

H.W. Mountz PTA Minutes

Monday, November 5, 2018

9:14 a.m. Call to Order

Recording Secretary's Report

Noelle Henry reported that the October 1, 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 we have 136 total PTA members (33 are staff).

Suzanne Newman reported the following notes of thanks:

- From SLEA for the wonderful breakfasts for our first day back to school and for our Columbus Day in-service.
- From Donna Campbell for the beautiful arrangement.

Treasurer's Report

Eileen Lin reported on behalf of Diane Moran that the Checking account balance is \$181,811.90 and the Savings account balance is \$4,499.15 as of 11/1/18. The November 1st balance includes several deposits from Kitchen Tour ads and sponsors, and many of the expenses for the Kitchen Tour have not yet been paid out. A more realistic indication of the Kitchen Tour P&L will be available at the next meeting.

Library Renovation Update

Eileen Lin reported Dr. Boccuti has a phone meeting with the architect November 7 and will find out what they need from us. He will provide the architect with blueprints of the library. They will provide a virtual picture for us to choose from different versions. We are looking to have a media center, flexible seating, an area for primary kids, e-books along with books.

Class Parents

Eileen Lin on behalf of Karen Matuch, with the holidays approaching, please don't forget about teachers and para-professionals. Keri Talucci asked about teachers who teach "specials" and suggested we should be consistent across all grades. Eileen Lin stated that there is no good way to enforce that, but we do give all teachers, including "specials" a \$50 gift card during teacher appreciation week.

Mini Grants

Eileen Lin on behalf of Katie Flaherty that we are happy to report the PTA received 12 submissions for mini grants and all were approved!

1. Aquarium Day, requested by Gine Lu. The Center for Aquatic Sciences will come to our school for all grades to participate.
2. Wilson Reading System, requested by Shawna Sogluizzo.

3. PBIS (Positive Behavior Intervention & Support), requested by Mrs. Dettlinger & Mrs. Grannick for drawstring bags, pencils, etc.
4. Penguins, requested by Mrs. Robers.
5. Buzz Math, requested by Mr. Janelli, Mrs. Dettlinger, Mr. Livingood, Mrs. Iacouzzi and Mrs. Grannick for 6-8 grades. Mrs. Dawson asked if this can also be used for grades 3-8 to make sure we are utilizing this to the best of our ability.
6. Accelerated ELA Books for 6-8th grades requested by Mrs. Salway.
7. Flags for the building requested by Donna Campbell.
8. Steam Ahead Books.
9. Art Reference Books and Cart requested by Mrs. O'Reilly.
10. Butterflies
11. Kidsbridge Tolerance Center / Museum trip for the 4th grade requested by Mrs. Reid and Mrs. Callahan.
12. Tiger Den and Enrichment combination. Dr. Boccuti and Eileen Lin advised we are looking at combining these 2 programs so they don't compete with each other and so that everyone can benefit. Suzanne Newman suggested polling the parents and students for grades 6-8 to see what we can offer that age group.

Our next mini grant submissions will be due in February, 2019.

Kitchen Tour (Nicole Behler)

- This year's Kitchen Tour was a great success!
- Nicole Behler wanted to give a very special thanks to all who participate! Also, thank you to all the House Captains; Betsy Callaghan, Megan Kerr, Jenifer Grigg, Nancy Smith, (who no longer has children in the school), Marie Reed, Carla Martin, Stefania Sterling, Kiernan DiFeo, and Emily Snyder who was in charge of the Train Station.
- Thank you to all the committees for everything!
- Cheryl Lynch has agreed to Co-Chair next year's tour!
- A few things that were mentioned, a possible ticket price increase next year, parking issues as some home owners driveways were blocked, next year there will be no refunds.
- We will have a wrap up meeting soon.

New Business

The PTA held a public Board of Ed forum this past Monday for all 7 candidates up for election. There were about 50 people in attendance. All 7 candidates and the moderator did a great job! Please remember to go out and vote on November 6th.

The Giving Tree (Keri Talucci)

This year's Giving Tree will be dedicated to providing gifts to Kula Café in Asbury Park. This community cafe is a social enterprise which offers a training program that addresses high unemployment and the mismatched training and employment opportunity in the Asbury Park area. The hands-on, paid training program is designed to develop readily transferrable skills for

application in the hospitality industry. Training and skills development will take place in a working eatery, giving neighbors the opportunity to help participants learn marketable skills while enjoying good food at a fair price.

From November 19 - 30th a bin will be put in each classroom for students to bring in gifts. Keri Talucci will send an email to Karen Matuch requesting class parents to help with sending out a signup genius for each classroom. There was talk about a potential Italian ice party for the class that participates most, as well as maybe having some students deliver gifts to Kula Café.

Holiday Gift Fair (Cheryl Lynch)

We are changing this year's format a bit. We would like to bring in more quality gift items, (not over \$12), with less options. We will need to communicate this with parents. Maybe kids will buy less gifts, but hopefully they will be better gifts. We are also trying to get more local vendors, like Andrea Scardino who participated last year. We will also be looking for volunteers to help set up and the day of, date TBD.

Dr. Boccuti's Report

- Mrs. McCarthy, the Business Administrator, found a state approved library renovation company that we have a phone call scheduled for this Wednesday. We will provide blue prints so we can get the process started. The budget process starts in January and wraps up in March, so we need to know how much from our capital we can provide. We will know more after Wednesday.
- Reminder we are off Thursday and Friday for the Teacher's Convention. The building will be closed. The gym floor will be worked on.
- Dr. Bocutti advised he mailed home a "Good News" letter to all parents and we should receive any day now.

Meeting adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

Submitted by: Noelle Henry, Recording Secretary