H.W. Mountz PTA Minutes

H.W. Mountz Science Lab Wednesday, August 19, 2015

9:10am Call to Order

Recording Secretary: No old business to report.

Treasurer's Report: Checking account balance is \$107, 227.02 and savings account is \$4497.63 as of today.

Corresponding Secretary: Thank you received from Karen Dettlinger for the peer mediation grant. Thank you received from Karen O'Sullivan for the Teacher of the Year Award gifts. Thank you received from Colette Gilbert for the Tiger Scholarship. Thank you received from Karen Dettlinger for the PTA teacher appreciation gift card. Thank you received from Kerri Walsifer for her Administrator Day's gift. Thank you received from Mary Beth Bielicki for PTA scholarship. Thank you received from Caroline Burns for PTA scholarship.

Report/Presentation by Mrs. Walsifer:

- -Virtual Lab: Carts are not available yet; will be invoiced when they are in. Mrs. Walsifer and Mr. Soto will take over this project. Both will attend a tech expo. in Atlantic City this 2015-2016 school year.
- -Discussion regarding need for AC in the APR.
- -Presentation regarding Universal Design for Learning (UDL) commenced. Packets with specific information distributed. Mrs. Walsifer explained a need for planning and instruction for differentiated learning was observed by both herself and Dr. Bormann the previous school year. Leadership teams will be orchestrated the first days of school for this project. Discussion regarding the division of \$26,000 for this project between PTA and SLED (total project = \$31,000). The 4 lead teachers would be available to train new teachers. Possibility of additional training may be needed; built into professional development budget by BOE. UDL will not replace any program, rather, supplement teacher planning/instruction and reengage students for PARCC. Discussion regarding responsive classroom and promoting of a positive school climate. UDL will further promote a community of learners and a positive climate. A quorum will be needed to vote on this project at the 9/16 meeting.

Kitchen Tour Update:

(8) homes have been secured, possibility of (9). Showcasing Mary Higgins Clark home on the Tour. Advertising at the summer sidewalk sale boosted online sales. The Tour will be capped around 1000 people and around 100 volunteers will be needed. An advertising meeting will take place this Friday (8/20) to review all categories. Aprons to be sold the day of the Tour at the train station. Encouraging people to "Like" on Facebook, then "Share". A discussion regarding having the 8th grade class do gift baskets for fundraising.

Beach Day:

Will take place 9/12 with a rain date of 9/26. North End Pavilion has been approved as the place for the event. A Save the Date and flier will be sent out. Activities and games are planned.

Food: still searching for an alternative to transport food to beach. Currently budgeting \$10/head, therefore committee is priced out of catering. Possibly Local Smoke in Neptune could do the food and PTA transports. Discussion regarding signups for sides/desserts and an optional donation to the PTA for a specific event/cause; TBD. Possibility of having the Girls Scouts volunteer to move things.

Budget Discussion:

A quorum will be needed to vote on specific item on 9/16 and the budget will be posted on the website prior to this meeting. Thank you to Diane Moran, outgoing Treasurer, for all of her efforts both past and present. The Holiday Sale has now been moved into the expense category and is in need of a chairperson. Discussion regarding raising the Mother-Son budget (\$300) to that of the Someone Special Dance budget (\$1200). Budget raised and will be voted on 9/16. The PTA will contribute \$200/class for the class parents to use at their discretion throughout the year (teacher's gift will not be included as that falls under staff appreciation). This will go in as a new line item with a budget of \$3000 to be voted on 9/16. Staff Appreciation budget will be raised from \$1800 to \$2150. Gift cards totaling \$2800 will be up for a separate vote on 9/16. \$150 was requested by Cathleen Gresh for a PTA weatherproof outdoor sidewalk sign. Cost for individual posters will come from the individual event's budget that is being promoted. Discussion regarding adding a "Hospitality" line item to the budget for items such as Parents Back to School Coffee and the Sidewalk stand took place.

Lunch Service Program:

Volunteer still needed to co-chair.

New Families:

Jen Grigg volunteered to partner with Katie Flaherty to co-chair.

Parents Back to School Coffee:

Coffee, Donuts, Yogurt, and fruit will be provided. Responsibilities for this event will be split between the (5) board members. Discussion regarding what line item this will come from. PTA sign-up sheets will be posted to garner volunteers for committees.

School Website:

John Marzullo and Mr. Soto will be in charge of this. Website will include PTA Minutes, Announcement, Form/Fliers, etc.

Superintendent Search update by BOE President Vince Daino:

There are currently (42) applicants and (16) applications have been completed. 9/25 is the application deadline and a candidate will be hired by November 2015 with a start date in February 2016. Discussion took place regarding Meet the Candidates Night for the open BOE position in November and either 10/8 or 10/22 will be decided on.

The next meeting will be September 16.

Meeting adjourned 10:25am

Submitted by: Emily Snyder, Recording Secretary