

PTMS PTA Meeting
April 15, 2008

- I. **Welcome/Pledge of Allegiance**- President Lori Cuervo called the meeting to order at 9:19 A.M.
- II. **President's Remarks**
- a. New School Calendar - A draft of Middle School dates was provided.
 - b. Betsy Somerville was introduced to the group as the PTSD Director of Special Education. Betsy provided a hand out and corresponding overview of the PTSD Special Education and Support Programs.
 - c. Shelly Belcher was introduced as the PTSD Communications Coordinator. Shelly provided an overview of her new role and encouraged contacting her (phone call, email) to address any communication related issues.
- III. **Principals' Report**
- a. **Thanks** - Dr. Merante offered his thanks to those who have and those that will be volunteering their time to support the PTMS PTA organization. Dr. Merante also reviewed that instruction is the Principal's #1 role. Secondary to instruction is the hiring and development of qualified and motivated teaching staff. Thanks also to PTA for providing the PSSA Snacks.
 - b. **Presentations during Non School Hours**- Discussion regarding the option of providing topics/speakers that would be interesting to both students and parents.
 - c. **After School Detention** – Dr Merante reviewed that a recent after school detention did not permit the students to complete homework. It was decided that this is not a practice that will be repeated in the future. A number of opinions were expressed regarding this topic.
 - d. **Construction** – Dr. Merante reported that construction remains on target.
 - e. **Curriculum** – Dr. Monsour reviewed that PSSA Science tests are April 28th. Reading and Math were recently completed.
 - f. **Honey vs. Vinegar** – Dr. Monsour reviewed the value of approaching issues with “Kindness and Understanding” vs. “I’m right and you’re wrong” when trying to resolve issues with teaching staff, administration, students, coaches, and children.
- IV. **1st Vice President's Report – Carol Aurin**
- a. Spring Book Fair is scheduled for May 5-9, 2008. Volunteers are needed, please contact Sheril Wilson.
 - b. Newsletter- April Articles are due tonight or tomorrow. Please contact Gail Varcelotti.
 - c. Volunteer to mail May newsletter to 6th graders - Carol requested a volunteer to prepare and complete this mailing. Gail and Julie Ann Sullivan volunteered to help. Julie Ann offered to coordinate.
- V. **2nd Vice President's Report – Bethany Frizzell**
- a. Committee chairpersons for next year- Some chairpersons will be returning. The list is being finalized. However, there are several positions (e.g., School Pictures, Newsletter, PTA Ambassador) that need to be filled prior to this school year end. Please contact Bethany if you are interested in volunteering for any of the open positions.
 - b. REFLECTIONS – Theme for 2008/2009 program is “WOW”
- VI. **Secretary's Report – Kathy Zrowka**
- a. Approval of the Minutes – March 2008 minutes accepted as presented
- VII. **Treasurer's Report – Jodi Hannah**
- a. Payment of Bills- Sheril Wilson made a motion to approve. Motion passed.
 - b. Budget vs. Actual Update- The following increases were reviewed: Health & Wellness by \$130, Gifts to School - Library Cart by \$100, Student Basketball Game by \$134. Julie Ann Sullivan made motion to approve. Motion passed.
- VIII. **New Business**
- a. Nominating Committee – Officer Nominations – Sue Clark presented the following nominations:
 - i. Carol Aurin for the office of President
 - ii. Sheril Wilson for the office of First Vice President
 - iii. Bethany Frizzell for the office of Second Vice President
 - iv. Jodi Hannah for the office of Treasurer
 - v. Sara Lindsay for the office of Secretary
 - vi. All nominated accepted the nominations as presented by Sue Clark.
 - b. January 2009 Meeting Date Change (Wednesday, January 21, 2009) - Due to conflict with Faculty In-Service day. Sheril Wilson made a motion to approve the date change. Motion passed.
 - c. Volunteers (2) to sell Kennywood Trip Bus Tickets – May 21st
 - d. Theresa Rhen, Spirit Wear Chairperson for next year, requested that she be contacted directly with any suggestions for next year.
 - e. Eighth Grade Celebrations – Lorra Brannen requested volunteers to assist with decorations on the day of the event (approximately 2 P.M.) and seventh grade parents as chaperones.
- IX. **Old Business – None**
- X. **Adjournment- Lori Cuervo adjourned the meeting at 10:55 AM**

Date Approved:

Submitted By: Kathleen J. Zrowka
PTMS PTA Secretary