

PTHS PTSA

MEETING MINUTES – JANUARY 12, 2017

18 in attendance

CALL TO ORDER/OPENING – PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE by Mary Pat DeRienzo at 9:15am

PRESIDENT'S REPORT – MARY PAT DeRIENZO

-Thank you for coming. Today's meeting is coffee with the principals.
-This Spring, we will do a donation to the school. Put it in your mind to talk to kids of what they can use in their classroom. Mrs. Alexander, with t-shirt sales, purchased a water bottle fountain for \$800.00-\$900.00. Embraced by everyone. Kids want more.

SECRETARY'S REPORT – KATHY LaBELLARTE

-Minutes from the November 9th, 2016 meeting was approved as submitted.

TREASURER'S REPORT – BETH QUINN

-Copies of November and December book reconciliation sheets as of last week are available.
-November total income \$1,984.02. Expenses for concession stand and teachers breakfast total was \$1,610.47.
-Mary Ulan collected memberships. We had 75 new memberships for a total of \$66. That is down 18% from last year. January donation total is \$870.50.

1st VICE PRESIDENT – TINA BEINHAEUER

-Nothing to report.

2nd VICE PRESIDENT – CINDY CHAPMAN (Report given by Serena King)

-Thank you to Jodi Hannah, Deb Smith, Cathy Vargo, and Carol Planitzer for directory distribution.
-Next Character Counts Meeting will be February 7th at noon at PTHS.

3rd VICE PRESIDENT – SERENA KING

-Thank you to everyone who donated for teachers appreciation brunch. Teachers really appreciated it.
-Next Area Council Meeting will be January 19th with building principals.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT – LORI PAVLIK

-January fire drill was this morning. We do one a month.
-Planning ALICE drill. It was postponed due to bad weather. We have to practice run away portion of ALICE. Students regather at PV. The weather has to be good. Spring time is our focus.
-Our on air talent class put together College Crazy. College application process is now on the district website under college planning.
-Mrs. Pavlik had a bag of questions that represented parent questions and concerns. After reading and answering each question, group discussion took place.
-Heather Princeton and Jeff Sudol, guidance counselors, answered questions regarding college readiness. Ninth graders have a group meeting first, then individual meeting later in the year. Purpose of the ninth grade meeting is to introduce students to counselors. They discuss and touch on what to expect for the next three years. For tenth grade, counselors go into classrooms again. If parents want an additional meeting, they can contact the counselor to schedule a meeting anytime. Scheduling process begins in February. Parent night is February 28th at 6-7:30pm for incoming eighth graders. Two days prior, guidance counselors visit eighth graders. End of January, guidance counselors meet with eleventh graders regarding scheduling. They also talk about AP potential and PSAT scores. Goal this year is to build student capacity. Teachers looking at data a lot to help drive instruction. College board has given a lot of resources we can use.

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL'S REPORT - MRS. RAGLAND

-Mrs. Ragland invited Mrs. Judy Alexander, gifted support teacher, and Juliette Langley, a student, to speak about enrichment.
-Juliette read from her essay which is now at the state level competition. Voice of Democracy audio-essay program will occur every year. VFW offer cash prize. Veterans judge. Has local, state, and district levels.
-Mrs. Alexander is the gifted coordinator at the high school. She works with Ms. Caryn Kuhn.
-Currently have 65 gifted students. Meet with kids based on their needs. Lay out their four years and review course description book. Discuss career interests and post secondary interests. Offer opportunity to do competitions.
-Work with South Hills Lit. Fest. Four ninth graders read books then met with all kids from South Hills. Our students took first place. They created a movie trailer. Did phenomenal. The book was called Invention of Wings.
-Academic World Quest competition coming up. Competing against other schools. It will be at Duquesne University in February. It will have writing competitions, Math Olympia, and Biology Olympia. Kids can go to semi-finals. Twenty go nationally to California. International go to Warwick in the UK. Tenth grade applicants will get a mentor to work with students for college prep. One event per month. Student was taught how to write grants and won \$10,000.

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL'S REPORT - MRS. RAGLAND (continued)

- Application process starts in February or March and closes in April. Information on website. Apply in tenth grade. Start in eleventh grade and do for two years.
- Mrs. Alexander discussed different competitions and opportunities for grants and internships.
- Bulletin board outside of Mrs. Alexander's office has information on competitions and employment opportunities. A lot of stuff we put out there is for everybody. We have moved more towards all-inclusive.

OLD BUSINESS

-None

NEW BUSINESS

- NHS Volleyball Tournament February 2. Doors open at 5:30pm. Tickets are \$5.00.
- National College Fair February 3rd and 4th downtown.
- Mr. Bill Merrell (PTSD School Director) presented some information dealing with the pending HB 76 and SB 76 Bills (The Property Tax Independence Act) that are currently in the PA Senate and House. PA State Representative Rick Saccone will be speaking on our local cable program on February 9th so the rest of the community can be brought up-to-date.

Meeting adjourned - 11:42 AM

Minutes Submitted by:

Kathy LaBellarte
Kathy LaBellarte, Secretary