

**Division Avenue High School PTSA
General Membership Meeting Minutes
April 2, 2013**

Call to order by Mary Rickard 7:40pm. Pledge, quorum. Welcome BOE members Mr. Porrazzo, Mr. Ward and Mr. Pappas

Presidents Report: Mary Rickard-Pres/Supt. Meeting- Dr. Grossane informed those in attendance that the district will receive 4.1% more in state aid than previously thought. Dr. Grossane stressed that the district strives to budget conservatively and that they will come to do so even in light of these unexpected funds. There was a district wide lockdown drill that took place recently. The district enacted a fire alarm during the lockdown to determine if the proper procedures would be followed in such an event. In a case like this, all staff and students should stay put in the appropriate lockdown location. They are not to leave the building. In the event of an actual fire emergency, the fire department will handle building evacuation. Report on file.

Executive Committee Reports

1st VP- Laura Brown- no report

2nd VP- Lynn Petrofsky- 390 members to date- 183 parents, 131 students, 73 faculty/staff and 3 community members.

3rd VP- Mr. Sagistano- No report.

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

Corresponding Secretary- Patricia Genco- membership list has been updated.

Treasury- Tom Huber- General Fund- opening balance on 3/2/13 \$4,936.59, expenses \$159.00, income \$968.83, closing balance on 4/1/13 \$5,746.42. Senior Award fund opening balance on 3/2/13 \$1,518.54, expenses \$694.26, income \$8,686.60, closing balance on 4/1/13 \$9,510.48. Monthly audit was completed by Laura Brown. Report filed for audit.

Principals Report: Dr. Ianni- DECA did very well at the state competition coming in the Top 10. Lyndsey Petrofsky reported on the medal received by the students. Jr. Prom was a success, owner of venue complimented on how well the students behaved. Science Olympiad ranked in top 6% in the state. Pre Prom workshop was well attended. Graduation- students will be spoken to about the use of beach balls during the ceremony. Letters will be sent home to the parents and there will be consequences to those students that do not follow the requirements. Sophomore and Junior scheduling for next year is in the process.

Elections: There were no nominations from the floor received. The following is the slate of officers for 2013/2014: President- Mary Rickard; 1st VP- Laura Brown; 2nd VP- Lynn Petrofsky; 3rd VP- Mr. Sagistano; Recording Secretary- OPEN; Corresponding Secretary- Amanda Smithwick; Treasurer- Pat Genco; Council Delegates- Donna Papa, Gaby Herbert, Debe Howe, Susan Maher, 3 OPEN POSITIONS. The membership voted to accept the slate of officers for the 2013/2014 school year. All open positions will be announced at each subsequent meeting until filled.

Standing Committee Reports

Youth Issues- Lyndsey Petrofsky- discussed the top ten list of issues that affect youth which includes: education disparity, shifting economy, single parent household, drug/alcohol abuse, growing up too fast, violence in schools, materialism, poverty, obesity and erosion of national pride/identity. The report will be put in the next newsletter. Report on file.

Special Committees

ByLaws- Lynn Petrofsky- unit voted to approve the proposed bylaws changes presented last month.

Division Avenue Sweeps- Laura Brown and Pat Genco- over 275 people in attendance. The event was a major success. Thank you to all who helped to make it a great night. Gym worked out great. Need more help next year with selling raffles from 6-7:00PM. The students that assisted were also very helpful and

we would love to see this continue next year. The raffle for the two prom bids donated by the Senior Class went very well also, raised another 287.00 for the fund at the Pre Prom workshop. At that time copies of the senior award applications for DAHS and Wisdom were handed out. Many parents had either no idea these existed or felt that their student was not "scholarship" worthy. The criteria was explained.

Senior Awards- Mary Rickard- applications are in the Guidance office and online. Volunteers for the selection committee are Pat Huber, Maureen Pretter and Angela List. Deadline is May 3rd.

Staff Appreciation- Gabby Herbert- May 9th in the Faculty Lounge, salads and desserts. Sign up sheet sent around.

Liaison Reports

Food Service- Lisa Curran- Thank you to Angela List for providing the meeting notes. Questions regarding new pre-payment system for lunches was reviewed. Payments from PayPal are no longer acceptable. The new program is the School Bucks. A credit card or E-check on line or cash can be sent into the school with the student are the only methods of payment. Vendor for vending machines is complaining that the machines are being unplugged or out of order signs have been placed on them during after school and evening events. The vendor is tired of losing money because of this. The district, students and parents are not happy with the products in the machines, schools are not happy with the amount of profit being made. Mark Flower suggested that the district get drink machines only and have student government groups buy and sell the product and be responsible for stocking the machines. Chartwells would then have snack machines only in the cafeteria. The vending machines will go out for rebid at the end of the year. Next year lunch requirements will continue as this year and in 2014/2015 there will be new requirements for all foods sold in schools, before and during school up until a half hour after the end of the school day. These regulations will include breakfast, lunch, a la carte offered at lunch, snacks, vending machines and fundraisers. A presentation was done at Division to show students how much sugar is in the typical beverages they drink on a daily basis (Think your Drink). Students were offered flavored water in place of sugary drinks. This was a great success. Next meeting is April 17th. Report on file.

Dollars for Scholars- Diane McPartland- the organization has voted to dissolve under the Scholarship America umbrella and start anew as a community scholarship program for Division and Macarthur students. More information will be forthcoming.

Wellness- Lisa Curran- Tony Goss is the new chair of the committee will be planning a meeting for April.

Guest Speaker- Mr. Lipani- shared a powerpoint with the membership discussing the tax cap and what is actually means to Levittown. The 2% cap started in 2012 and remains in effect until 2016. Tied to a law that regulates rent control. When homeowners challenge their taxes and the assessments are lowered, the district must absorb that loss of funds. Testing was discussed- if the district opts out on state testing then state aid is lost. For every \$1.00 sent to Albany from LI, we get 23 cents back. A petition regarding the amount of testing the students are faced with will be sent out from the corresponding secretary to the membership. Report on file.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00pm by Mary Rickard.

Minutes submitted by Diane McPartland