

PETERS TOWNSHIP AREA COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES - OCTOBER 25, 2012

CALL TO ORDER - PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - by Lisa Briegel at 9:20

*Shelly Belcher gave presentation and discussed web page she will create that will be linked to the AC webpage called "You Asked for It" regarding questions raised at AC meetings.

*Brian Schill from Chamber of Commerce - New Executive Director of Peters Township Chamber of Commerce came to introduce himself to AC. He has been active in PTA in USC for many years. If he can help out in any way, please let him know.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT - Lisa Briegel

Thank you to McMurray for hospitality.

READING AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES - Lisa Anderson, Secretary

Minutes for the Sept. 20, 2012 meeting were accepted with no changes.

TREASURER'S REPORT - Tracey Melograne, Treasurer

*Tracey did not have updated financial information because of a family emergency.

*990s must be filed by all units by Nov. 15

UNIT REPORTS

Bower Hill: Mrs. Kelly Gustafson

Adults modeling reading and literacy is a focus at BH this year. Every month the school will read an entire book together as a school. Character Education - Caution Crew vests were given to 3rd grade leaders. BH challenged other schools to create bowling teams in conjunction with Area Council fundraiser to compete against BH who has 3 teams (12 people total).

Pleasant Valley: Mr. Michael Fisher

Red Ribbon Week is being celebrated in school. Thank you to Trax Farms and PTA who have donated and planted bulbs to beautify schools. For the Giving Day project PV collected 382 canned goods and 160 tote bags. Currently asking people to purchase pies from Market Day for Meals on Wheels. PV will have a candy drive after Halloween to benefit Wash. County Food Bank. PV is participating in shoe box drive for Mexico in partnership with High School. Interact Club helps tutor at PV. Leadership Team applications are out in the building for students with deadline at end of week. Bullying Kick-off held - theme is Billy Goat's Gruff and the Bully will be the "Bully Goat". Will recognize students every few weeks and will give shirt to those who are being good friends, etc. Parents helping with parachute activities with students at recess.

McMurray: Mr. Blair Stoehr - Thank you to PTA for help with beginning of the year activities. There are new curriculums in building. PE teachers are using rock climbing wall. Teachers are using Ipads bought from Box Tops and other funds. Will transform aux gym to polling station and have mock election. There are 125 student members of separate leadership teams. McMurray representatives are going to Washington DC to accept a Promising Practice Award.

PTMS: Dr. Robert Freado and Mr. Heneghan - Western Day held at Middle School. Character Counts week service project collected activity amenity bags for Children's Home of Pittsburgh (380 bags).

Presentation will be made to students to evidence the impact. PTA meeting Nov. 1 will have counselors attend to give out bullying data from last few years. Inservice Days will try to address ability to mobilize all resources to meet needs of students. Last school board meeting School Board accepted a Character Counts initiative. Character Counts fall awards had 15 awardees recognized. Mr. Fisher, principal at PV, was an awardee. Video with police chief on website to address walking after school safety issues. Take your Parent to School Day was successful. Counselors made newsletter that went out in email blast. Attendance calling system was started. MS is on Facebook.

PTHS: Mrs. Lori Pavlik - GPA change this year in Powerschool system. Counselors are auditing transcripts to ensure correct. You will be able to see unweighted GPA on Powerschool. In the future, you should be able to see weighted calculations. Honor Roll will be based on unweighted GPA. Will be GPA workshop in future. Honor Roll will be posted 2 weeks after 9 weeks ends. Executive Council Leadership Team made up of students is working hard. Allowed students who didn't want to go to pep rally to go to study hall and only 25 kids chose that option. 130 students were Senior Servants. Homecoming Dance had 900 students attend. Executive

Council will speak at next PTSA meeting. Girls Tennis won WPIAL champions. Keystone Tests will probably be over 3 days in second week of January (Algebra - 800 kids, biology 500, literature - Juniors only). 100 percent of Juniors have passed the Graduation Project. HS fall play is The Diviners. BYOD will go building-wide Nov. 1. SAT scores moved up 11 points on average in writing and 10 points in math. The HS SAT prep class was revised in order to help increase scores. Avg. SAT reading score for PT was 545, Math 566 and writing 541. State reading scores average 488, math 500 and writing 475. Brunch with Principals will be Dec. 6. PIP meetings (meetings with counselors and Junior parents) are coming up.

SCHOOL BOARD REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT: Sue Smith

Accepted resignation of Dr. Zetty and Dr. Joe Dimperio approved as interim superintendent. Agreed to improve sound system at HS plus stage lighting. Hired company to replace fence on outdoor basketball court. Reaffirmed Character Counts initiative. Nov. 5 will be an Education Committee report. SPA committee meeting to review bylaws - Nov. 12. Nov. 15 will be a Policy meeting. Accepted resignation of Nancy McCann - Director of Human Resources. Hired Director of Building and Grounds - Ronald Gault. Thank PV PTA for donations - \$380 to purchase software for school. Accepted Diamondbackers and Swim Club donations for weight room. Now in search for new superintendent. Will use an out-side search firm. Board wants community involvement in this process.

UNIT REPORTS

Bower Hill: Ria Kartsonas - Read a Thon - Students read over 250,000 minutes over two days making close to \$21,500.

Pleasant Valley: Mary Pat DeRienzo, Suzy Stauffer - Open house and book fair was great night.

McMurray: Melanie Hutnik, Suzanne MacKay - Nothing to add beyond Principals' report.

PTMS: Gina Wells - Today is Apple Crunch Day at MS to encourage healthy eating. MS has new librarian that will speak at next PTA meeting next Thursday.

PTHS: Minna Allison - Nothing to add beyond Principal's report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

2nd VP - Carol Aurin

School Pictures: Carol Aurin - Picture retakes are this week.

Ways and Means: Lisa Briegel - Bowling started. Subs are needed. Should make about \$1000.

School-Wide Directory: Received proof last Tuesday. Approval given last Wed. 2 weeks for printing.

Scholarship: Pam Woodside - No report.

1st VP - Margaret Rauscher

Reflections: Janet Dee Deadline extended to Oct. 29. Nov. 7 is our local judging for Reflections.

Character Counts: Margaret Rauscher Congrats to awardees.

Membership: Jodi Hannah - membership info. all in on time.

Bylaws: Lisa Anderson - Send copies of 990s to State PTA office. You can scan and send to info@papta.org

NEW BUSINESS

*Board Appreciation Month - Motion by Jodi Hannah to use \$100 to buy books for each school on behalf of Board. Motion was seconded and approved by unanimous voice vote.

*Discussion was held on ensuring that PTA units make attempts to get building specific concerns to AC and School Board. Discussed possibility of using issue cards for questions at meeting or hot topics section of agendas.

*Discussion was held on condition of HS Building - make this actionable item for next month.

*Discussed Pyrite issue at McMurray.

*Discussion about Wash County Community Foundation - Will have a matching donation day Sept. 10 2013. You donate to a registered charity and they will match a percentage.

* Next month's meeting will be held on November 29, 2012 and will be attended by Administration. Hospitality for that meeting will be provided by PTMS

ADJOURNMENT 11:47 by Lisa Briegel