

PETERS TOWNSHIP AREA COUNCIL PTA MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING, May 17, 2007

Call to Order: The May 17, 2007 meeting of the Peters Township Area Council PTA, Inc. was called to order at 9:28AM at the ESF building. President Sue Smith led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance. President Sue Smith presided and Secretary Sue Clark recorded the minutes.

President's Report: Sue Smith read a letter from Toni Sulkowski thanking the area council for money donated for podcast station at the various schools. Sue presented Diane Ritter with the "Life Achievement Award from the National PTA. Flowers were given and she was thanked for all of her work over the years. The same award was presented to Cathy Cox and Tammy Conrad. Sue read a brief list of their PTA accomplishments. Se then passed around a folder with information on fundraising and various other items.

Secretary's Report: The minutes of the April 19, 2007 meeting were approved as written.

Treasurer's Report: Mary Sternweis presented the treasurer's report. The current cash balance is \$6,891.

Administration Reports:

Superintendent: Dr. Timm Mackly. We all face one big challenge due to our busy live – to slow down and properly recognize and acknowledge others for their hard work. He then presented plaques to all of the PTA officers from each school and the Area Council. Dr. Mackly mentioned that the town meeting held last night went very well.

Director of Technology: Ms. Toni Sulkowski thanked Area Council for the podcast station money. The high school PTA donated money for this effort also. McMurray PTA bought clickers as did the middle school. She is currently looking over recommendations from a parent/teacher group to begin the process of learning on-line. Power School is the now student information system purchased by the district. A letter will be going out with the report cars explaining the new system. The will be no Edline at the beginning of the next school year.

Communications Coordinator: Mrs. Cara Zanella spoke about "Drive to Stay Alive" program at the high school. It was a wonderful program and thanked all who helped out – especially Dawn Pustay. The Peters Township calendar will be sent to the presidents of the PTAs and they can communicate directly with the calendar coordinator for their entries. Beginning with the summer newsletter, there will be a change in printers and processes. There has been a good response from the town meeting. There will be another one in August, when the canine resource officer will speak. The safety resource plan will be updated over the summer.

Unit Reports:

Pleasant Valley – Mrs. Hamrick reported that this is a very busy time for the principals. Kennywood ticket sales will be on Wednesday. Tuesday, May 29 is the kindergarten orientation. Jun 1 is the first grade musical and economics fair trip for the third graders. All third graders will make a bird house and put it up in the township PV Wildthings night is coming up. The third graders will plant a tree and the PTA will be putting up plaques for each tree. The parents of PV recently sent in over \$3,000 to pay for the funeral expenses for Bert Duda's daughter. She works in the PV cafeteria. Character Counts committee is raising money for cancer research by participating in the Relay for Life.

Lisa Anderson: Each child brought in a flower which was put into a bouquet for teacher appreciation. May 23 is volunteer appreciation day. A lunch and manicures will be provided.

Bower Hill – Mrs. Gustafson: Was unable to stay

Lisa Smith: Teacher appreciation had a Baseball theme. Reading Olympics, Bower Hill day and the grandfriends lunch are coming up;. Character counts sold beach towels with character counts and an Indian on them.

McMurray – Dr. Hobbs discussed the “Family Initiative” where a 4th, 5th and 6th grade class get together and have fun, do a service activity together, and work together on various reading and math skills. Next year, 4th, 5th and 6th grade “families” will have classrooms near each other.

Kathy Oberschelp: The PTA purchased a second “clicker” set for classroom use. They just had the fourth quarter teacher appreciation lunch and are gearing up for McMurray Day.

Middle School – Dr. Monsour thanked the Area Council for bringing all of the administrators together. Construction is continuing. Picnics, awards, dances, and academics are all going on. She thanked the PTA for the teacher appreciation tailgate

Lori Cuervo could not attend.

High School – Mr. Milchovich mentioned that the high school is a busy place now. He thanked Dawn Pustay and the PTA for the faculty lunch. He thanked Dawn for a great job through many hardships. The prom and grand march are tomorrow. They had “Drive to Stay Alive”. There will be an assembly today about it. The year is wrapping up. Seniors are going to Kennywood after the senior breakfast.. He is thankful for the experience of being the Dean of Students but is looking forward to teaching again next year.

Dawn Pustay: She thanked Mr. Milchovich for being so easy to work with. A group of media and thespian students are doing a commercial on KDKA. They received a grant for \$76,000 from HP for the school. (Last year they only received \$10,000). The teachers applied for the grant. Senior award are coming up.

Unfinished Business: New area council officers were elected with no nominations from the floor. The officers for the 2007/2008 school year are: President- Sue Smith, First VP – Lisa Smith, Second VP – Sue Clark, Treasurer – Mary Sternweis, Secretary – Michele Bittel.

Sue Smith reminded the PTA presidents that each individual PTA will be responsible for their portion of the directory next year.

New Business: An audit committee was set up consisting of Karen Bovalina, Dawn Pustay and Sue Ralston.

Sue Smith made a plea for committee chairs for next year. Karen Bovalina would like to set up a meeting with the other PTA presidents for next year to set a schedule for next year’s PTA meetings.

Committee Reports:

Scholarship – Diane Ritter: They will be conducting interviews next Wednesday.

School Board – Diane Ritter: An engineer was hired to look into the high school pool situation. AP audits are going well. Policy 1330.3 went back for a second reading. The policy refers to the wording required on any flyers distributed at the schools explaining the School district’s endorsement , or lack thereof.

Reflections – Linda VanNewkirk Findley Middle School will hold the ceremony for the district and state winners.

Directory – Marcia McCracken: If anyone needs a directory of the summer, see Marcia.

Character Counts – Sue Ralston: Character counts will have a booth at Community Day. The Walk for Awareness is scheduled for October 21. If anyone needs more car magnets, see Sue.

In attendance were: Sue Clark, Linda VanNewkirk, Marcia McCracken, Jodi Hannah, Debbie Smith, Sheril Wilson, Beth Gamble, Mary Sternweis, Sue Ralston, Kathy Oberschelp, Kelly Gustafson, Mary Monsour, Lisa Smith, Michele Bittel, Lisa Anderson, Nick Milchovich Sue Smith, Karen Bovalina, Carol Aurin, Mary Matsuura, Diane Ritter, Dawn Pustay and Cathy Luzier.

Submitted by _____ Date Approved: _____
Sue Clark, Secretary