

DIVISION AVENUE HIGH SCHOOL PTSA MEETING MINUTES, November 26, 2018

Linda Pereira called the meeting to order at 7:00pm, followed by the Pledge.

President's Report - Linda Pereira welcomed all attending and provided updates:

President / Superintendent Meeting cancelled due to snow storm.

Adopt a Family for Division is for a 11 year old girl looking for food and clothing gift cards, gathering donations by December 14th.

Principal's Report— Mr. Coscia updated membership on the school's ongoing activities and few achievements within the school body:

- In October – many events held for Breast Cancer Research and Awareness: Dig Pink (Volleyball), Pink Out (Football), First Knock-Out (Basketball) Student and Staff participated; Students were encouraged to wear Pink on Mondays and staff hosted a Pot-Luck luncheon to raise funds; United Breast Cancer Foundation provided a table of information. As a school, over \$5000 were raised for Breast Cancer
- Three college fairs were held for students to have the opportunity to attend.
- *Dragons Tales* App available for all to have that include updates / articles from school news, is running well.
- Few students from Division made All-County for Band and Chorus. Information can be found on the Social Media Page; All-State participants will perform at Rochester in December
- Fall Sports Students from Division made All-Division; All-County; All Conference – Information are posted online
- English Teacher Mrs. Strizil was invited to speak at the National Council of Teachers of English in Houston.
- Mr. Goldman was invited to read at Island Trees school to read his own written children's book
- CD Students helped organized the Thanksgiving Food Drive and continuer their Coffee/Cookies program, which raises money to host events for the CD students.
- The Positive Club lead by Mrs. Wheeler established using the PBIS system, began to meet and distribute Good New Cards that recognize students for being responsible, respectful and ready to succeed.
- AP Government class from both high schools visited Washington, D.C.
- Successful Blood Drive led by Mr. Verdi.
- Juniors worked with Summit Lane to fundraiser for the food drives and discuss with the students to promote student government
- Students in Trial Law and DECA club attended Career Day at Northwell Health's Legal Affairs as part of the Spark's Challenge.
- Business Honor Society is hosting a Toy Drive
- Students and Levittown Community are organizing a fundraiser for a Division Student that is going through health issues – more information to follow, school is facilitating the information.
- Mr. Sparoco is attending as part of his internship for administrative program and working with Mr. Coscia

Treasurer's Report— Proposed budget for 2018 -2019 presented to membership. Please refer to the filed budget. October 2018 Books were audited by Arlene Sodomeyer. Filed as written.

General Fund — Opening Checkbook Balance: \$7,845.31; Expenses: \$4,536.90 Total Income: \$3,364.16;
Closing Checkbook Balance: \$6,672.57

Senior Award Fund— Opening Checkbook Balance: \$2,260.60; Expenses: \$0.00; Total Income: \$0.00;
Closing Checkbook Balance: \$2,260.60

Recording Secretary— Approval of the Minutes from October 2018 were approved as written.

1st V.P. - Lynn Testamark informed the committee of fundraising items: Sweeps Table Reservation Table Forms are out; filling up quickly. Wood Sign Paint Nite took place on November 1st ; Magnets and Pop Sockets (Few Left) being sold for \$10

2nd V.P. – As of date, there are 376 members. *Total:* Parents – 175; Students – 145; Staff - 56

3rd V.P. – No Report

Corresponding Secretary – Sympathy Cards sent to family of Warran Pappas (Juniors attend DAHS)

Council Delegates – No Report

STANDING COMMITTEES

Arts in Education – Paul Faila Assembly took place during LEADD week for the Sophomores, on October 29th. Spoke to students about character and human diversity awareness; Touched on ethical awareness by using positive thoughts utilizing critical thinking; How to handle moral dilemmas and drug/alcohol abuse.

Communications—Emails continue to go out to membership.

Legislation— Linda and Lynn attended NYS PTA Convention November 9th -11th in Saratoga. There was a total of 199 voting delegates for 13 regions in NYS. All proposed retentions were adopted. Discussion was held about raising the minimum age for purchasing cigarettes. Workshops/Sessions held included PTA Hub (Social Media) and PTSA engaging investment.

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Agenda Books – In need of Committee Chair; looking to order by January/February, possibly looking to go with another company

By-Laws – Need Committee Chair and members to review; As they are up for renewal in April 2019

Nominating – Nominating letters will be going out in the new year to Division and outgoing Wisdom parents/students

Honorary Life – May 2nd Date Set – Nomination letters are due by December 7th to Dayna Ferreiro, Chair

Reflections – Theme “Heroes around Me” – Deadline was today and submitting entries to Regionals next week.

Senior Awards – Need Committee Chair –to gather members to select applications - Last year 48 students received scholarships

LIASON REPORTS

Curriculum – Sue Massoni attended Elementary/Secondary October 22 meeting, discussed hand writing programs, 3 programs being piloted – once a program is chosen by the committee, it will utilized in 2019/20 school year. Middle schools are using cursive by discretion of their teacher/courses. Elementary is using cursive in specific assignments. On November 20th, “Love of a Literacy” program rolling out beginning of the new year. Fifth grade elective will be offered online. New course for high school for 2019/20 are Digital Citizenship, 21st Century Leadership, AP Statistics, Piano 4, Abnormal psychology and GC Tech will offer graphic arts and design. SAT Prep will be offered in March. New ESSA accountability measures has increased numbers of indicators on which the district is judged.

SEPTA –Liz Kirk updated the committee on the October 29th meeting. There now be only 6 meeting held during the year, hoping to piggyback on school PTA meetings. Speakers were present to speak about IEPs and 504s, and students receiving accommodations without being classified as Special Education. Fundraiser held at Levittown Hall on 11/18. Next meeting 1/18/19.

Student Liaisons: Senior – Kayla Gannon: Discussing Prom and Spirit Week; Junior – Jackie Testamark: came in 1st in the food drive; Sophomore - Rebecca Williams: Poster for A.Woodruff and meeting for Sprit Nigh Dance
Still in need for a Freshman Liaison