

**PLEASANT VALLEY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
PTA MEETING MINUTES**

April 1, 2015

I. Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:18am by Suzie Bode.

II. Approval of Minutes

Meeting minutes from the March 4, 2015 meeting were read and approved.

III. Guest Speaker – Ashley Williams from Junior Achievement (JA)

- JA is a non-profit organization with the core purpose of inspiring kids to succeed in the global economy. Students are educated about work readiness, entrepreneurship, and financial literacy through experiential, hands-on programs.
- Junior Achievement has programming at McMurray and the MS. A JA Day is planned for PV in the fall.
- Volunteers (approx. 18) will be needed to present 5 lessons to a class (K – 3) on JA Day. Volunteers do not have to know how to teach to participate in JA. They would receive 1 ½ hours of training at PV prior to the JA Day and would need to allow for about 5 hours of at home prep time. Training and program descriptions are available online at www.jawesternpa.org.
- Volunteers must have their clearances on file with the district.
- Grade level themes are: Ourselves (K), Our Families (1st), Our Community (2nd), and Our City (3rd)
- If students participate in JA programs at any age level, they are eligible for JA college scholarships.
- You may contact Ashley for additional information about JA at awilliams@jawesternpa.org.
- If you are interested in volunteering for PV's JA Day, please contact Laurie Rieger or Jackie Beck.

IV. Guest Speaker – Mrs. Shelly Belcher, Communications and Safety Coordinator for the district

- The district's volunteer policy will change as of 7/1/15 in accordance with PA state law. Any volunteers having direct contact with kids must have all 3 clearances and the Acknowledgment of Volunteer Obligations form (on website) on file with the district. The volunteer page has been updated to reflect this new information. The volunteer website is: <http://www.ptsd.k12.pa.us/volunteers.aspx>
 - A waiver may be obtained for the FBI Criminal Record Check if you have lived in the state of PA continuously for the past 10 years and have not had a criminal conviction.
 - Clearances are good for 3 years. There is a volunteer list on the district's volunteer page that you can check to see when your clearances expire.
- The district has implemented ALICE training for all staff. ALICE was developed by police officers and focuses on providing options during a crisis. All buildings are receiving the training.
- ALICE stands for:
 - Alert – Get the word out using clear and concise language to notify people in the building of potential danger.
 - Lockdown – Secure your location by locking and barricading entrances.
 - Inform – Keep communication open throughout the process to allow staff to make decisions.
 - Counter – This refers to face-to-face encounters with danger and is only an option when lockdown and evacuation aren't possible. Apply skills to distract or confuse the intruder, including noise, running around, and throwing things.
 - Evacuate – Move as far from the intruder as possible. Students will be given reunification spots to meet up outside.
- Counselors at each school are meeting to determine how to share the new program with students in an age-appropriate way.
- Schools will practice lockdown and evacuation drills next year and the drills will be held more often.

V. Principal's Remarks

- Tuxedo Tuesday was held on March 31st in conjunction with the Olweus Anti-Bullying Program. This month's theme was respect. Students enjoyed dressing up and the cafeteria was turned into a restaurant with tablecloths, centerpieces, and classical music. When the students finished eating, they were given crayons so that they could draw what respect means to them on the tablecloths (butcher paper). April's theme is responsibility.
- The parent math meeting on March 31st went well. 18 parents attended and their questions were answered by the grade level facilitators. A tech-themed math meeting is planned for the fall.

VI. Presidents' Report

- PV's Got Talent will be on Wednesday, April 22nd at 6:30pm at PTHS. There will be 45 acts and over 88 students participating! Bring a canned good for admission and donations for your favorite acts will benefit Pediatric Cancer Foundation. A rehearsal schedule for the acts was sent home this week.

- There are still many committee chair and co-chair positions available for next year. Please contact Laurie Rieger if you are interested.
- Run club has over 80 kids participating and is going well. It is held in the gym if it rains.
- Next spirit day is “Green Day” on Wednesday, April 22nd, which is Earth Day.
- A Big thank you to Megan Shilling and all of the volunteers who helped make Family Fun Night a success!
- Thank you to Kris Anthou, Jill Throckmorton, and all of the volunteers who helped make Donuts for Dads a success!
- We will have retirement cards available to sign for Mrs. McWilliams, Mr. Harry, and Mrs. Rooney at the May PTA meeting.

VII. Vice Presidents’ Reports

Jamie Schweiger

- Yearbook deadline has been extended to April 10. Paper orders will be accepted next week. Yearbook orders are very low, so please order! A list of everyone who has ordered yearbooks is posted in the PTA room for your convenience. First day of school pictures are still needed.
- Teacher appreciation will be May 4 – 8. Look for emails about how you can help soon!
- The April Giving Day is PV’s Got Talent. The event will benefit Pediatric Cancer Foundation and local food banks.

Laurie Rieger

- Thank you to everyone who brought in hospitality for our meeting!
- The Scholastic Book Fair/ Spring Fling will be held on Friday, April 10th. The book fair (buy one, get one) will take place from 3:30 – 8pm. The ice cream social will be held from 6 – 8pm. Many volunteers are needed!!
- Tons of Fun will be Friday, May 29th. Many volunteers are needed! Details will be sent home soon, so watch for emails. About 4 volunteers will be needed from each class.

Jackie Beck

- We earned \$739.10 from our latest Box Tops submission. Thank you for sending them in! Please continue to collect them over the summer. The next submission will be in the fall.
- Congratulations to all of the local, regional, and state Reflections winners. Next year’s theme is “Let Your Imagination Fly.” Work on your entries over the summer! The due date will be in October.
- The Dance Recital is scheduled for Thursday, April 30th. Rehearsal will be on April 29th.

VIII. Treasurer’s Report

- Reminder to all committee chairs and grade coordinators to turn in requests for reimbursement ASAP.

IX. Old Business

X. New Business

- Slate of officers for the 2015-2016 PTA board were presented. Motion made to vote made by Jill Throckmorton and second by Rikki Shields. Slate was voted on and approved unanimously.
 - Co-Presidents are Jackie Beck and Laurie Rieger
 - Vice Presidents are Camille Bodnar, Jamie Schweiger, Kelli Caputo, and Tiffany Womack
 - Secretary is Susan Andrewson
 - Treasurer is Wendy Segal
 - Assistant Treasurer is Michelle Fagan
- Motion made to vote on updated Bylaws by Rikki Shields and second by Susan Andrewson. The Bylaws were voted on and approved unanimously.
- Robin Eiszler won the giveaway – a \$30 gift certificate for Shabby Chic Nail Boutique.

XI. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:37am.

Minutes submitted by Camille Bodnar