

H.W. Mountz PTA Minutes

Monday, August 20, 2018

9:11 a.m. Call to Order

Recording Secretary's Report

Noelle Henry reported that the May, 24 2018 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 Amy Kinsella for your generosity and support throughout the school year.
- From Jennifer Penrod for supporting the music program and the trip to Phantom of the Opera.
- From Linda Krebs for the luncheon and gift card during teacher appreciation week.
- From Andrea Brierley for the year-end dinner at The Breakers and support throughout the year.
- From the H.W. Mountz Spring Lake Education Association for your support throughout the year and end-of-year celebration at The Breakers.
- From Jennifer Penrod for your sponsorship and support of the yearbook.

Treasurer's Report

Diane Moran reported we are starting the budget process for the 2018-2019 school year. Committee chairs will be contacted to call attention to any budget issues they may have.

Kiernan DiFeo asked the PTA to consider a line item for the 8th grade trip to Gettysburg and asked how this is being funded. Dr. Boccuti advised it will be funded through fundraising and it is on the agenda for approval at tonight's BOE meeting. Karen Matuch stated most 8th grade classes almost always reach their fundraising goals and sometimes gift leftover funds to the rising 8th grade class, (please ask Mr. Livingood or Mr. DeStefano). Kiernan DiFeo advised this year's upcoming fundraising efforts include the mum drive, car wash, pizza day, back to school night baskets. Eileen Lin suggested not having raffle baskets for both back to school night and the Kitchen Tour, and only have one "raffle basket" event. Kerry Patterson suggested rather than having back to school night baskets, ask parents to donate \$10-\$20 and raffle off a bike. Kiernan DiFeo said baskets are already underway for this year's back to school night and are not ideal for the Kitchen Tour. Eileen Lin said that if the 8th grade class has trouble coming up with funds, to ask the PTA to consider helping out.

Dr. Boccuti's Report

Welcome back to everyone. We have just wrapped up the summer ESY program, Camp Invention and basketball camps. We will spend the remainder of the summer painting and getting the school ready for the students. Communication is a big part of our Strategic Plan and we are about 65-75% complete.

- PARCC reports are due any day now.
- We plan to welcome students and parents on the first day of school on the playground (weather permitting) followed by the PTA's Back to School Coffee Meet and Greet in the APR.
- Staffing update - Mr. Livingood and Ms. Clark are moving to Special Ed positions. We received 25-30 applicants for middle school math and have narrowed down to one person that is on the agenda for approval at tonight's BOE meeting. Mrs. Miller has resigned as a paraprofessional.
- At tonight's BOE meeting, public interviews will be held for the open seat.
- New tonight at the BOE meeting, when the board needs to hold a working session, board members will leave the room rather than public guests.
- Tiger Den Update - Dr. Boccuti has been asked to make a proposal for this program to be cost neutral. (When the program began, we didn't have enough students to make this cost efficient, but the BOE requested we give it a try anyway).
- Safety and Security update - Dr. Boccuti advised he has completed 25 hours of training as the Safety Specialist and a 4 ½ hour FEMA course. The new intercom system is installed and working and the new Visitor Management System is up and running. The Sheriff's office has requested all Monmouth county schools be Geomapped. This is on the agenda for approval at tonight's BOE meeting and costs approximately \$4,000. All school grounds will be geomapped so that if there is a crisis, first responders will have the floorplan and will know where the crisis is. Police Chief Kerr is on board and has requested both Mountz and St. Catharine's start this process. John Marzullo asked if there is a back-up Safety Specialist if Dr. Boccuti is not in the building and Dr. Boccuti advised yes. John Marzullo asked that if Geomapping gets approved at tonight's meeting, what is the timing. Dr. Boccuti advised it should be quick.
- Dr. Boccuti thanked the PTA for everything you do throughout the year.

Committee Updates

Beach Day (Marie Reed)

- Beach Day will be Saturday, September 8th 2:00-5:00, (raindate is Saturday, September 15th).
- Please volunteer to help!

Kitchen Tour (Nicole Behler)

- The Kitchen Tour will be held on October 20, 2018, please keep your schedule open that day so you can come out and volunteer. We are looking for 100% parent participation this year and there are so many ways to volunteer, before, the day of and even after for clean up.
- Over 600 tickets have been sold, 200 remaining.
- 5 houses have been confirmed and are already sponsored. 3 houses are parent owned! 2-3 more houses are in the works as well as Larimar.
- Our title sponsor is Nimo!

- Emily Snyder advised she is renting scanners to be used to check in guests at the train station.
- John Marzullo thanked Nicole and everyone for all the hard work put into the Kitchen Tour.
- Kelly Golden requested communication be sent to all parents to save the date and provide volunteer opportunities. Many new families are unaware of how to volunteer.
- Karen Matuch advised there used to be a document that Christine Mawn and Patti Petrosini created called the ABC's of Mountz which gives info to new families that could be very helpful. Dr. Bocutti advised there are 8 new families registered this year.

Back-To-School Coffee (Eileen Lin)

- First day of school, (September 6th) immediately following drop off in the APR.
- Sing ups for all committees will be available.

Class Parents (Karen Matuch)

- Karen Matuch will request all class room assignment lists from the office today. She will send out an email to each homeroom requesting class parents. The first responses will be chosen. We please ask that if you were a class parent last year, please step aside and let someone else have a chance. The older grades are the ones we sometimes have to ask for volunteers.
- The budget for class parents was brought up. It really isn't used. Most class parents get parents to volunteer items from sign up genius.
- Kerry Patterson suggested coordinating end of year pizza parties to avoid delivery confusion.
- Emily Snyder asked that allergy parents be included in class party details and Karen Matuch agreed.
- Karen Matuch will hold a class parent meeting.

Calendar (Eileen Lin on behalf of Caren Chesler and Nancy Brady)

- The calendar is moving forward and will be ready soon.

Giving Tree (Kerry Talucci)

- Kerry Talucci will be heading up the giving tree this year.

Book Fair (Gina Lu)

- Gina Lu will be heading up the book fair this year and Sarah Hunt will be the Library Chair. Mrs. Krebs will advise the date and help with details as well.

Scholarships (Eileen Lin)

- We need one volunteer from this committee for scholarship selection in April/May.

Art Gallery (Committee Chair Needed)

- We need a volunteer for this as Jessica Rehill has moved. This position involves selecting and hanging the student's artwork outside the library.

Board of Ed Liason (Kiernan DiFeo)

- Kiernan DiFeo has volunteered to be the point person for this. We need a few volunteers to help out attending the BOE meetings - this can be a rotating committee.

Library Renovation (Eileen Lin)

- Dr. Boccuti update - An audit is in place for the previous school year. We do not expect to have an excess in funds, as requested when I came on board. The finance committee meets in December to begin planning for July of the next school year and I will suggest to plan a budget for the library renovation for next year.
- Karen Matuch asked how much do we estimate the renovation to cost.
- Eileen Lin advised we are not sure. It depends if we are making only cosmetic updates or doing a complete overhaul.
- John Marzullo asked what we need to do to move forward with this project. Can we hire a consultant to come in and give estimates and RFP's.
- Dr. Boccuti suggested having a meeting with the library renovation committee and invite the new business administrator to get her on board. The library committee includes Mrs. Krebs, Mrs. Roberts, Mrs. Callahan, Mrs. Lin and Mrs. Moran.
- Kiernan DiFeo asked who requested the library renovation and is there a vision. Eileen Lin stated that the PTA has \$30k surplus and we would like to update the library to fit the needs of all the students Pre-K through grade 8. The committee has looked at local schools that have been recently updated. We need to get an idea how much the BOE and SLED can contribute to the renovation.
- Karen Matuch said people are willing and able to donate to the school but would like to know what specifically is being done.
- John Marzullo advised we don't have a formal plan, but some things include having areas segregated per age, meeting areas, mobile furniture, power cord strips along the floors, etc.
- Dr. Boccuti advised hopefully the library can be used as a community gathering place and this renovation should be an exciting thing. You have my commitment, but since funds are involved, it needs approval.
- Eileen Lin advised \$500 was raised by The Breakers, (\$250 was spent by families at the restaurant and the Scardino family matched another \$250). Thank you to The Breakers and the Scardino Family!
- Karen Matuch asked if it is free to get someone to come in and give estimates of how much it will cost. Maybe \$30k can cover what we would like to do. Dr. Boccuti advised if the committee develops what they want, we should be able to get a proposal. Eileen Lin advised we need to pay first to get estimates.

New Business

- Kerry Talucci asked if a second language will be offered. Dr. Boccuti advised he would like to do a pilot and look at what languages Manasquan High School offers. Some parents were concerned if 2 languages are being required, what subject would be dropped.

Announcements

- Back to School Night will be September 18 for Pre-K through 5th grade and September 19th for 6 through 8th grade. Both will be from 6:00-8:00 pm.
- Picture Day will be September 18th.
- Next PTA meeting will be Monday, September 10th at 9:00. (PTA meetings will be held the first Monday of the month).

Meeting adjourned at 10:24 a.m.

Submitted by: Noelle Henry, Recording Secretary