

H.W. Mountz PTA Minutes

Wednesday, October 21, 2015

8:46am Call to Order

Recording Secretary: MOTION made to approve the September 2015 PTA Minutes. Motion APPROVED.

Corresponding Secretary: Thank you received from Karen Dettlinger for the October staff breakfast. Thank you received from Cheryl Salway for the 8th grade mini-grant. Thank you to Jessica Ressa and the PTA Kitchen Tour officers from J. Bailey. Thank you received from Pam Mannion for the 5th grade cutting machine mini-grant. Thank you received from Pam Mannion for the Blue Ribbon Teacher's breakfast.

Treasurer's Report: As of 10/20/2015 the checking account balance is \$160,853.85 and the savings account balance is \$4497.71.

Mrs. Walsifer's Report: Thank you to the PTA for another successful Kitchen Tour. Upcoming events include: the Halloween Celebration/Parade, parent-teacher conferences and progress reports. Our positive 4th and 8th grade NJ ASK scores will be celebrated at the next BOE meeting. The Superintendent search is moving along with interviews commencing this week. Veteran's Day celebrations will take place in school on 11/11/2015. The October UDL workshop was a success and will continue in December. On 11/9 and 11/10 Mrs. Walsifer and Mrs. Mannion will be traveling to Washington D.C. to accept the Blue Ribbon Reward on behalf of H.W. Mountz School. PARCC information will be disseminated via presentation as it becomes available. These results will be the first that the district sees since moving from NJASK to PARCC. The district will continue to use PARCC as an assessment tool and prepare accordingly.

Committee Updates:

Kitchen Tour Wrap-Up – John Marzullo will provide a cost-benefit analysis in order to make improvements moving forward. The final amount the Tour brought in is being calculated. A new Web Administrator will be needed for next year. Possibility of being offered to the H.W. Mountz staff as a stipend position. Also reaching out to parents and the community. Co-chairs will compile a list of positions to be filled for 2016. Feedback from Noelle Giblin (via e-mail) outlined the need for the train station check-in process to be electronic for 2016. Comment made by John Marzullo – 8th graders perhaps could sell refreshments outside homes next year as part of fundraising efforts. A shortage of house shoes was observed as many patrons inadvertently disposed of shoes in between homes. A suggestion was made by N. Behler that a local foot and ankle specialist may donate the shoes for next year. A discussion took place regarding the large number of sponsors occupying homes, thus slowing down the tour. A suggestion was made for house sponsors to provide small bottles of water to patrons. A discussion took place regarding restaurants

used for the Kitchen Tour; in 2016 the PTA will look closely at restaurants that have been more cooperative in the past. 8th grade raffle – a suggestion was made to move the location Downtown rather than the train station. Further ideas included adding a 50/50 raffle and adding sponsor names to outside chair covers.

Mini-Grants: (17) submissions have been made to the PTA totaling over \$15k. This is \$600 over budget for this item. Various other requests were placed into this \$15k total (ie. Assemblies). A suggestion was raised to either increase the budget for mini-grants, or to place a hold on further submissions for this year. A comment was made by C. Gresh that the PTA should be recognized at the time the mini-grants are used in order to further outline PTA funding. A MOTION was made to extend the budget for this item by \$5000.00. Motion APPROVED. A suggestion was made by Mrs. Walsifer that a note of thanks to the PTA should go on the school website as events occur.

Book Fair: The Book Fair will run from Monday, 12/7 thru Thursday, 12/10. Delivery will take place Friday with set-up on Monday. The Fair will be open to students beginning Monday after school. The evening Book Fair will take place on Wednesday, 12/9. The second Book Fair will coincide with Literacy Night.

Thank you went out to Cheryl Lynch for the large blue bows adorning the school and for providing the signed M. H. Clark book for the Kitchen Tour. Cheryl Lynch proposed the date of Friday, 12/4 for the Holiday Gift Fair. The date was approved.

PTA sponsored BOE Meet the Candidates Night – Monday, 10/26. Questions to be submitted on index cards the night of the event to the moderator (Women's League of Voters member). Refreshments will be served following the discussion.

High School Fair is on Thursday, 10/22 from 7-9pm. Sending districts are invited to attend the event.

The 8th Grade Car Wash will take place at Fire Co. #1 on Saturday, 10/24 from 9am-12pm.

Halloween Reminders – Friday, 10/30 students will be dismissed at 11:35am and must return by 1pm.

Thank you received from Mrs. Walsifer for overall PTA efforts. A discussion took place regarding moving the next PTA meeting to the evening rather than 8:40am. To be determined.

The next PTA Meeting will be November 18.

Meeting adjourned 9:53am.

Submitted by: Emily Snyder, Recording Secretary

