Christine Mawn)

Emily Snyder advised Teacher Appreciation Week will be May 6-10th. The week will kick off Monday with a breakfast from Bagel Station. Thursday will be the big luncheon and an email will be sent out requesting donations for flowers, salads, wraps, etc. Each staff member will receive a \$50 gift card (The Custodians received them in October). Next year we will need a co-chair as Christine Mawn's son is graduating, please let us know if you would like to volunteer. The staff really appreciates this event.

Book Fair (Gina Lu and Mrs. Krebs)

This year's Book Fair theme was "Dino-Mite Book Fair: Stomp, Chomp and Read" and included a special meet and greet with the lizard guys. Crafts, refreshments, fun photos, stories and shopping! The kids loved it! Mrs. Krebs advised \$4,565 was raised in sales, with a profit of \$2300 for Mountz to keep to buy back books for the library. Thank you to all who volunteered. Next year we will continue with just one book fair per year and in the March time frame. Mrs. Krebs is going to look into another book fair vendor (other than Scholastic) just to get an idea if they offer anything different. Scholastic is very generous offering 50% of sales back to us to purchase books throughout the year. Some questions from parents: How much did the reptile guy cost -\$345. How much does the PTA spend for the Book Fair -\$380. How much money is raised by kids buying chotchkes/toys - maybe around 20%.

PTA Teacher Liaison (Mrs. Krebs)

- Mrs. Krebs provided an update on the Monarch Butterflies. We are working on this getting it up and running. We will need netting and tomato cages. The students have been busy composting.
- Today the 2nd grade will attend an Improv assembly thanks to a mini grant.
- Aquarium Day will be coming soon for all grades thanks to a mini grant. Assembly and touch tables for all to enjoy!
- Library Renovation - Still awaiting a bid on furniture, hopefully we will receive it soon. SLED and the PTA will provide funds, BOE tbd if and how much dollars they will contribute until the budget is approved.

Mini Grants

Eileen Lin advised that Spring Mini Grant applications were received and 11 have been approved. We spent approximately \$6,100 this Fall so we had around \$3,600 to spend for this Spring. We also have a separate line item for Curriculum Enhancements so some of these mini grant requests were moved to this line item. This is for smaller ticket items any time of the year. A color poster maker was requested but we did not have enough left in the budget so we have asked them to resubmit in the Fall. If you have any ideas or suggestions for a mini grant, please feel free to let your teachers know! Here is what was approved this Spring:

- Literature for ELA (Grannick)
- Yoga Calm for Children (Grannick)
- Improve and Theatre Games (Krebs and Hollowell)
- JUMP for Math and Reading (Roberts)
- Yoga Calm (Roberts)
- Butterfly Project (Marcus Feld)
- 3D Printer (Pearce)
- Mindfulness (Reid)
- Activity desks (Hollowell)
- 6th Grade Class Novel (Henry, Orr, Salway)
- Little Critters (Roberts)

SLED

John Marzullo reported on the SLED Community Social to help “Cool the School” held Friday, April 5th from 7:00-11:00 pm at the Breakers Hotel. Tickets were \$75. SLED is funding split vent units for two classrooms, either on the first floor or the third floor. The split vent units will be able to run long-term in conjunction with the existing HVAC system and also can be continued to be used with the future HVAC system, as it runs on its own condenser. \$8,700 was raised at the event and SLED will match that amount. We are still in the process of getting quotes for the AC units, which type of units that will be purchased and which classrooms they will be put in. A big thanks to the Scardino family for hosting the event at The Breakers and for providing complimentary valet parking. Also, a big thanks to all who offered auction items, including Mrs. Callahan, the owner of Sweet Tea’s and The Doubting Tom’s for performing free of charge.

Kitchen Tour (Nicole Behler and Cheryl Lynch)

Please save the date, October 19th, 2019 for next year’s Kitchen Tour. Nicole Behler and Cheryl Lynch to chair. There will be a separate Kitchen Tour meeting immediately following this meeting, please stay if you can. We have a large 8th grade graduating class and we are losing many families, so we will need all families to participate and volunteer. Kerri Talucci suggested sending out a save the date email now. Eileen Lin asked Karen Matuch to send an email to class parents with this save the date, as well as requesting volunteers for Field Day. There are so many opportunities to volunteer for the Kitchen Tour before, during and after.

BOE Liaison (Karen Matuch)

- The Board has hit the pause button and cannot commit to the library renovation until the budget is approved. We will be voting on the budget April 29th. Dr. Boccuti and Mrs. McCarthy are meeting this morning on the budget. Hopefully by April 29th we will know how much the Board can contribute. Diane Moran asked if the BOE in on board with this renovation - Yes. There was much discussion over who will be the point person/project manager. Mrs. McCarthy will need to arrange the work going on in the building. Mrs. Krebs and Mrs. Matuch offered to help, it will be a consolidated effort. All parties involved need to get together and start this going and coordinate when everything will need to be done.
- Capital Improvements - At the March 25th meeting, the Architect passed out a packet of the proposed improvements suggested for the building. A few items included sidewalk and curb replacements, depressed pavers, security vestibule, a new roof and a new HVAC system.
- At the April 15th BOE meeting, a referendum specialist will address what needs to be done. There is a 6 month window to get a referendum on a ballot, so the earliest possible vote could be November 9th. Please attend this meeting to educate yourself!
- Building and Grounds - we are working together on what will be done. Some of these projects can be done on our own and we can tap into our own resources.
- The 2019-2020 School Calendar was approved, link is on the website.
- Noelle Giblin and I met with Blackboard, our current website designer and we will decide if we are going to stay with them. They have some new features we currently don’t use and on April 10th we will see a demo of those features.
- The ad hoc committee met last week and discussed the possibility of a newsletter and potentially putting the BOE meetings on YouTube.

Nominating Committee

Eileen Lin reported the nominating committee will announce the new PTA board at the May 6th meeting.

New Business

- Field Day will be Monday, June 10th
- PTA Year End Party date is TBD

Announcements

- Art Night is this Thursday, April 11th 6:00-8:00

Next month's PTA meeting will be Monday, May 6th at 9:00.

Meeting adjourned at 10:25 a.m.

Submitted by: Noelle Henry, Recording Secretary