

# PT PTA Area Council

## Meeting Minutes January 23, 2014

❖ **Call to Order**- 9:16 AM Pledge of Allegiance - Lisa Briegel, President

❖ **Reading and Approval Minutes**- Jan Trombitas, Secretary

- November 21, 2013 meeting

❖ **Treasurer's Report**- Tracey Melograne, Treasurer.

- Budget Report
- Interstate phone call to BH regarding check

❖ **School Administrators**-

- **Bower Hill Principal**-Mrs. Kelly Gustafson

Mystery Solved is the theme this year. The students were to search for the bell until all clues were revealed. Snack scene at 3:15. Recipes go home with kids utilizing Box Top budget. Trying to get the cooking show on the cable channel. Glitter bottles for stress release. Or bottles used as find it game, for kids to take 5 minutes. Bins for sensory time to relate to the book reading in class.

- **Pleasant Valley Principal**- Mr. Michael Fisher

PJ drive is up to 80 books and 50 pj's. Lunch time every week a new veggie is introduced. Gear up to make healthy choices and gear up for kids of steel. Started the new year with a monthly theme. This month is diversity. Lesson is themed to Teammate- Jackie Robinson book. HS helpers, such a great thing! 15- 20 kids come in on a daily basis to help kids with homework and reading. Great collaboration. Starting afterschool tutoring to build skills in math and reading. Students have been interested in learning sign-language and the class is taking off- one way for students to interact with deaf student.

- **McMurray Elementary Principal**- Mr. Blair Stoehr

Thank you to PTA volunteers. Assembly was wonderful. Spelling Bee was success. Math team took 1<sup>st</sup> place, 5<sup>th</sup> graders participated in word masters Bridget Shock receive a national score of 20 out of 20, and 5th grade as a whole took 20<sup>th</sup> place nationally. Anti-bullying slogan contest and novels read aloud by teachers. PTSA Testing on the horizon for Feb. through May.

- **PTMS Principal**- Dr. Robert Freado

National blue ribbon school, is an honor and a responsibility. Share with other schools, to benefit from others. This is a true community award. One big way to show the community is through a ceremony on Friday afternoon January 31st with guest speakers from community and schools. Dance a thon will be at 5:00 to 11 pm to raise money for Ronald McDonald House.

- **PTHS Principal**- Mrs. Lori Pavlik

Lots of fundraising efforts are going on at HS all the time. Volleyball game was fun, but HS did not do too well. Kids have a blast and it raised \$3500 for make a wish. Snowball dance coming up Feb. 8<sup>th</sup>, run by the parents. Collaborated with police department for use on Breathalyzer, 10 day school probation, social probation and drug rehab program. 2<sup>nd</sup> offense is expulsion. College night is Feb. 20<sup>th</sup>; all families with college bound students are encouraged to attend. March 10 is PSSS test for all 9<sup>th</sup> graders to better prepare kids for PSAT, catch deficiencies. 10<sup>th</sup> graders will take the

PSAT again this year so they will have 2 years of data and see where there are shortfalls. PTSA scheduling meeting Graduation Requirements are going through policy changes based on state changes. March 13 will present at HS. Scheduling will start February 24<sup>th</sup> through March 17<sup>th</sup>. Schedule building will begin in April which gives one month to assess teachers, staffing and student choices. March 6 – 9 The Whiz. Grad Project- thought process- The state changed the rules, and there is still a mention of a “project” but not a full grad project. State is replacing the project with requirement for proficiency on Keystone which may include a graduation project. More keystones are coming down the pike. Right now we have the three,

◆ Bio Lit Algebra

Students need to continue to retake tests, impacting our 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> graders even though state says it impacts class of 2017. Students who completed graduation projects already may be able to present on April 17<sup>th</sup> for extra credit. But it is no longer part of requirements. Remediation classes will be offered in place of elective. Drivers Theory is open to 10-11-12 with preference going to upperclassmen.

❖ **School Board Report**, Sue Smith

- School Board Dates given out for upcoming meetings. A lot of money will be needed to repair the building- potentially millions of dollars. Meeting Feb. 5<sup>th</sup> to discuss. Board votes on curriculum changes prior to scheduling. Required to request increase in taxes to pay for retired teachers. Tentative budgets discussed. Policy- The class of 2015 will NOT be required to present portion of grad project. Eliminated on-line class component (since it is never available on line) Discussed requirement of Speech class. Hired two long term substitutes in Phys-ed and Math. Renewals of Athletic personnel, in many sports. Consider multi-year contracts, Dr. French will look into it. Student trips- does every student have to participate in the fundraiser to take advantage of the trip. Right now spelled out and now will be looked at closer by Dr. French. In regards to the \$20 booster fee, (in addition to \$90 per student required already) it stays for this year, but in future should just get the \$110 upfront. Not every parent joins the booster group so it turns into a \$20 penalty for parents who are in the group. Lisa Anderson comments on access to what budget money is being spent on every sport and it is available web site. Grant money from Education Foundation awarded to teachers at HS, MS, McM, and PV. Technology issue- computers are taking 10-20 minutes to boot up at start of classes and wasting time. Has this issue been addressed? Lisa Anderson asked for a presentation from the new tech person. Would this end up in Education or Finance committee meeting?

❖ **New Business**

- Scholarship Increase- AC offers a scholarship every year to a qualified senior. Propose to increase the scholarship to include one boy and one girl. Jodi moves to increase budget from 1,000 to 2,000 with intent to go to one boy and one girl with criteria. Jodi, Julie Ogburn 2<sup>nd</sup>. Carol Planitzer Moved to Table until Carol Aurin is available to add opinion. Ria Karstonas 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- Vote on PTA Volunteer Award for Students- Julie Ogburn moves to create ad-hoc committee to create an award to present to student volunteers after a certain amount of hours. Motion was approved. Discussion- parameters for units for hours, types of volunteering,
  - Award Committee- Jodi H, Suzanne M., Carol P., Minna A, Margaret R., Ria K., Laura S., Karen M.

- PIP meeting should be presented earlier than junior year. OR perhaps an early meeting to prepare and a 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting to follow-up.
- AC President Reminders -Nominating Committees at each local unit by next month
- ❖ **Unit Reports** by PTA Presidents-
  - Bower Hill Elementary- Ria Kartsonas – Family fun and Fitness, Kids of steel, ASC, and homework helpers
  - Pleasant Valley- Suzie Bode and Karen Molk-2 students forgo own birthday presents to donate pj's (Sara L noted that teen pj's are needed). Next PTA meeting Kathy Gillen nutrition coach.
  - McMurray Elementary- Melanie Hutnik- Feb. 11<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 meeting is the night meeting with media component
  - PTMS- Rochelle Saxon- Hot choc café. PTA meeting Feb. 6<sup>th</sup>.
  - PTHS- Margaret Rauscher- Drive to Stay Alive, Saturday March 29 at Console Energy Park. Music boosters at Chipotle.
- ❖ **Committee Reports**
  - 1<sup>st</sup> VP- Mary Pat DeRienzo
    - Character Counts—next meeting Feb. 4<sup>th</sup>, noon at BH
    - Membership- Issues at HS to get teacher members but now at every building. Jodi would like to send a letter to administration to encourage more support.
    - By-Laws (Carol A. New Chair)
    - Reflections – regional winners were announced and moved on to state judging
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> VP- Carol Aurin
    - School Pictures - big check
    - Directory- spring meeting
    - Ways and Means (book sale)- handing reins to Lisa Briegel
    - Scholarships
- ❖ **Old Business**
  - File Cabinet
  -
- ❖ **Calendar**
  - Next Month's Meeting- February 20th, 9:15 AM at DAO
    - Hospitality begins at 9:00 AM provided by Bower Hill PTA
- ❖ **Adjournment-** 12:11 pm - Jodi Hannah and Carol Planitzer

Submitted: \_\_\_\_\_

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Jan Trombitas, Secretary