

**DIVISION AVENUE HIGH SCHOOL PTSA
MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 6, 2017**

Meeting Called to Order at 7:45 p.m.

Pledge

Examination of Minutes—Minutes filed as written.

Treasurer's Report—General Fund: Opening Balance--\$3,853.69, Expenses--\$64.00, Income--\$287.86, Closing Balance--\$4,077.55. (voided check was uncashed by NYS PTA). Senior Award Fund: Opening Balance--\$5,817.68, Expenses--\$801.15, Income--\$1,521.00, Closing Balance--\$6,537.53. Dawn Hanley reconciled November – January books and all were found to be in order.

President's Report—Busy month setting up fundraising. So far we have scheduled Chipotle, Calda and Firehouse Subs. Waiting for flyer on Chipotle, but it will take place on March 7. Firehouse subs will be Feb. 28, and Calda will be March 23. Firehouse subs giving 20% of all proceeds. Calda is giving us 15% and Chipotle is giving us 50%. Print flyer off of FB page and the Levittown Schools DAHS PTSA website. For Firehouse Subs, either bring flyer or tell them you are from DAHS and they will give you a flyer from 4:00 – 8:00 p.m. For Chipotle, bring flyer or show them on your smart phone from 4:00 – 8:00 p.m. For Calda, you must bring the flyer, and that will be all evening long. Working on signing up Pie Craft in Wantagh, who are offering 20%. Friday, Feb. 3 was the Superintendent's Meeting where Nassau County superintendents get together to make plans and decide what they will do to convince NYS that a 2% tax cap is not feasible, along with other initiatives that we would like to see NYS Dept. of Education work with us on. Third budget presentation will take place on Wed., Feb. 8, at the BOE Meeting. Copy of budget is on District webpage (all presentations are provided). In the past two weeks, they introduced curriculum, athletics, and this month will be Special Education and I.T. You can see the pictures of next season's girl's and boy's lacrosse helmets and football helmets on our FB page. Council Budget Committee will be meeting next week to compose recommendations for budget from PTA Council. If any parents have any issues or concerns they would like presented, please email or call Patty Genco.

Principal's Report—Mr. Coscia—DAHS senior, Maria Mancz, has received a Juror's Award in the LIU Post Advanced Visions 13: High School Artists of Excellence contest for her artwork entitled The Old Man and the Sea, which was displayed in the Student Art League Gallery at LIU Post. Science Olympiad Invitational took place on January 21 at Yale University. DAHS students earned a placement at the NYS Finals for the 9th consecutive year, and received 19 medals in 14 events, placing 7th overall out of 45 teams. DAHS will compete next at LeMoyne College in Syracuse March 10 – 12. Sejal Mehra and Danielle Mahn were recipients of the 2017 Greater NYC Affiliate of the National Center for Women in Technology Award for Aspirations in Computing. Anthony Iapoco, Major League hitting coach for the Texas Rangers, participated in the annual Winter Clinic hosted by Levittown West Little League on January 8, and spent some time with DAHS baseball players, practicing various drills and discussing the mental approach to hitting. Emmy Night was a huge success. Guidance will be sending correspondence in the coming weeks regarding course verification for the 2017-18 school year. All course changes must be submitted no later than March 3. Current 11th graders met with counselors during English classes on January 23 to present scheduling information, course selection sheets and an overview of graduation requirements. Students are meeting with their guidance counselors in the coming weeks to discuss scheduling for next year. Sports—Lady Dragons Volleyball Team and Cheerleading Team were designated Scholar Athlete Teams by Nassau County. Varsity Cheerleading Team will be competing in the Nationals in Disney World, Florida, this coming weekend. Mr. Coscia also went over various sporting results, as well as County Qualifiers and All Division. Building Report—Replacing light bulbs and ballasts around school; replacing wood paneling; removing two hoops over bleachers. Testing went very smoothly. Upcoming Events—Levittown Library Art Show 2/16, 6:00 – 7:30; Junior Prom 2/17, 7:00 p.m.;

Spirit Week 2/27 – 3/3; Spirit Night 3/3 6:30; Football Dinner 2/27, 7:00. In response to a parent request, Mr. Coscia is looking into conference boards for swim team.

1st V.P.—Position open. Sweeps—Modells giving DAHS a 15% coupon that will be given out at sweeps. We need fundraising help due to position still being open, especially for sweeps help in the area of soliciting. Paint Night will be replaced by J & L Designs, where participants make signs, and will take place May 12.

2nd V.P.—Next week, the school will be running a student membership drive for Founder's Day.

3rd V.P.—Faculty meeting 2/20.

Corresponding Secretary—Two get well cards sent—Linda Pereira and Kristine Ekberg.

Student Liaisons—Student Council will be taking brick orders for walkway and will place order in May.

Delegate Report—Kris Ekberg for 11/29 Meeting—All resolutions passed at NYS convention. Nominating committee workshop was held on 1/24. Treasury—Books audited by Kris Ekberg and all was in order. Superintendent McDonald attended Jet game. 150 tickets were sold. Levittown Music Program voted #1 for 3rd consecutive year. 85 students qualified for All County. American Sign Language added to curriculum. Cardio room is finished at MacArthur. MacArthur adding Honors Athlete Class as well as a Crossfit. A new driver's ed car was purchased. Salk received new shrubs and benches. NYS Regents moving to a 1 – 5 grading scale over next two years. Council Budget looking for chairperson. Looking into adding Spanish to lower grades. Looking into summer camp program "like camp invention." Discussed traffic study for middle and high schools. Honorary Life candidates all chosen & invitations being distributed. Reflections—On-line link had some trouble and was resolved. Timeline too early this year and looking into moving it back next year to improve participation. Food Service—Contract with new distributor Dover Catering. Peanut Butter & Jelly no longer available in the district, and all packaged foods must have calories listed for entire package by 12/2.

Delegate Report—Dana Fereiro for 1/24 Meeting—Units should be doing mid-year audits. Honorary Life 4/20. District Budget planning beginning (+1.6%). Adopt-a-Family helped 231 families. Treasury—Dawn Marino performed 2 month audit and everything was in order. Superintendent (read by Mary Ricard)—Invite to Refit extended to 3/10 (contact T. McDonald). Greenhouse ready for trips. An All District Music group being established for all grade levels. Arts in Ed overview given by Dawn Marino. Audit emails sent to units. Elementary report card changing for grades 2 – 5. ACL secondary math class of 1 ½ periods is ineffective and may be eliminated. Considering putting Phys Ed into GPA, but colleges will take it out. GC Tech—open house 1/26 and skills competition 2/9. Food Service—Need representatives, WLMS oven broken, Elementary schools want tomato soup on menu and beet chips were sampled by students. A parent inquired about whether DAHS ever considered offering an SAT prep class as an elective (same parent heard it was offered at Island Trees H.S.). Ms. Genco said she would inquire with Mr. Winch at the next curriculum meeting.

Communications—806 people on FB. Sending out weekly email. Contact Laura Brown if you are not receiving them. Feel free to submit ideas to Laura to post on FB.

Hospitality—Thank you Kris Ekberg and Marie Adams for hosting council.

Legislation—Legislation Forum took place Feb. 3 and superintendents from Nassau County were in attendance. Advocacy in Action for Legislation Conference—if anyone is interested in attending on Saturday, March 4 at Chateau Briand, please contact Patty Genco. Panel discussion will include NYS Senators and Assemblymen. There will also be an advocacy workshop and fireside chat with NYS Dept. of Education, Board of Regents and PTA. If any students want to attend, please contact Patty Genco.

SEPTA—Family Fun Night that was scheduled for 1/23 was cancelled due to inclement weather. New date TBD. Next SEPTA meeting is Feb. 13.

Youth Issues—Still Looking for a representative.

Sweeps—We currently have about 200 donors. Event sold out, but anyone can come to purchase raffle tickets from 2:30 to 7:00 p.m. Need donations of baked goods. Solicitors for donations and wrappers are also needed. Coded tickets will be used again this year to prevent fraud. Sign-up sheets are in Mr. McElroy's office for students who would like to help at the event.

Honorary Life—April 20. Liz Kirk is DAHS Honoree. Send in your reservations/table requests.

Nominations and Elections—Flyer sent out. Every position is open next year. Ann Johnson has resigned as Recording Secretary this year, so if anyone is interested in that position for the balance of this year, please let Patty Genco know.

Reflections—Showcase held prior to meeting. About 40 people were in attendance. Awards and prizes were given out. Two entries in dance choreography moved up to NYS competition.

Senior Awards—Applications in Guidance and on-line. Deadline is end of April.

Staff Appreciation—Date set in late May. Firm date will be provided at next meeting, along with sign-up sheets for food donations and helpers.

Council Budget—Preliminary wish list completed.

Elementary and Secondary Curriculum—Elementary report cards for grades 2 – 5 will be changed as of next school year. YES (formerly YOM) offers counseling in a variety of areas and are hosting a forum for parents addressing concerns in the community, such as drug & alcohol abuse. The forum will be a brainstorming session for the public to come together and discuss what is going on in our community. Tentative date is March 8, 7 – 9:00 p.m. at LMEC. District will be sending flyers and using list-serv to notify parents about the forum. Levittown Hall of Fame—The district is looking for nominees for our first group of hall-of-famers. Nominees have to have graduated from DAHS, MacArthur or Memorial at least ten years prior to the year of nomination, and they cannot be an employee of the Levittown School District. Committee is meeting in February to review nominations and choose hall-of-famers, who will be presented at the March Community Dinner at LMEC. Secondary Math—The committee discussed lunch-time math support being introduced at the middle schools for students who are struggling in math. Concerns were raised as to other students asking to attend. Mr. Winch assured committee that if a student asks to attend, they will not be turned away. District is looking into professional development in math since the a.m. extra help and the extra ½ period has been found to be ineffective. They are also looking into getting math specialists who can push into the classes. Benchmark assessments for elementary math have been modified. They have been made shorter than the previously modified benchmarks. We are now writing our own benchmarks since the program we were using didn't allow for modifications. The district will also be evaluating whether there is a program issue with Envision Math, or if it is an implementation issue. If it is deemed a program issue, other programs will be reviewed. Physical Education/GPA—The following courses will be offered: spin class, competitive sports and crossfit. These classes will be evaluated for success and whether they pose any grading issues before they decide whether the GPA will include Phys Ed. If adopted, only incoming 9th graders will have gym as part of their GPA going forward. Outdoor learning center is up and functioning for field trips, and it will be used by LMEC for greenhouse to table.

Food Service—No report.

Health & Safety—Meeting this week.

Wellness—Meeting this week.

Meeting adjourned at 9:21 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Betsy Baquet