

## H.W. Mountz PTA Minutes

Monday, January 8, 2018

9:08 a.m. Call to Order

### Recording Secretary's Report

Noelle Henry reported that the November 6, 2017 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 the NJHS, would like to thank the PTA for providing busing to and from the Fulfill Foodbank.
- From Urner Barry wishing all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.
- From the Rumson Education Foundation, congratulating the PTA on a successful Kitchen Tour and thank you for the complimentary full-page ad for the Rumson Kitchen Tour which will be reciprocated.
- From the S.L.E.A., for the Columbus Day in-service breakfast and the numerous mini-grants.

### Treasurer's Report

Diane Moran reported that the Checking account balance is \$142,425 and the Savings account balance is \$4,498.69 as of 1/7/18.

The 2017-2018 PTA Budget Analysis was distributed and explained in detail, how we budget and where the money is spent. \$25,878 has been spent YTD, \$43,172 remaining, which has been budgeted towards numerous things such as mini grants, scholarships, field day, etc. \$70,000 is budgeted for 1 year of reserves. There is a \$26,253 surplus, which the PTA has asked Dr. Boccuti and Mrs. Callahan for recommendations, potentially these funds can be used towards a library renovation. In the past, the PTA has helped fund the Virtual Lab, AV Equipment and new playground equipment. The Kitchen Tour was budgeted to earn \$65,000, \$79,000 was earned. We raised slightly more than last year - ticket prices were increased, while we chose to decrease the amount of tickets sold.

Reminder – Please submit all receipts ASAP.

### Committee Updates

#### Gift Fair (Cheryl Lynch, Jessica Rehill, Caroline Schiavone)

- A big thank you to Cheryl Lynch, Jessica Rehill and Caroline Schiavone for organizing the annual Holiday Gift Fair! It was a smashing success, the children learned about the spirit of giving. A special appearance was made by carolers young and old and even Santa! This year the Gift Fair teamed up with the Giving Tree and the children donated their leftover money, raising \$140 for the elementary school in Houston affected by Hurricane Irma.

- The Gift Fair committee advised that all decorations had been stored at their personal homes and requested that these items now be stored at the school. Dr. Boccuti advised that storage is a problem at the school, but will look into finding a place to store the decorations. Mrs. Callahan has already been working on storage solutions as well. No items in storage can be purged without board approval.

#### **Teacher Liaison Update** (Mrs. Callahan)

- On behalf of all the teachers and staff, Mrs. Callahan thanked everyone for the holiday cookies and everything that you do.
- An executive board meeting to discuss a potential library renovation was held in December. Mrs. Roberts, Mrs. Callahan and Mrs. Krebs will make appointments to go view and analyze school libraries that have been recently renovated to get ideas and price estimates. Manasquan Elementary School will be renovating their library this summer.
- Mrs. Callahan is working with Mr. DeStefano, the 8th grade advisor, about organizing an open house for high schools/parent information session for the 2018-2019 school year for the incoming 8<sup>th</sup> grade.
- Community Outreach – Mrs. Callahan would like to get Mountz involved in some sort of community event this Spring and is currently brainstorming ideas such as a walk-a-thon to raise money for the community or a charity.

#### **Giving Tree** (Myra Doyle, Noelle Henry)

- A big thank you to Noelle Henry and Myra Doyle for all the hard work that they did organizing the Giving Tree!! And thanks too to Dede Farmer for organizing the Mingle and Jingle! Together they raised over \$1000 for hurricane relief in Texas for Hilliard Elementary School in Houston. The school suffered major damage and some students were displaced from their homes. They also collected dozens of toys for a local charity Oceans of Love, who donated the toys to children with cancer.

#### **Enrichment** (Oyuna Marcello)

- Spring enrichment will begin the week of January 22nd.
  - Monday – Guitar (6 weeks) and Art (5 weeks)
  - Wednesday – Chess (8 weeks)
  - Thursday – Mad Science (8 weeks)
- Flyers will be up on the website soon.
- Sign-ups can be done via Eventbrite.com
- Mad Science sign-ups must be done on the Mad Science web site – this sells out quick!

#### **Calendar** (Caren Chesler, Printing and TBD, Ad Sales)

- We are looking for another volunteer to help with the Ad Sales.
- Many people at today's meeting requested that the calendar be on-line rather than printed, stating that it is too large, and often dates become obsolete. For instance,

when there is a snow day that was not planned for. Also, when the calendar goes to print in August, not all dates have been finalized. Many people like the artwork and poems so we would like to continue as we have in the past, and maybe re-visit on-line opportunities in the future. It was also discussed to have more photos and artwork by students scrolling on the website.

### **Blood Drive** (Colleen Panzini)

- Blood Drive is set for Saturday, February 24<sup>th</sup> from 9:00-1:00
- Last year's turnout was low, especially among staff. Dr. Boccuti and Mrs. Callahan have been asked to help get staff involved. We are trying to get an incentive, like a massage, for more participation.
- Colleen will contact the Coast Star with information as well as get flyers for the school website, Facebook page, etc. Will also solicit people the day before as well as the day itself while recreation basketball is happening at the school.
- Please come out and donate blood!

### **Dr. Boccuti's Report**

- Dr. Boccuti advised on how snow days are determined. He discussed with all sending districts, but wants to be clear that safety is the number one priority. Safety for both students and staff.
- SLED update – Thursday, January 11<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm will be a SLED meeting with most of the founding members coming back. Mr. Ferrero will be the board liaison and Mrs. Roberts and Mr. DeStefano will be the teacher reps.
- Students and staff were recognized for outstanding performance on PARCC and NJASK at the November Board of Ed Meeting.
- Curriculum update – we have been updating our curriculum to align with the NJ QSAC Requirements. Parents will have online access to an overview of lesson plans and curriculum for the year.
- The question that was asked, “what do the students do when recess is held in-doors”. Dr. Boccuti advised the students play games and are “un-plugged”. It was also asked if the ping pong tables in storage can be used during indoor recess. Dr. Boccuti will look into that.
- Dr. Boccuti advised that they are getting ready to discuss budget talks with the board.

### **Announcements**

- The next PTA Meeting will be Monday, February, 5th at 9:00 am.

Meeting adjourned at 10:16 a.m.

Submitted by: Noelle Henry, Recording Secretary