

Abbey Lane PTA Meeting Minutes

September 30, 2015

Call to order by Dawn Marmo at 7:05pm, Quorum present. Welcome to all, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

I. **President's Report:** Dawn Marmo

Dawn welcomed everyone to the first PTA meeting of the school year and introduced herself and gave some background about herself and her connection to Abbey Lane. Dawn then had the rest of the Executive Board introduce themselves. Mrs. Dionisio was introduced as our 4th VP which is our teacher liaison, Mrs. Dionisio will work in collaboration with the staff and the PTA. Dawn thanked the custodial staff and everyone who volunteered, attended, and planned the Back to School BBQ. The BBQ is not a fundraiser, we collected money for the setup of the event. It was a huge success! We were given back 25% of the profits from Richie's ice cream which was \$105 and Kona Ice which was \$270. Dawn announced that November 20th will be a half day for afternoon parent teacher conferences and November 23rd there will be no school and there will be evening parent teacher conferences. A connect Ed message will be sent out in November. The October PTA meeting is being moved from October 20th to October 27th at 7:00 pm.

II. **Recording Secretary: Approval of minutes**

Minutes from May 26, 2015 were presented at the meeting for review. Motion by Jenny DeMeo to approve the minutes 1st Beth Lyons 2nd Mrs Swanson. Minutes were approved and to be filed as written.

III. **1st VP Report:** Reported by Amy Hoffmann

Amy introduced herself and explained that she will be overseeing fundraising events. The money we make goes towards Cultural Arts, PARP, Field Day, Back to School BBQ, and much more wonderful things for the kids. Our first fundraiser of the year was School kits which we sold 199 and they were picked up on August 27th. School kits provides supplies that the teachers' request. They also offer other products such as backpacks and water bottles. Thank you Jenny DeMeo for chairing this fundraiser and we will be selling kits again in the spring. Kid Stuff books were sent home the first day of school, Jenny DeMeo reported that over 150 books were sold as of today. Prestige gift wrap samples are available for you to see and Beth Lyons who is chairing this fundraiser will be collecting orders through Oct 5th. Upcoming fundraisers are pictures

on October 1st picture retakes will be on Nov 24th, Gingerbread House sale from October 13th- Nov 6th, and our vendor fair that is on Nov 20th. We are looking for vendors, each table is \$25 and a donation towards our annual fundraiser that will be raffled off. Our 13th annual fundraiser will be on March 11, 2016 at Verdi's.

IV. **2nd VP Report:** Reported by Jennifer Banfich

Jennifer reported that the 5th grade parents had their meeting at 6:30 and they started discussing the plans for the 5th grade. Jenn distributed a flyer to the parents about what they need to start gathering. 5th grade packet will go home soon.

V. **Treasurers Report:** Reported by Tina Bodkin

Tina reported that the books were audited over the summer. The July through August books were reviewed and found to be in good standing by Beth Lyons. A motion was made to approve the report 1st Sue Harrington 2nd Frank Marmo. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried. The treasurer's report was distributed for the period of September 1st-September 27th and reviewed by Anne Holt a motion was made to approve the report 1st Trinity Galarza 2nd Beth Lyons. All in Favor, none opposed, motion carried. The proposed 2015-2016 budget was distributed and presented, a motion was made to approve the proposed budget- 1st Beth Lyons and 2nd Jennifer Banfich. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried. Refer to the filed budgets and the proposed budget report for exact figures. Pay Pal is up and running, you can pay for certain things on the website and we also have a mobile swiper. We pay fees for PayPal so there may be an additional fee when using PayPal. If you pay for your membership through pay pal then there will be no fees incurred.

VI. **Principal's Report**

Welcome to all the new parents. Dr. Maurer encouraged the members to keep coming to the meetings and to try and get involved. Abbey Lane is a family orientated atmosphere with teachers that are caring, love their profession, and support the PTA. Back to school night was well attended and if anybody couldn't attend feel free to reach out to the teachers. First student council meeting is tomorrow October 1st. Fire Prevention Week is the first week in October and the Boo Party will be at the end of October where students can wear their costumes. LEADD week will be coming the week of October 19th and will finish with a parade and fair at Memorial. Some trips that are coming up is: Kindergarten is going to Schmitt's farms and 2nd grade is going to visit the library. A question was asked about why the Greenkill 5th grade trip was moved. Dr. Maurer responded that the district rotates when the students go to Greenkill since there are several Elementary schools that go. He briefly described

some activities that Greenkill offers in the winter months. Dr. Maurer explained that his door is always open for questions or concerns.

VII. Special Committees

- **Reflections**- Jennifer Pirozzi- The theme this year is “Let your Imagination Fly”. More information will come home with your child and Jenn is looking for help when needed
- **LEADD Week**- Still need a Chairperson- Dr. Maurer explained that Mrs. Grant and the staff will focus on making positive choices, an example is nutrition. The culminating event will be the LEADD week walk and fair at memorial on Oct 25th. Students are welcome to wear their Halloween costumes.
- **Boo Party**- Linda Savage is planning the party for Oct 30th. She plans to have a meeting the first week in October with her volunteers. She is planning on having games, DJ, and other fun activities.
- **Apparel**- Sue Harrington is the chair this year. She has samples to see and has sold a lot already. She reported that we have sold over \$2600 in apparel and have many new items that can be ordered.
- **BJ's** – Jennifer Banfich- BJ's membership fundraiser will be going on through Oct 25th. We get the membership for approximately \$43 which gives a 15 month membership. For new members you will also receive a \$50 gift card from Restaurant.com.
- **13th Annual Fundraiser**- Dawn Marmo and Amy Hoffmann
The fundraiser will be on March 11th, 2016 at Verdi's, the theme will be “treat yourself to a night out”. Thank you to Emily Leary for making a beautiful save the date flyer. Bring everybody, this event is not limited to Abbey Families.
- **Vendor Fair**- Amy Hoffmann – Nov 20th at Levittown Hall from 6-10pm. Looking for vendors at \$25 per table and a donation towards our fundraiser that will be raffled off.

VIII. Standing Committees

- **Nominating** – Amy Hoffmann (Chair) Dawn explained that this is one of the most important committees because it determines who will be on the Executive Board next year. We have 3 Executive Committee members which are Samantha Stanley, Amy Hoffmann, and Jenny DeMeo. We need two committee members from the general membership. Three members volunteered which are Sue Harrington, Lori Edvabsky, and Susanne Gallina. Since there are three

volunteers we will have a vote on Oct 27th to determine which 2 will be on the committee.

- **Membership**- Samantha Stanley- Samantha will be doing membership throughout the school year and will also be making the monthly calendars. Membership cards are being e-mailed to everyone this year. Levittownschools.com e-mails are having trouble getting their cards, Dr. Maurer is working something out. We are using the theme “Get the Scoop” there is an ongoing contest within the grades. Whichever grade has the most membership will get an ice cream party at the end of the year. As of September 30th we have 228 members and 48 of them are teachers. The percentages as of today are Kindergarten- 62%, 1st grade- 30%, 2nd grade- 46%, 3rd grade- 26%, 4th grade- 34%, and 4th grade-47%.
- **Cultural Arts**- Beth DiCaprio and Lori Edvabsky will be chairing cultural arts for the school year. The first cultural Arts program will be The American Indians on Oct 13th and 14th for the 4th grade. Mrs. Dionisio will work in collaboration with Beth and Lori to bring different programs to each grade throughout the year.
- **Auditing Committee** – Dominick DeMeo will be chairing the Audit Committee and we are looking for volunteers to be on the committee.

IX. **New Business**

- We still need Chairs for committees at the district office. We need a chair for each of the following committees: SEPTA and Wellness. Dawn explained what this position requires. Jenny DeMeo will be doing food service and Linda Savage will be chairing the transportation position. We are also looking for chairs and a committee for PARP and Box Tops which goes towards our music program.
- **PTA Council**
Dr. McDonald is trying to have an event that will help unite the community. The PTA Council has planned a Jets vs Jacksonville Jaguars game on Nov 8th, flyers went home. The PTA Council also has information on their Facebook page, so like their page to see news and updates.
- **Tents**
Dawn Marmo made a motion to purchase 3 pop up tents to not exceed a total of \$300.00. She explained that during the BBQ it would have been helpful to the volunteers that were barbequing to get out of the sun for a little while. The tents will be beneficial for all events that are outside including but not limited

to the BBQ and field day. 1st by Dawn Marmo, 2nd by Samantha Stanley, all in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

- **Rear Projection Screen**

Dawn Marmo and Dr. Maurer explained that if we purchased a rear projection screen that it would benefit all students. This would allow us to have movie nights outside in the courtyard. The school already has a projector so only a screen is needed. The cost would be about \$1000.00- \$1500.00. The money would be taken from the family fun line of the budget. Dawn Marmo made a motion to purchase a Rear Projection Screen to not exceed \$1500.00. There was some discussion on using the money for more cultural Arts, Tina Bodkin explained that we must spend the money that we bring in from the fundraisers and that we do have the funds to purchase this piece of equipment. Marie Adams also encouraged members to bring us any ideas that they have. The members then voted 1st by Linda Savage and 2nd by Beth Lyons, All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

- **Delegates**

We need one more member to be a delegate for the year, we have one spot available. Kathleen Pederick was the only volunteer. Membership voted 1st by Beth DiCaprio and 2nd by Samantha Stanley. All in favor, none opposed, Kathleen is the new delegate.

- **Facebook-**

A question from a member came up about the heat problem in the school and something that was mentioned on Facebook about getting Air Conditioning. Dr. Maurer explained that this is a question that can be asked at a board meeting. He briefly explained that the building is 65 years old and that the electric in the building may not be able to support it. Dawn Marmo also reminded the members that the only Facebook page that the PTA uses is Abbey Lane PTA page. None of the other similar pages comes from the PTA.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:15pm by Dawn Marmo

Minutes submitted by: Jenny DeMeo – Recording Secretary

