

## H.W. Mountz PTA Minutes

Monday, September 10, 2018

9:12 a.m. Call to Order

### Recording Secretary's Report

Noelle Henry reported that the August, 20 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 no correspondence was received.

### Treasurer's Report

Diane Moran reported that the Checking account balance is \$144,264 and the Savings account balance is \$4,499.08 as of 9/10/18.

In late August, but budget committee reviewed the preliminary budget for the up-coming year. We will need to vote on the budget for approval today. All high-level items were reviewed, as well as any changes from last year. Some line items that were discussed included: The Kitchen Tour, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Event, Assemblies, Beach Day, Class Parents, Community Services, Curriculum Enhancements, Mini Grants, School Climate/Spirit, STEM Maker Stations. Last year's surplus was \$30,000 - we talked with the school regarding a joint library renovation or another big-ticket item we can work on with the school and BOE.

Eileen Lin stated that anything over \$1,000 needs to be voted on. Mrs. Mawn requested a vote for Staff Appreciation Gift Cards, \$50 cards for all staff members, \$3000 total. A **MOTION** was made to add this as a line item for the current year only, motion seconded and **APPROVED**, with all in favor.

Eileen Lin asked if there were any other questions or comments about the budget. Diane Moran advised we can go through an analysis of where the PTA stands against the approved budget at every meeting, so that the members know exactly where we stand. A **MOTION** was made to pass this year's budget, motion seconded and **APPROVED**, with all in favor.

### Kitchen Tour (Nicole Behler)

- The Kitchen Tour will be held on October 20, 2018, please keep your schedule open that day so you can come out and volunteer. We are looking for 100% parent participation this year and there are so many ways to volunteer, before, the day of and even after for clean up.
- Over 750 tickets have been sold, we expect to sell out soon.
- 5 houses have been confirmed and are already sponsored.
- Please reach out to new families and let them know all the ways they can help volunteer. Karen Matuch will send an email to all class parents to email each class to get volunteers.

- There will be a brief Kitchen Tour meeting immediately following this meeting for all committee heads.

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

Thank you to the PTA for the Back to School Breakfast, Balloons for the 1<sup>st</sup> Day of School and for Beach Day.

- Tomorrow will be our annual Patriots Day Celebration, please wear red, white and blue. Police and fire officials will join our ceremony.
- Back to School night will be next week, Pre-K to 5 September 18<sup>th</sup> 6:45, 6,7 and 8 September 19<sup>th</sup> 6:45.
- Every Friday ,Tiger News will be sent out. Any submissions for Tiger News is due to Mrs. Cory by Wednesday of that week.
- Educationally, tonight at the BOE meeting, we will discuss the curriculum which is always up to date on the website. We are moving away from benchmark exams and will move to 3 unit exams for major projects, 5 quizzes on smaller projects and 2 learning lab endeavors.
- We are looking forward to the Kitchen Tour.
- We would like to schedule a meeting to discuss the library renovation with Mrs. Krebs, Mrs. Callahan, Mrs. Roberts, Mrs. Lin, Mrs. Moran and our new Business Administrator.
- PARCC reports were received and mailed out to all families this week.
- Mrs. Lynch requested an update on safety and security - Dr. Boccuti advised there is a to-do list with certain items toping that list. These include glazing the windows (Chief Kerr's #1 item), making the Front Door safer (Dr. Boccuti's #1 item). The Architect will go over each item at tonight's BOE meeting. The new intercom system is up and running throughout the school, outside and in the gym. The new visitor management system is up and running. The Sherrif's office has requested all Monmouth county schools be Geomapped. This was approved at the last BOE meeting and costs approximately \$4,000. All school grounds will be geomapped so that if there is a crisis, first responders will have the floorplan and will know where the crisis is. Police Chief Kerr is on board and has requested both Mountz and St. Catharine's start this process. Plans were sent to begin this process the day after BOE approval. Another item on the list is a One Button Notification System, some parents feel this should be a priority. Another safety measure would be adding potted plants in front of the school/along Tuttle Avenue to avoid car accidents. Mrs. Dawson asked if glazing the windows would mean that the windows must be closed at all times and asked for an update on air conditioning the entire school. Dr. Boccuti advised that would need to be addressed. Mrs. Lynch asked what the Architect is responsible for. Dr. Boccuti advised an overall strategic plan including AC, solar paneling the roof, a new roof, safety. Tonight at the BOE meeting we will discuss these and address what needs to be taken care of first. Mrs. Monello addressed her concern that air conditioning the school affects the safety of students and teachers and needs to be addressed. Mrs. Foy made comments on pricing for a 911

button notification system. Mrs. Dawson suggested including her husband, former police chief, to help with the 911 system.

- Mr. Marzullo requested Dr. Boccuti to elaborate on the 2 room closures due to water damage and asked if there are any mold issues. Dr. Boccuti advised Mr. Tonzola and Ms. Kinsella's rooms received water damage. We hired a company to test the rooms and air quality and anything else. The science room is ok, but the Spanish closet is still being repaired. It is a water intrusion problem, not mold.

## **Committee Updates**

### **Staff Appreciation** (John Stickle)

- Eileen Lin thanked John Stickle for providing the teachers and staff with a back to school staff appreciation lunch.

### **Board of Ed** (Kiernan DiFeo)

- Eileen Lin asked John Clark to give an update on the BOE. John advised the last meeting ran well past midnight and if anyone has any questions or concerns for the BOE, he will present them to the BOE.
- Mrs. DiFeo advised 3 qualified candidates were interviewed for the open seat on the BOE, but the BOE could not come up with a consensus and the county super-intendant will now come in to make the decision. Any qualified candidate can apply, including the 3 original candidates. Board seat will run for approval in November, there are 3 positions, to be sworn in in January.
- A new math teacher has been hired for middle school.
- If you are interested in joining this committee, please let us know. It is nice to have parent participation and you will learn a lot from attending the BOE meetings.

### **Beach Day** (Marie Reed)

- Beach Day was a huge success with over 100 people in attendance! Thank you to Marie Reed, Jen and Steve Breen and all who volunteered!

### **Enrichment** (Eileen Lin and Oyuna Marcello)

- Enrichment will begin the week of September 24<sup>th</sup>. Please sign up through [Eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com)
  - Monday Art and Chess
  - Thursday Science

## **Committee Chair Updates**

- **Board of Ed Liaison** (Kiernan DiFeo)
- **Giving Tree** (Kerry Talucci)
- **Book Fair** (Gina Lu)
- **Library** (Sarah Hunt)
- **Scholarships** (Christina Galvin)

- **Art Gallery** (Committee Chair Needed)

#### **Announcements**

- Back to School Night will be September 18 for Pre-K through 5<sup>th</sup> grade and September 19<sup>th</sup> for 6 through 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Both will be from 6:45-8:00 pm.
- Picture Day will be September 18<sup>th</sup>.
- Next PTA meeting will be Monday, October 1<sup>st</sup> at 9:00. (PTA meetings will be held the first Monday of the month).

Meeting adjourned at 10:08 a.m.

Submitted by: Noelle Henry, Recording Secretary