

**Division Avenue High School PTSA
General Membership Meeting Minutes
February 4, 2013**

Call to order by Mary Rickard 7:30pm. Pledge, quorum. Welcome BOE member Peggy Marengi. Lisa Curran is unable to attend tonight's meeting due to illness.

Presidents Report: Mary Rickard- At the President/Superintendent meeting several different topics were discussed. The '13-'14 School Calendar is in the process of being finalized. Regents week was pushed back so the last day of school will now be June 26th. Start date and vacations are still in the process of being decided. The district will make their recommendations to the board this month; Cafeteria Renovations- Division bids were opened and the district is looking for approval at the Feb 13th BOE meeting; new security procedures are ongoing. You must present ID in every building, every time. Also you must sign in AND sign out. It is important to sign out so that building personnel knows that you are no longer in the building in case of emergency; there has been some press about districts eliminating the 9 period day to help with their budgets. Dr. Grossane has assured that the district is planning on presenting a same services budget to the Board this year; every classroom district wide should now have 2 screened windows and the district is working on putting in a 3rd in each room; there have been some questions and concerns with regard to guidance and scheduling. There are some inconsistencies and confusion. Dr. Grossane is going to look into the exact procedure that should be followed and confirm that it is all happening the way it is supposed to be.

Executive Committee Reports

1st VP- Laura Brown- Waiting on date for Islander Game to be settled, due to strike the original date/game no longer exists. Flip Flops, the company promised that they would be delivered this week. Jeans for Teens is a collection going on until February 8th. We are collecting all brands, all sizes of good condition jeans for homeless teens. Laura needs to drop them off at the Aeropostale store by Sunday. Report on file.

2nd VP- Lynn Petrofsky- 383 members to date- 183 parents, 131 students, 66 faculty/staff and 3 community members. Need a push to get the remaining staff to join. Maybe offer a bagel breakfast to those that are members. Lynn will send Mr. Sagistano membership flyer and signs will be placed in the teacher lounge and mailboxes by Lynn.

3rd VP- Mr. Sagistano- will contact staff/faculty members that have not yet joined the PTSA.

Recording Secretary- Diane McPartland- minutes of the January 7, 2013 General Meeting approved as presented.

Corresponding Secretary- Patricia Genco- please let Patty know if you have changed your email address.

Treasury- Tom Huber- General Fund- opening balance on 12/1/12 \$5,334.47, expenses \$250.00, closing balance on 2/2/13 \$5084.47. Senior Award fund opening balance on 12/1/12 \$1,802.33, expenses \$402.11, income \$170.00, closing balance on 1/29/13 \$1,570.22. Report filed for audit. Tom will provide a line by line balance sheet at the next General Membership meeting.

Council Delegate- Liz Kirk- when having book fair at a school do not give the vendor a resale slip or tax exempt report. Units must collect tax and make a tax payment to the state. Debbie Rifkin reviewed new security measures in each of the buildings. Alan Levin from Chartwells was the guest speaker. He reviewed many of the USDA regulations and forthcoming changes. My Healthy Thing is the new vending machine company. LEADD walk and fair will be on April 7th at 10:30am. Fair starts at 11am and the theme is "LEADD with Dignity." Reflections awards and certificates were awarded to many of the district students over the past few weeks. Swirls & Twirls gave council \$700 for a fundraising event. A motion was approved to apply the funds to the Senior Award fund. Report on file.

Student Liaison- 9th grade- James Lunetta- Science Olympiad regional competition at Kellenberg HS was held. 74 teams competed in 22 events testing their knowledge in biology, physics, chemistry, ecology,

earth science and more. Division performed well placing 7th out of 74 teams and earning a place in the state competition on March 8th and 9th. Medals were taken home in 10 categories and 4 gold medals in Elastic Launch Glider, Geologic Mapping, Maglev and Gravity Vehicle were received. Division also won the spirit award. Report on file.

Principals Report- Dr. Ianni- DECCA has moved onto the state level. All Division participants are going to the state competition. 16 qualified for the Wrestling County competition at Hofstra; Girls basketball team is undefeated and conference champions; December citizens of the month were announced; the 3rd quarter has started; cheerleading is moving onto the National competition.

Standing Committee Reports

Audit- Angela List- the committee met and reviewed the books from Oct 1, 2012 to December 31, 2012. Recommendations were shared with the unit and the report is on file.

Hospitality- Donna Papa- we will be hosting council on Feb 14th volunteers are needed to make food.

Legislation- Diane McPartland- reviewed the Mandate Relief Council actions and the rationale. Leg/Ed conference is in Albany March 16-17th Diane will be unable to attend.

SEPTA-Liz Kirk- Tracy Von Eschen reviewed the different types of graduation diplomas/certificates that Special Education children can receive. 2013 is the last year the IEP Diploma will be issued. Common Core and the Special Education programs were reviewed. Jeffrey Aiello went over the new "Challenger Athletics Program which offers students with special needs the opportunity to be part of a school sports team and to compete against neighboring districts. Dr. Andre Adesman was the guest speaker and shared topics of ADHS. He covered core interventions and focused on educational intervention and the importance of positive reinforcements. Next meeting is 2/25 at LMEC. Report on file.

Special Committees

Division Avenue Sweeps- Laura Brown- Items are coming in every day. Not on the printed list we have are items from: Cleo Nails, Tilly's Clothing, AMC Theatre, Kao Brands (makers of John Frieda, Jergens, Curel, Biore products). Also Boulder Creek called today to state they were mailing a gift card. If you have any items to donate, please let Laura know soon so that she can have a master list prepared ahead of time so people can plan how many items they need to have raffles for. Any new or unused items, gift cards etc. will be accepted. Even if it is a small gift card, it makes a great addition to a prize. The baskets will be out several hours before the Bingo event, so anyone can come and take a chance on them. For the Bingo prizes we set aside dozens of baskets and gift cards not part of the auction. There will be prizes for all ages, so please feel free to bring younger students, but they must be accompanied at all times. The Senior Class has donated two prom bids for us, but this year the mandatory pre-prom workshop is after the Sweeps event takes place. Last year they were auctioned the evening of the workshop and this will be done again this year. It was very successful and profitable for the Senior Award fund. Table reservations are going well and are still available. Volunteers are needed to assist the night of the event please contact Laura Brown or Patricia Genco if interested. Report on file.

Nominating- Mary Rickard- Angela List will send out an email on the slate for next year once the committee has met.

Senior Awards- Mary Rickard- applications are in the Guidance office and online. Deadline is May 3rd.

Staff Appreciation- folder is needed from Lisa Curran.

Youth Issues- Lyndsey Petrofsky- would the unit like her to do actual presentation or just articles for FB & website. Lisa and Mary will meet to decide and speak with Lyndsey.

Liaison Reports

Council Budget- Peter Calabrese- reviewed items being presented at the meetings: security guards from 6-10pm; aides in HS and the salaries; cost of security' use of 9 period day and the curriculum requirements; bringing librarians back. Committee is awaiting answers from Mark Flower and will reschedule a meeting.

Elementary Curriculum- Angela List- District is a little ahead of the curve with the new 2-5 report cards- other districts are looking into common core aligned report cards and are asking for ours as a template. District realized grade ranges should not be in 2-5 report card parent handbook and will be removed for the 13/14 school year. Report card committee will be coming together again in the next couple weeks to look at other ways to make report card more friendly and working on k-1. Science standards for K-12 will be changing, the State dept of Ed released a draft on 1-8-although did not specify date of implementation. Strategic Committee will be formed to come up with a 5 year plan for the district – 3 full days in Feb-form action teams to research best practices and they will come back at the end of the year with recommendation. As a side note-this has been postponed until June. Next meeting is Thursday February 28th

Dollars for Scholars- Diane McPartland- next meeting is 3/18.

Health Safety & Environment- next meeting on 2/5. Rep is needed.

Old Business

Debra Howe- parking lot issues- cones are on order; pot hole- caused after resurfacing is outside of back gate, who is responsible for repairs? Signage for back gate stating Division Avenue HS since some think it is Summit.

New Business

Syntax- is a PR firm hired by the district. All district articles go through them. PTA/PTSA articles to not go through Syntax.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15pm by Mary Rickard.

Minutes submitted by Diane McPartland