

# PT PTA Area Council

## Meeting Minutes September 19, 2013

**Call to Order**, Pledge of Allegiance- 9:20 AM by Lisa Briegel, President

- Introduction of Presidents and Area Council Board

**Reading and Approval of Minutes** from May 2013 Area Council Meeting- Jan Trombitas, Secretary

- Minutes were approved and will stand as distributed. New sign in sheet was reviewed.

**Treasurer's Report**, Tracy Melograne, Treasurer

- The old year has been closed out and audit was passed over the summer. Cancelled Constant Contact due to inactivity. Note line item for Educational Budget. Jodi Hannah moved to approve the new budget for 2013/2014, Sue Smith 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion passed unanimously via voice vote.
- Other remarks- (1) Money Matters is available to all PTA treasurers. (2) Sales Tax Exempt forms were discussed and decided to send to each committee chair for future use. (3) Expense Reimbursement forms are available and must be used for all receipts.

**Superintendent's Report**- Dr. Jeannine French

- Outlined Key Activities throughout the district.
- (1) School Performance Profile (SPP) - important to help us understand how well each school is doing. This report is about more than just PSSA test scores. It is about how the school directly affects the growth of a child. This is now a school score, not a district score. (2) PVAAS scores- Pennsylvania Value Added Assessment System follows individual children and evaluates growth data. [pvaas.sas.com](http://pvaas.sas.com) cool web site. (3) ACT 82- working with teachers using educator effectiveness model. It is a broader prospective of observation and student performance including what goes on behind the scenes in a classroom. (4) Questions and clarifications were asked and answered.

### **Administrative Reports**

*Assistant Superintendent, Dr. Patricia Kardambikis*

- Curriculum writing done this Summer included 61 courses
  - Math K- 12, Health, PE, Library Concept, AP US History
  - Researching World Language
- Project Lead the Way (PLTW) provides middle and high school students with hands-on STEM or STEAM courses in biomedical studies. Global Studies are moving forward with limited number of books (class books instead of individual books in grades 9 & 10) due to late notice on which books the teachers would use, and supplemental aids will be used. Math Research Committee will review the Envisions Math program which is focused math- deep instruction, not as wide. Also reviewed Math Expressions.
- 3 year schedule for curriculum review, instead of 6 years.
- Coordinated school health- Permission slips updated, and all health moved in HS to 9 and 10
- PA Core Standards- National standards in English and Math, has been a 3 year process. PTSD will be using our own testing, not National Testing. September 30<sup>th</sup> Review of Comprehensive plan, October 9<sup>th</sup> is Community meeting.
- National ASCA- American School Councilor Association- involved all schools throughout district
- School Nurses- Concussion Awareness through Brain Step. Focus also Sudden Cardiac Arrest
- Questions and discussions regarding Text Books (New vs. Used), availability of online supplements, PSSA in 10<sup>th</sup> as well as 11<sup>th</sup> grade, and the need for greater effort to educate parents of lower grades in regards to math expectations.

*Director of Pupil Services- Mrs. Patricia Kelly*

- 1/2 time middle school gifted teachers added at PTMS. Working on gifted program. Embrace all children autistic and life strategies at PV, BH, MCM
- 3 day workshop over summer with teachers was well received and teachers learned a myriad of information including how schools use data to drive instruction. October 11<sup>th</sup> is data day

*Assistant Superintendent for Performance- Dr. Jennifer Murphy*

- Dr. Murphy was introduced as a new employee working in performance management  
*Assistant Superintendent for Performance- Dr. Jennifer Murphy*

*Communications Coordinator- Mrs. Shelly Belcher*

- Thank you to character counts 15 years celebration. Emphasized that this type of event is unique to our community. Education Foundation gave \$16,000 back to classrooms now looking for corporate donations and corporate support. New phone system new communications with families. New safety procedures throughout schools, most notable the entry procedures. PTSD will have a presence in every issue of IN Peters Magazine.

**School Board Report, Sue Smith School Board Rep**

Dates of upcoming meetings

Regular Board Meeting- Monday, October 21, 2013

Finance – Monday, October 28, 2013

Education, Special Voting meeting, Buildings and Grounds all one night- Monday, September 30, 2013

- School Board September 16th- Evelyn's way sign is agreed to go back up. First reading of the dedications and memorials policy. SPA Committee new bylaws. PSBA new election process. Fundraisers  
Other recommendations- Dr. French asked to recommend PSBA value pass but was denied. Priority List for preventative of buildings and grounds should be presented at next meeting.
- Further discussion and Questions-
  - Regarding approved text books and where budget money goes when approved book is not used. Who approved supplemental material purchased?
  - \$20 booster charge per head. Revisited same questions from 5/23/13 area Council meeting.
  - How /Why Concussion protocol came about without parent input.

**Unit Reports-**

- *Bower Hill- Ria Kartsonas*  
PTA meeting was well attended  
Mystery Solved is this year's theme  
Membership gift to teachers tied into theme  
Read a thon book is called *Otis* and hall decorations are awesome
- *PV -Karen Molk*  
PTA meeting with Shelly emphasized safety procedures  
Picture day went great  
Sign-ups for after school classes  
October 2nd at 6:30pm
- *McMurray-Melanie Hutnik*  
4th grade mixer divided by class prior to open house  
Kickoff event was brand new as pep rally  
PTA meeting was Shelly and officer Dave  
Oct. 8th PM meeting but may change due to HS college fair
- Rochelle Saxon MS  
Walk thru day was very helpful  
PTA meeting with Shelly belcher regarding safety  
Picture day , open house,  
Membership totals 326  
Next PTA October 3rd, with Dr. French to attend
- HS -Margaret Rauscher  
HS Ambassadors  
Home Coming week ends with dance Oct. 5th  
College fair upcoming on Oct. 8  
224 students, 240 parents joined PTA  
Idea to compete students against parents for PTA enrollment was offered

### **Committee Reports-**

- Character Counts- Margaret Rauscher Reporting-Next meeting is October 1st municipal building
- By Laws-Lisa Anderson Reporting- deadlines , copies should be sent to state office
- Membership- Jodi Hannah Reporting- good news for schools, this year there are no numbers on cards due to PTA state error. This should make it easier at school level, no real need to distribute cards. Dues info deadline October 15th for initial submission certified mail
- Reflections- Jan Trombitas Reporting, The theme for this school year is Believe, Dream, Inspire. The web pages are up and accessed through each school's PTA home page. A plea for Judges led to one volunteer from the gallery.
- School Pictures- Carol Aurin Reporting- Contract with Inter-State is ending in January 2014. Posed questions whether AC should renew contract or open it up for new bids. The floor recommended to send an email to PTA school picture chair people at each school for some input prior to renewing for another 3 years  
Questions regarding life alert and amber alert photos- this service can be provided by Inter-State
- Ways and Means, Lisa Briegel Reporting-Sign up for bowling
- Directory- Carol Planitzer and Sandy Levin Reporting- Business sales for advertising are complete  
Parent info is imputed and distribution will be some time in November

### **Old business-**

Question was raised regarding After School Classes- Why don't we take a cut of after school classes to make money for schools? Discussion regarding fund raising rules and regulations.

### **New business-**

\$600 on budget to purchase file cabinet  
May need a second cabinet for OLD files

STEM lab intro - Carol Aurin

PTSD need a place in each school to bring a class dedicated to science math and engineering. Grants from corporations are available once the lab is up and running. Grants won't start until STEM rooms are operating. Is this something we can create in our elementary schools starting with a donation from area council?

Negotiate rooms available, or lab on a cart

STEM is the direction we need to move forward in

teachers may need to be certified in STEM

Request may need to go through buildings and grounds

Science Fair-Carol Aurin

We have never had a science fair in our school district

Is this something we would be interested in in the spring

Next meeting info- October 24, 2013, District Administration Building

Adjournment-

Ria Kartsonas moved to close meeting at 12:38 PM

Second by Margaret Rauscher

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

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Jan Trombitas, Secretary