

PTHS PTSA

MEETING MINUTES – FEBRUARY 12, 2015

ATTENDANCE - 14

CALL TO ORDER/OPENING – PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE by Margaret Rauscher at 9:18 AM

PRESIDENT'S REPORT – MARGARET RAUSCHER

-Selection of the 2015 Nominating Committee: Laura Spernak, Kelly Trupiano, Rita Reo
-Bylaws Revision: An Assistant Treasurer position was added as an optional office and a statement added to Article X: Duties of Officers, that the Assistant Treasurer shall perform duties as assigned by the Treasurer. The Assistant Treasurer will not have check signing privileges.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT – LORI PAVLIK

-College Planning Night was Wednesday, February 11 and was a big success; the presentation rooms were filled with attendees.
-The Snowball Dance was Saturday, February 7; was a fantastic night; the parent/student agreement and waiver helped, a list of songs was provided for the DJ; appx. 700 students attended (900 at Homecoming); alternate activities included a photo booth and an X-box for DDR (Dance Dance Revolution).
-Prom will be held on May 29 at the Sheraton, Station Square.
-Administration is gearing up for scheduling; the High School Course Handbook should be available on line soon. New electives will be offered in World Languages, Media, Ceramics, and Theater Arts.
-Scheduling will be the focus of discussion at the March PTSA meeting. The Department Facilitator videos will be posted on line for parents to view prior to attending the meeting. These videos will not be a part of the PTSA meeting.
-College and career readiness is a focus of the High School Guidance Department and our counselors are putting together a guide for our staff on writing letters of recommendation for students.
-Administration is working on next year's budget.
-A parent asked how students who are attending the Music Department's Universal Studios trip will make up missed work: Students must initiate a discussion with their teachers to make arrangements to get assignments in advance--give teachers at least 2 weeks' notice (all teachers will have a list of students who will be taking part in the trip).

GUIDANCE REPORT: MRS. WAWRZENIAK, MR. SUDOL

-Currently planning for next year, during the last week in February counselors will go into English classes to discuss scheduling. Students can schedule at that time or schedule at home.
-9th graders will take the PSSS Test on March 10.
-Juniors and Seniors should check Family Connection to find out about scholarships; Mrs. Cunningham is sending emails regarding scholarships.
-AP Exam registration is coming up; registration and payment will be on line; each test is \$91.00. Check university's AP credit policy to find out if they will accept the AP credit.
-Summer gym: information will be coming soon; last year registration was in March.

SECRETARY'S REPORT – CAROL PLANITZER

Minutes from the January 15, 2015 meeting were approved as submitted.

TREASURER'S REPORT – JODI HANNAH

-The last membership submission was recently mailed.
-Jodi and Margaret will meet with administration to discuss Academic Enrichment ideas.

1st VICE PRESIDENT – CINDY CHAPMAN

-Nothing to report.

2nd VICE PRESIDENT – LORI GUMMERSBACH

-Welcoming Committee: Area Council and representatives from the 5 building PTAs met 2 weeks ago to create a program that will work for all involved and provide the least amount of overlap where materials and handouts are concerned. These representatives were charged with creating their own welcome packet beginning with a "Did you know...." handout. Ria Kartsonas is heading up the group.

3rd VICE PRESIDENT – MARY PAT DERIENZO

-Area Council Meeting: Thursday, February 19; District Administration will be in attendance.
-Character Counts: The next Character Counts meeting will be March 2 in the PT Chamber of Commerce Building at noon.
-Student Ambassador Food Drive: February 1 - March 31

NEW BUSINESS

-None

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-Jodi Hannah presented the PTSA Standing Rules update and noted the following changes:
-Revised the Executive Board to include the Assistant Treasurer
-The Executive Board shall determine whether a December meeting is warranted
-updated the list of committees
-all contracts must be signed by must be signed by the President, a Vice President or Treasurer
-Finances: noted that all requests for reimbursements should be made within 30 days of occurrence.

Jodi asked for a motion to approve the Standing Rules; Laura Spernak made a motion to approve the Standing Rules as presented, Debbie Smith seconded the motion.

-School Board member Lisa Anderson shared the following excerpt from article from the February 9th edition of the Allegheny Institute for Public Policy newsletter titled *Education Bargains in Pennsylvania?*

Peters Township in Washington County has to be one of the best education values in the state, if not the best, in terms of outcomes per dollar expended. Revenue in 2012-13 totaled \$11,602 per student (\$3,000 lower than the state average), \$8,925 local and \$2,608 from the state and a very small amount of Federal. Here's the astounding academic news. 93 percent of test takers scored proficient or advanced in math, 98.6 percent in reading, and 85 percent in science. These scores are head and shoulders above the three wealthy districts discussed above and achieved with per student funding at barely half those districts.

-Sandy Levin stated that the Area Council Directory Committee members attended PTA meetings at Bower Hill, Pleasant Valley and PT Middle School in an attempt to recruit volunteers with younger children who might be interested in working with the committee to learn the ropes of the District Directory, eventually assuming the responsibilities.

Meeting adjourned – 10:06 AM

Minutes Submitted by: _____
Carol Planitzer, Secretary