

PETERS TOWNSHIP PTA AREA COUNCIL NOVEMBER 19, 2009 MEETING MINUTES

Call to order: The November 19, 2009 meeting of the Peters Township PTA Area Council was called to order at 9:17am. President Carol Aurin presided and Gina Wells recorded the minutes. The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

President's Report-Carol Aurin

- *Thanked PTHS PTA for providing the hospitality for the meeting
- *Stressed the use of Constant Contact in the district

Secretary's Report-Gina Wells

- *The minutes of the October 22, 2009 meeting were approved with the correction of the spelling of two names, Ann Marie Wiegmann and Lorra Brannen

Treasurer's Report-Ann Marie Wiegmann

- *Jodi Hannah made a motion to approve payment of the bills for the month. The motion was seconded by Sarah Lindsay and passed.

Unit Reports

Dr. Nina Zetty, Superintendent

- *District staff is receiving training on the 8 Effective Habits
- *Thanked those involved in the publishing of the district directory
- *The 2010/2011 calendar is being submitted for review to the school board and suggestions regarding the calendar need to be submitted by 12/10/2009
- *H1N1 vaccinations will be given to PTSD staff on a volunteer basis
- *Faculty enrollment committee hopes to have a proposal ready for the February 2010 building & grounds committee meeting
- *A graduation project requirement begins with students in 9th grade creating an electronic portfolio containing a resume, a written summary/reflection about their attendance at a career fair, job shadowing, an oral presentation regarding a career. The students will receive a pass/fail grade for the project. The 2009/2010 freshmen class will be the first class to begin the graduation project.

Diane Ritter, School Board

- *Thanked the Pleasant Valley PTA for their donation of a SmartBoard to the district
- *Announced the approval of the marching band trip to Washington, D.C. so that they may participate in a Memorial Day parade

Dr. Beverly Hall, Director of Curriculum, Assessment, and Instructional Technology

- *Discussed the implementation of the elementary Language Arts program

- *Student assessments will be more fair and allow creative thinking in the middle school and high school levels. They will be equal across the board regardless of the instructor
- *Spoke of the possibility of beginning technology education in grades 4-6 in the future

William King, Supervisor of Special Education

- *High School counselors took the students to a post-secondary school in Johnstown
- *Improvements are being made in the transition of IEP's for Middle School students
- *Receiving training for non-crisis intervention of defensive and anxiety-ridden students via deescalation techniques along with training for the new PSSAM(math) test

Toni Sulkowski, Director of Technology

- *Renee Brown, a PTMS teacher, received a \$200 award to build a Holocaust memorial online
- *Two point-of-sell companies will be giving a demonstration regarding their companies to enable the district to make an informed decision
- *Announced the hire of Elaine Muerr as the new data input person for PowerSchool in the district
- *Informed those present of her retirement from the district in one year in order to pursue other avenues
- *A databoard, a wireless slate, was purchased to work in conjunction with the SmartBoard

Shelly Belcher-Communications Director

- *Reaffirmed that athletics news does not come from her office
- *Every board meeting begins with a PowerPoint demonstration of the monthly highlights of the district
- *A safety audit is being performed at Pleasant Valley during holiday break in December
- *The public will no longer be able to use the High School fields during school hours. Signage will be posted at the schools regarding the matter.

Bower Hill-Rochelle Saxon, PTA President

- *Thanked administration for all of their efforts
- *Events held in October (parties and conference day) went well
- *No speaker for the December PTA meeting.
- *Events in December include a cookie exchange for teachers, pajama drive, holiday parties and a sing-a-long

Pleasant Valley-Maureen Watson, PTA co-President

- *PTA raised \$565 for the fire station
- *Purchased three new SmartBoards to accommodate the lower level classrooms
- *Turnout for Reflections competition was good

McMurray-Lisa Briegel, PTA President

*The students are gearing up for the annual Talent show in March

*The deadline for ordering a yearbook is fast approaching

*A contest is going on for collecting Box Tops

*PTA board wrote the 8 Habits of a Highly Effective PTA

Middle School-Lisa Smith and Sue Clark, PTA co-Presidents

*Over 200 books were collected for Lydia's Place during the Halloween dance

*Upcoming events include the Holiday dance (12/4/09) and variety show (12/22/09)

High School-Lorra Brannen, PTA president

*A book drive took place at Barnes & Noble on 11/14/09

*Student Council has provided a microwave for the cafeteria and the PTA has donated three more microwaves to the cafeteria

*Presented the High School magazine which is published three times a year and replacing the school newspaper

Committee Reports

Reflections-Janet Dee, not present

*Judging took place on Tuesday

School-wide Directory-Sue Clark

*The books were delivered to the schools and extra copies are available for purchase through the PTA presidents

School Pictures-Michele Bittel, not present

Character Counts-Geeta Welden, not present

Membership-Jodi Hannah

*December 1, 2009 is the due date for submission of membership lists and payment to the state PTA

By-laws-Lori Cuervo, not present

*A state by-law update is required for local PTAs

Area Council Directory-Cathy Luzier, not present

Old Business

*None

New Business
*None

Meeting Adjourned at 11:21am. Motion made by Laura Spernak and seconded by Jodi Hannah.