H.W. Mountz PTA Minutes

Wednesday, September 16, 2015

8:46am Call to Order

Recording Secretary: Motion made to approve the August 2015 PTA minutes. Motion approved.

Corresponding Secretary: Thank you received from SLEA for the Staff Back to School breakfast sponsored by the PTA. Thank you received from Kyle Tihicek for the PTA scholarship.

Treasurer's Report: As of 9/15/15 the checking account balance is \$123,571.27 and the savings account balance is \$4497.67.

Presentation by Mrs. Walsifer on Universal Design for Learning (UDL) Program/Request for Funds: Professional development for this program will be given during the school day and on specified professional development days. Mrs. Walsifer explained how this program challenges our students and implements new ways of learning through differentiation of instruction. This program will be built into the BOE budget in the future. A request was made from a member to have a teacher(s) attend a future meeting to give feedback regarding the program in its initial stages; comment made from a teacher in attendance as to the positive feedback from the staff and how this program is beneficial. Mrs. Krebs (school librarian), commented that the program is positive because all students/types of learners benefit. Further information on UDL will be shared with the community via the school website. A question was raised regarding measuring the effectiveness of this program. This will be assessed through the teacher evaluation system, as per Mrs. Walsifer. \$31,000 is being requested in total; \$13,000 is being requested from the PTA. The BOE is funding \$5,000 and SLED is funding \$13,000. Motion made to fund the UDL program \$13,000. Motion passed.

Beach Day Update: Thanks to the enormous efforts of Cathleen Gresh, this year the event was free of charge (PTA sponsored) and was a huge success. Thank you Cathleen! Additional thanks went out to the following families for their extra volunteer efforts: The Beer Family, the Graff Family, the Behler Family, the Vasquez Family, the Martin Family, and the Schiavone Family. The Slip 'n Slide is usable again for next year.

Kitchen Tour: Jessica Ressa and Jenn Grigg detailed the progress made. All homes and sponsors are accounted for. Jo Malone will be a sponsor this year. (80) volunteers will be needed the day of the Tour. (600) tickets have already been sold. Up to 1000 may be sold. Advertisements need to be received by September 25. Mrs. Krebs volunteered teachers to assist. Time slots for

volunteers will be: 9:30-12:30 and 12:30-3:30. A press report regarding the Tour will be in the Asbury Park Press for the first time this year. The Bricken Family will host the volunteer after-party at their home.

Class Parents: A change in procedure will be made to the collecting of money by class parents. Karen Matuch, lead class parent, spoke regarding the difficulty class parents face when collecting money from all parents of students in the class. An effort will be made on building volunteerism for bringing in products (ie. Baked goods, paper goods, etc.) versus collecting money. Class parents may use the money funded by the PTA for class parties and the Halloween Scarecrow only after School Genius (the volunteer sign up system) and volunteer efforts have been made to bring in the supplies/food. Discussion took place regarding a class gift from students versus individual gifts. Neither will be PTA-funded. A further discussion took place regarding how to appropriately use the PTA-sponsored \$200 given to each class. A suggestion was made by Sean Flaherty to have the term "Class Mom" be changed to "Class Parent" for future reference.

Budget Discussion: Katie Flaherty reviewed the 2015-2016 budget changes. A discussion took place regarding a proposal to increase the Mother-Son outing. Jenn Winn and Colleen Panzini, chairpeople for the event, will select an event, present, and then apply for increased funding. A discussion took place regarding the license needed for the 8th grade to sell gift baskets the morning of the Kitchen Tour. Jessica Ressa will review this. Due to the success of the Kitchen Tour every staff member at H.W. Mountz received a \$50 gift card and staff luncheon during Staff Appreciation Week. A motion was made to extend the \$50 gift card to all staff at H.W. Mountz, totaling \$2750.00, for the 2015-2016 school year. Motion passed. A motion was made to approve the 2015-2016 PTA budget. Motion passed.

Lunch Service Program: Volunteers needed to co-chair this program. Sunny Griffin volunteered time.

Children's Christmas Boutique: Volunteers needed to co-chair this event. Jessica Ressa and Jen Dawson (past chairs) have compiled a list of inventory that sold and the amount of each piece of inventory. All gifts were under \$5. Approximately \$2700 was spent on purchasing inventory. A discussion took place regarding how and where to buy items. An idea was raised to give the volunteer a pre-paid debit card to buy the inventory. Jessica Rehill volunteered to co-chair with another volunteer.

Back to School Nights: A reminder regarding the dates and times of the upcoming nights.

Announcements: A reminder was made to sign up for the PTA in order to receive voting rights. All staff members are encouraged to sign up as well; many already members. A new PTA webpage is being built by John Marzullo. A

quicklink to the page is being constructed. In October there will be a PTA-sponsored BOE Meet the Candidates Night for the upcoming elections. Date to be posted. The BOE will have a Parent/Recruiter meeting in order to gain input from parents regarding the next school Superintendent on Monday 9/21 and Monday 9/28. All encouraged to attend. The next PTA meeting will be October 21.

Meeting adjourned 10:00am

Submitted by: Emily Snyder, Recording Secretary