

PETERS TOWNSHIP PTA AREA COUNCIL

SEPTEMBER 23, 2010

Call to order: The September 23, 2010 meeting of the Peters Township Area Council was called to order at 9:20 AM. President Carol Aurin presided and Gina Wells recorded the minutes. The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

President's Report-Carol Aurin

*Welcome to all in attendance and introduced the officers of each individual school along with Area Council

Secretary's Report-Gina Wells

*The minutes of the May 20, 2010 meeting were approved as recorded.

Treasurer's Report- Cathy Vargo

*The 2010/2011 budget includes several changes in the wording of line items. A motion was made to pass the budget as written. Jodi Hannah made the motion and Karen Bovalina seconded it to accept the budget.

Officer Dave Stanton, Peters Township Police Department

*Announced September 25, 2010 as the date of a federal program to help residents properly dispose of unused prescription drugs from their homes. Various sites around the township will be available to residents to dispose of their unwanted medications.

Unit Reports

Dr. Nina Zetty, Superintendent

*Over 50 courses were revised and new mentorships were introduced at the high school, one mentorship in business/information technology and the others in law and health fields

*A five year maintenance plan is being formed

*Staff identification cards are now being used in the district along with the showing of identification cards of visitors to the district buildings

*Discussed the policy of food being eaten on the school buses and asked those present to please refrain eating from on school buses when possible

*Explained the new titles of administration within the district via a humorous skit

Dr. Anthony Merante, Assistant Superintendent

*In the process of improving the guidance office website for the high school

*Explained the updated district policies such as the partnership in advertising, i.e. corporate advertising is now permissible in the district but must follow strict criteria

Dr. Mary Monsour, Director of Staff Development and IT Integrator

*Explained her new position and all it entails such as staff development, assessments, grants and technology integration

*Three pilot tests will be available online for students, Alegbra I, Biology and Chemistry, to help in the assessment of the Keystone exams

Mr. William King, Supervisor of Special Education

*The extended school year program was very successful this summer

*Looking to improve on the transition process for students and exit services

Mrs. Shelly Belcher, Communications Director

*District websites are being updated and explained the new safety measures being implemented such as identification cards for staff

Mrs. Diane Ritter, School Board representative

*Extended a thank you for the Bower Hill PTA for their generous donation towards technology in the district

*A position for a school security person for the district has been created

Bower Hill-Jan Trombitas, PTA President

*This year's motto is "soaring to new heights" and the school received the Calla Lily award for their school garden

Pleasant Valley-Mary Pat DeRienzo, PTA co-president

*Welcomed the new principal and the year's motto is "continuous growth"

*The PTA is using constant contact as a communications tool

McMurray-Lisa Briegel, PTA president

*Membership and donations are on the rise this year and McMurray Kick-Off event was successful

Middle School-Lisa Anderson, PTA president

*Weekly updates are being sent using e-mail

*Advisory committee meetings will be held twice a school year and the new student/7th grade orientations went well along with Open House

High School-Lorra Brannen, PTA co-president

*Encouraged all high school students to become involved in the High School PTSA and Open House will be held on September 30, 2010

Committee Reports-Michele Bittel, 1st Vice-president, Area Council

Reflections

*Information and applications will be available online and the theme for this year's competition is "Together We Can" and all PTA units were asked to make sure they were in good standing with the state PTA

School-wide Directory

*The directory will be going to the printer within 10 days and with a delivery in late October/ early November to families

School Pictures

*All students will receive a photo id card that can be used in conjunction with the NutraKids system

*The only picture re-take date that has been set thus far is the High School on October 18, 2010

Character Counts

*Currently looking for a chairperson. Any interested persons should see Michele after the meeting.

Membership

*Individual chair people will be contacted with the deadline dates for the state and national PTA

By-laws

*Currently looking for a chairperson. Lisa Anderson volunteered for the position.

Old Business

*None

New Business

*A parent ambassador program is beginning in the district and is looking for a volunteer from each school. Shelly Belcher is spearheading the program.

*A motion was made to increase the amount of gift to school to \$100/school by Jodi Hannah. Lisa Smith seconded the motion.

*A candidate forum will be held on October 19, 2010. National Honor Society members along with law mentoring students will be asked to volunteer for the event.

Adjournment

*Meeting adjourned at 12:15 PM