

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

Call to order by Lisa Curran 7:30pm. Pledge, quorum. Welcome BOE members Peter Porrazzo and Ed Powers.

Nominating Committee Report- Lisa Curran asked Angela List Nominating Committee Chair to present the proposed slate of officers for 2013-2014. President- Mary Rickard, 1st VP- Laura Brown, 2nd VP- Lynn Petrofsky, 3rd VP- Mr. Sagistano, Treasurer- Pat Genco, Corresponding Secretary- Amanda Smithwick, Council Delegates- Susan Maher, Donna Papa, Gaby Herbert, Debe Howe. The position of Recording Secretary is open as well as 3 Council Delegates positions. Election will be held at the April 1st meeting. Nominations from the floor will be accepted as long as there is 5 days notification before the election meeting to the nominating committee chair Angela List.

Reflections Report- Linda Borreson, Ms. Lorelli and Dr. Ianni presented certificates to finalists in the areas of Literature, Visual, Dance and Photography. One Dance finalist Demi will be going onto further judging at the state level.

Presidents Report: Lisa Curran- at the Pres./Supt. Meeting Dr. Grossane spoke on: meeting with Guidance chairs to discuss communication issues. After 9/2013 a letter will be sent home from Guidance explaining what to expect from the department for your student's grade level that year. Prior scheduling for the following year you will receive a letter about the scheduling. Budget planning session 2 is on March 20th in large Board Room at LMEC. At Division, Sweeps Night is Friday. Raffle tickets will be sold on Tues. and Weds. in the hallway during lunch periods. Thank you to Laura Brown, Pat Genco and Dani Jeffers for all their work on this event. March 19th during lunch PTSA will be hosting a Think Your Drink water give away with Chartwells. The aim is to show students alternates to high sugar drinks. Samples of flavored water with cucumber, pineapple or mint will be given out. April 16th the DAHS Chamber Choir will perform the National Anthem at the NY Islanders final home game of the season. A portion of every ticket purchased will go to the DAHS PTSA. Tickets are \$30 each.

Principal Report: Dr. Ianni will be taking a new position as Asst. Superintendent at Harborfields School District at the end of the year. He thanked the BOE, community, PTSA and students for making DAHS feel like a home. Spirit Night had a few bumps but went well overall. One student was injured and taken to the hospital but is ok. Seniors were the winners. Sport teams did well for Fall and the Spring season has begun. CD students enjoyed a night of playing sports with staff members. Ms. Lorelli ran the Trivia Contest which raised \$1,200 for St. Jude. Students of the month were announced. Hoops for Hear raised \$1,600 by the students. Dr. Ianni addressed parent questions regarding: Science Honor Society and Junior Prom.

Executive Committee Reports

1st VP- Laura Brown- Flip Flops and slides are in stock and can be purchased in the School Store. Report on file.

2nd VP- Lynn Petrofsky- 383 members to date- 183 parents, 131 students, 66 faculty/staff and 3 community members. Lynn gave Mr. Sagistano a list of those staff/teachers who have not joined the PTSA.

3rd VP- Mr. Sagistano- No report.

Recording Secretary- Diane McPartland- Minutes of the Feb. 4th meeting accepted as presented.

Corresponding Secretary- Patricia Genco- sympathy card sent to Lisa Vandeburg on the passing of her father. If a member has a new email address please let Pat know.

Treasury- Tom Huber- General Fund- opening balance on 2/2/13 \$5,084.47, expenses \$147.83, closing balance on 3/1/13 \$4,936.59. Senior Award fund opening balance on 2/2/13 \$1,570.22, expenses \$141.08, income \$90.00, closing balance on 3/1/13 \$1,519.14. Report filed for audit.

Council Delegate- Diane McPartland for Liz Kirk- course catalog is available on the district website. Request by parents to have 12th graders issued id tags to get back into the building. Cell phone text roll out will occur on 2/23/13. New adopted 2013/2014 school calendar will be online on 2/22/13. First day of classes will be on September 4th. Report on file.

Student Liaison- No Report.

Standing Committee Reports

Communications- Emma Curran- Newsletter went out a few weeks ago. Chairs are to submit monthly reports to Emma.

Hospitality- Donna Papa- thank you to those who donated items for hosting council.

Legislation- Diane McPartland- attended the Nassau Region Legislation Brunch and reported to unit that Legislators are fighting for Long Island's fair share. For many an increase in last year is still lower than 2 years ago so we are still struggling.

SEPTA-Diane McPartland for Liz Kirk- Mrs. Block a special education teacher from Salk spoke regarding an article she read about a girl named Zoe who is learning disabled and attends Vassar. She is extremely determined and makes a large chart of notes to get her through each day. Pamela Zimmer Special Needs Director at Camp Kehilla was the guest speaker. She discussed how Regular Ed students regress 2 months during the summer and most Special Ed kids regress about 5 months in the summer. Some districts have 12 month IEPs. Children with these must receive at least 30 days of instruction during the summer so that they can reach and maintain their goals. Next meeting is March 18th. Report on file.

Special Committees

ByLaws- Lynn Petrofsky- reviewed the proposed changes to the Bylaws to be voted on next month.

Officers & Election- council delegates will no longer be elected, they will be appointed. This does not affect the 2013/2014 slate. **Nominating Committee-** will consist of 5 members- 3 from the Executive Board and 2 from General Membership. Alternates if desired can be part of the procedures.

Nominating Committee- consent to run from floor will be changed to 2 business days notification. The number of days and presentation month can be included in the procedures. **Council Delegates-** to stay in line with Officers & Election they are appointed in the same way as Committee Chairs. **Executive Board-** a quorum will consist of 15.

Division Avenue Sweeps- Laura Brown- reviewed the prizes available and pricing for raffle tickets. Baskets will be kept in East Café and event will be held in the large gym. Bingo prizes have been set aside. Pat Genco- Volunteers are needed to assist the night of the event and also to donate baked or store purchased desserts. Students looking for community service are welcome. Report on file.

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

Staff Appreciation- Gabby Herbert- May 9th in the Faculty Lounge, salads and desserts.

Liaison Reports

Council Budget- Peter Calabrese-discussions included: having retired police officers as security personnel; better use of work study program in MS; charging a service charge for outside districts for refueling their busses; act on energy saving resources not just research them; replacing Bauman bus drivers with district bus drivers.

Elementary Curriculum- Angela List- Debbie Rifkin introduces Commerce Plaza which is a program for 5th graders hosted by YES Community Counseling Center in Levittown. District would like to bring all 5th grade students. Train one teacher and then turn-key training. Commerce Plaza is a simulated business community that promotes and understanding of the world of business and economics. It is a full day on site field trip in which students act as retail operators, producers of services- banker, doctor etc., which

integrate lessons learned from the 6 week in class curriculum. Engageny.org has posted a parent Tool Kit for understanding Common Core State Standards for K-5 in both ELA and Math. It can be found on the district website. Journeys Pilot Program- piloting ELA program one per elementary building. Debbie Rifkin is not yet comfortable recommending the program for all students next year although the program is going well according to the teachers using it. She would like to wait until the students take the state assessments to see how well the program is aligned with the assessment. Students in grad 2 should be using a cursive workbook. Each teacher is required to teach each letter, they do not go in great depth and it is up to the teacher discretion after 2nd grade as far as what more is taught.

Food Service- Lisa Curran- some contract changes are forthcoming due to changes from NYS and Federal level. Not sure how revenue will be impacted. New café for Division by September. Breakfast survey went out to elementary students.

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

Secondary Curriculum- Science Curriculum chair Kevin McDermot spoke about the science programs. In Middle School to get into accelerated science a student's science, math and ELA scores are taken into account. There is also a teacher recommendation. At the high school level there is a form that a student can fill out to request honors level science. Next year Chemistry will run with a lab every other day. Debe Rifkin updated on the curriculum by department, this is on the district website. The curriculum is being "scaffolding" to prepare students. The curriculum builds on itself. Report on file.

Wellness- Lisa Curran- Tony Goss is the new chair of the committee replacing Keith Snyder.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm by Lisa Curran.

Minutes submitted by Diane McPartland