

Abbey Lane PTA Meeting Minutes

January 19, 2016

Meeting Called to order by Dawn Marmo at 7:06pm, Quorum present. Welcome to all followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

I. **Presidents Report**- Dawn Marmo

Welcome back after the holidays. Dawn thanked everyone for donations for adopt a family, we raised \$50 towards helping a family in our district. Teachers in the school also bought items for families in the district, the district was able to help 204 families in Levittown. Traffic concerns have been heard and a traffic study is underway.

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

Minutes from November 17, 2016 were presented at the meeting for review. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Jenny DeMeo, 1st Kathleen Pederick, 2nd Cheryl Radecker-Denecke. Minutes were approved and filed as written.

III. **Treasurers Report**: Tina Bodkin

The Treasurers report was presented and distributed for review. Tina Bodkin went over the books beginning and ending balances, please refer to the report for the exact numbers. The books were reviewed by Marc Herschmann and were found to be in good order.

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

The Vendor Fair went well and we received many good donations towards the annual fundraiser and raised \$800. Amy reported how much the PTA raised from each fundraiser. Governors \$285, Gingerbread Houses \$751, Book Fair \$1767, Entenmann's \$168, Poinsettias \$163.50, and Secret Store \$1938. Overall we did very well and raised a good amount of money. Miss chocolate snack fundraiser will be sent home soon and it will run from Feb 8th through Feb 24th.

V. **2nd VP Report**- Jennifer Banfich

5th grade T-shirts are about to be ordered. Jen will be planning a meeting to discuss the Social and the 5th grade picnic. Thank you again to Emily Leary for all her hard work.

VI. 3rd VP Report

- No Report

VII. Corresponding Secretary: Marie Adams

Marie reported that we received a thank you from The Regan family for our sympathy card that we sent after the death of BOE member Mr. Regan. The Blood drive went well, 18 people attempted to give blood and 16 were successfully able to donate which means we potentially saved 16 lives through our blood drive. Thank you to Linda Savage and Melinda Carbonell for helping with the Blood Drive.

VIII. Delegates: Beth DiCaprio

Beth went to a council meeting and she reported that there will be changes in the Algebra Curriculum. There was much discussion on restoring the 1/3 of the money from the state that we may or may not get back. 4th graders going into 5th grade will have a summer reading along with 6-8th graders. Feb 26th is the deadline for nominations for PTA Council.

IX. Special Committees:

a. PARP: Jennifer Banfich

Thank you to Mrs. Swint and Mrs. Pignataro for leading PARP this year. The Theme is "Reading is out of this World". We have about 100 kids that plan on attending "Kick off night". This year PARP "kick off night" will be different, there will be 2 different sessions one for grades K-2 and one for 3-5. There will be 3 stations, read aloud station, craft station, and an opportunity to go to the book fair.

b. Reflections: Jen Pirozzi

21 students submitted a reflections essay and 2 students were chosen as the winners, Noah Carbonell and Maura Yodice. At the next PTA meeting all students will be recognized.

c. Box Tops- Linda Savage

We currently have 364 box tops we are trying to get more for the upcoming deadline. We have to turn them in in March and the November. We can still collect them and hand the next batch in November. Cheryl suggested we do it by class in September.

d. Bylaws: Reported by Dawn Marmo

The PTA Bylaws are going to expire and need to be renewed. We have reviewed the bylaws and are not making any changes. Dawn made a motion to approve the bylaws to be written as is with no changes, 1st Kathleen Pederick, 2nd Lynn Dionisio.

e. 13th Annual Fundraiser:

A reminder flyer will go home soon and purchasing of tickets is ongoing. We had 45 people that paid during the early bird period of time. The winner for the early bird is Mrs. Connor and she will receive \$100 gift card. We received a nice thank you note from Mrs. DiPalo about the wonderful time she had at the Four seasons which she won at our fundraiser from last year. We still need help with soliciting for donations.

f. Apparel- Sue Harrington

Winter Apparel flyer will be going home soon. There will be some apparel and Bling Apparel that will be sold at PARP Kick off night.

g. Family Fun- Greg Bodkin

Upcoming events:

- Knicks game, April 10th \$50.00 included pre game passes and a shoot around that is not open to the public
- Mets game, April 29th (Tentative Date) \$48.00 and a \$20 food credit with each ticket
- Ducks game, May 28th (Tentative Date) \$10.00 Firework show following the game.

X. Standing Committees:

a. Cultural Arts- Beth DiCaprio

Curriculaughts went well and the children seemed to enjoy. We should be getting \$45 from the sale of the books. The Mad Science program came and visited with 1st grade and did a fire and ice program and 2nd grade had a workshop where they made homemade slime. February 10th "It's Prismatic Magic-laser Reader" cultural Arts program is coming to the school for PARP. March 9th Lee Knight is visiting the school and she will be focusing on math songs for the 1st grade and

Dr. Seuss for the Kindergarteners. Lastly, March 30th Storyfaces will be returning to our school for a presentation.

b. Membership- Samantha Stanley

Membership as of today is K-62%, 1-31%, 2-50%, 3-29%, 4-35%, 5-56%

A Membership form will be sent home soon to try to encourage more families to join the PTA.

c. Nominating Committee

Nominations for next year's board is due by Feb 26th

The committee members are Amy Hoffmann, Jenny DeMeo, Samantha Stanley, Sue Gallina, and Sue Harrington. They will be meeting after Feb 26th to review the nominations. All envelopes will be sealed and opened at their meeting.

XI. Liaison Reports

a. SEPTA- Cheryl Radecker-Deneck

At the next meeting on Jan 25th there will be a speaker talking about Alternate Housing options. On March 14th a blogger named "Autism Daddy" will be speaking at the meeting.

b. Elementary Curriculum- Jenny DeMeo

Jenny reported that the NYS ELA exam will be slightly shorter this year, they may be taking one passage out. The NYS Common Core task force has released recommendations to look at when reviewing the common core standards. The Results from the NYS ELA and Math tests will not be used to evaluate teachers, administrators, and students until the year 2020. Teacher evaluations will be based on observations.

c. Food Service- Jenny DeMeo

The kitchen at Abbey Lane is in good condition and the lunchroom is running well. Dawn mentioned that some parents are concerned about the utensils being wrapped in the plastic package. Jenny received complaints from 2 parents about the kitchen running out of alternate lunch options. Jenny will bring these concerns back to the food service meeting and see if these issues can be rectified.

XII. Principals Report

Dr. Maurer thanked everyone for their fundraising so we could have all the wonderful Cultural Arts Events in the school. Greenkill scheduling will be rotated between schools. This year Abbey is going in March and there are many fun things to do there in the winter. Teachers will use the remind app where they can keep parents updated to how the trip is going. Gator Games is a new program where students and parents come and play games that help develop team building. This program has been successful thus far. We are having a spelling bee on the 22nd. Spirit Club and Chess Club are starting up soon. A mentor program started up and Big Bids program that is meant for 1st grade students. The Abbey News is going well; the green screen has arrived. There has been 7 episodes so far and 6 of them are available to see online on the Levittown Website at the Media Center. There has been some talk of parents opting their children out of the NWEA testing, you cannot opt your child out of this test.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:02pm by Dawn Marmo

Minutes submitted by: Jenny DeMeo- Recording Secretary