

## H.W. Mountz PTA Minutes

Wednesday, November 18, 2015

7:06 pm Call to Order

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

Corresponding Secretary: Thank you received from Karen Dettlinger for approval of grants. Thank you received from the Sterling Family for welcoming their new baby, Stefan. Thank you received from Jessica Ressa for the Kitchen Tour gift.

Treasurer's Report: As of 11/18/2015 the checking account balance is \$147,749 and the savings account balance is \$4497.75.

Mrs. Walsifer's Report: No Report at this time.

BOE Liaison Update:

- Mrs. Valori gave an update to the PTA with regard to the superintendent search.
- The search is in the final stages and the BOE is currently checking references of the final candidates. The NJ School Boards Association has been vital to the search process. Candidate is still expected to start in early 2016.
- The BOE has been approached by the state, and accepted, a free energy audit. The Board will decide which proposals to accept and when to commence work.
- November 30- next BOE meeting. Voting and acceptance of the Blue Ribbon Award will take place.

Committee Updates

Book Fair – Dates will be December 7-10. Jessica Ressa (chair) asks for volunteers.

Holiday Gift Fair – Will take place on Friday, December 4. Jessica Rehill (co-chair) spoke asking for parent volunteers and advised the PTA that the committee has outsourced to a company for the purchasing of gifts.

Giving Tree – Mrs. Petrosini is the chair of this committee. The Tree will benefit the following:

- 3 families at Mt. Carmel School, Asbury Park.
- Gift Cards for Ocean of Love, Toms River
- Jersey Shore Dream Center, Neptune
- The tree will be up next week; deadline for gift return is 12/14.

Class Parents - Mrs. Flaherty asked the committee to please remind parents to remember their teachers and paraprofessionals during the Holiday Season.

PTA Committee Chair's needed for 2016: Membership, Enrichment, Giving Tree, and Blood Drive.

-Mrs. Panzini volunteered to chair the Blood Drive for the 2016-2017 school year.

Kitchen Tour Chairs needed for 2016: Mrs. Grigg reported the following positions will need to be filled:

-Website, Decorators, Social Media, On-line Ticket Sales (assist in 2016, take over in 2017), Restaurants (assist in 2016, take over in 2017), Local Marketing.

-Please see PTA website for full descriptions of each position.

Mother-Son Outing: Mrs. Winn and Mrs. Panzini (co-chairs) spoke.

-Sunday, April 10 from 4-7pm at the Spring Lake Golf Club.

-Cost: \$50/adult and \$20/child (in line with the "Someone Special Dance").

-Includes food, DJ, photo booth and other "surprises".

Old Business

-PTA-sponsored BOE "Meet the Candidates Night".

- October 26

-PTA thanks the 3 candidates for their time, Women's League of Voters who moderated and all who attended.

New Business

Mrs. Gresh presented to the PTA the "Stand Up Kids" Initiative. Funds requested for this initiative. A two part presentation commenced. The following were discussed:

Indoor Recess Improvements:

-The following activities were discussed for approval and funding for both the Library and APR for use during inclement weather: Ping pong tables, Wii, Stand-Up Activity tables, Lego Table, Art station, and the restocking of cabinets with new time-appropriate games.

-Electronics purchased are refurbished.

-These improvements will amount to \$1800.

Stand Up Desk Pilot Program:

-Mrs. Gresh presented to the PTA the need for the program, citing sedentary lifestyle of students during the school day among other health concerns. Statistics came from Texas A&M, Oxford University and Mayo Clinic.

-Mrs. Walsifer requests a first, second and third grade pilot program, making use of 30 stand-up desks. \$9800 is being requested from the PTA for the pilot program.

-Comments made by Mrs. Schiavone praising the program and citing its coverage on NBC nightly news.

-Question raised if the pilot program will be a true test of the effectiveness of the overall program; desks will be given to students based on need.

-Question raised if desks went out to bid to multiple vendors; All vendors approached to date are firm on price: 225 desks will cost \$44,000.

- Question raised if both teachers and students are amenable to the proposed initiative; Mrs. Gresh discussed that the primary school teachers expressed interest and a population of students were approached and expressed the same interest.
- A comment was made that the purpose of the pilot program will be to gauge how our students will respond to the full program being implemented.
- Mrs. Walsifer requests to share additional information regarding “Stand up Kids” with the PTA at a later meeting.
- A discussion took place as to which other Mountz organizations will be funding the program in its entirety (ie. possibly the BOE). The PTA would need to get a commitment before moving forward.
- A comment was made to have the school Business Admin. obtain quotes from multiple vendors for the desks.
- A discussion took place regarding having parents assist teachers during recess to aid in the implementation of the indoor recess improvements. Questions raised regarding the legality of this.
- A question was raised as to how the implementation of the stand-up desk pilot would be evaluated.
- A comment was made that state aid could possibly help finance this initiative. Blue Ribbon status may aid in this.

A MOTION was made for up to \$1800 for Indoor Recess Improvements. MOTION passed.

A tentative date for Wednesday, December 2 for Mrs. Walsifer to address the PTA regarding the “Stand Up Kids” initiative.

Meeting adjourned 8:18 pm.

Submitted by: Emily Snyder, Recording Secretary