

November 17, 2016

**PT PTA Area Council Meeting Minutes
DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION REPORTING**

Call to Order – Pledge of Allegiance - Meeting called to order at 9:20 a.m. by Margaret Rauscher.

President's Report - President, Margaret Rauscher

Margaret thanked PTMS PTA for providing the hospitality for the meeting. She thanked Jan Trombitas for her hard work on the Reflections Contest. The judging took place last night. The volunteer badges from Lifetouch can be either horizontal or vertical.

- Bylaws Annual Meeting Revision - Carol Planitzer reported the bylaws change that we have been discussing has been posted for 30 days and now we can vote on it. Motion made to change Area Council bylaws to change the Annual Meeting to May from September by Jodi Hannah. Minna Allison seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Reading and Approval Minutes - Secretary, Amy Pugliano

- October 20, 2016 Meeting Minutes - Minutes stand except for the correction that the informational handout on apps of concern was from Officer Stevich and handed out by Margaret. He did not attend the meeting.

Treasurer's Report – Treasurer, Kelly Trupiano

- October Financial Report reviewed by Kelly. There are no expenses this month.
- Kelly warned of an email scam where an email comes from the PTA president to the treasurer asking for money to be wired to an account.

Superintendent's Report – Dr. Jeannine L. French

The school year is going well. Mr. Fisher is spending time in the class room and likes what is being in seen in the classroom with the teachers.

Administrative Reports

Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment - Mr. Michael Fisher

Mr. Fisher reported that they have been doing their due diligence meeting with principals and teachers. Doing lots of building walk throughs. Trying to get to each building every 2-3 weeks. Working with teachers to make materials that they are using more meaningful and sharing best practices among teachers and buildings. Want to build STEM opportunities and initiatives in grades K-12. K-3 has a partnership with Project Lead the Way. This provides a grant for 3 teachers for training. Each grade has a training module where they focus on a problem, project and presentation on their topic. McMurray is working with code and conditional statements and will be partnering with Mrs. Olenyk for robot programming. The goal is for all schools to have their own robots. Zoorama, a gaming software has been approved by Board for McMurray and MS. Last year, K-6 adopted a new Language Arts program. The teachers are excited about new program. Working with multiple reads each week along with increased writing opportunities.

Communication Coordinator - Mrs. Shelly Belcher

Shelly thanked the PTAs for all the activities and events that they have planned. Asked that PTA remind parents that in order to volunteer, they must have their clearances. If they have received clearances for another activity, they must get them to the District. The new list of approved volunteers was posted yesterday. The automatic elementary absence calls will be made at 10:45 if a child is missing from school. There will be a big push for membership for the Education Foundation. Jim Stevich and Shelly did ALICE

training for the Public Library. The next High School ALICE training will be in the spring. The Administrators will have a volleyball team this year for the annual fundraiser on February 2nd.

Report of School Board Representative - Minna Allison, Lisa Anderson

Minna reported on some of the highlights from the Education Committee meeting. Our English, Math & Science AP scores have increased 25% while the national average increased 7%. NMSI score increased by 18%. Peters is ranked 3rd in the state for raw scores in Math, Science and English. AP Math ranked 4th in the state, AP Science ranked 6th in the state and AP English ranked 5th in the state. 225 AP students received a total of 30K. There will be an Education Committee meeting in December and the PSSA scores will be reviewed. There have been several Buildings and Grounds Committee meetings. The High School feasibility study is complete. They will be also looking at a district wide study. Demographic study should be complete in January. The gathering of all this information is to be able to make the best decision for the district. Finance Committee looking at funding options. We have a strong financial position. Hopefully we will have enough information by the beginning of the year to begin making decisions on the HS. There are some vans that may need replacing. Working with Pitt and FBI on a new class to be added at HS next year. The Board will begin looking at next year's budget and taxes. Monday is the next Board meeting.

School Reports

PTHS – Mary Pat DeRienzo, PTSA President

Mary Pat reported the writing lab is available in Mrs. Groninger's room or the library period 2 through 9. The Senior Smash, pasta fundraising dinner for the senior class will be held Tuesday in the cafeteria. Tickets are \$15. The High School won the WPIAL Sportsmanship Award.

PTMS – Laura Spernak, PTA President

Laura reported that the PTA hosted a Pasta Bar for teachers during the conferences. PTMS had their first Box Top drawing of the year. The winning home room received donuts. There are 2 movie nights scheduled this year. The first one will be on December 1 and feature the movie "Elf". The second one will be sometime in the spring. The Spelling Bee will be hosted by the Middle School this year.

McMurray Elementary – Cathy O'Neil, PTA President

Cathy reported that the Halloween parties were successful. Due to the flood, Open House was held in November. It seemed less attended than usual. Red Ribbon Week went well. Spirit Day is tomorrow. The theme is wear a mustache. Suzanne McKay is chairing Welcome Committee. She will be working with the counselors to develop a Welcome Packet. There were some issues with pictures. Some due to poor communication.

Bower Hill – Karen Lingis, PTA President

Karen reported the mittens collected will be going to the Mon Valley Salvation Army. The Gratitude Committee collected extra treats and gave baskets to community helpers (police dept, fire, ambulance,etc.).

Pleasant Valley - Jackie Beck, PTA President, Camille Bodnar, Assistant to President

Camille reported Halloween parties and parade went well. The iPad cart has arrived. PV collected 195 pounds of candy for the City Mission. JA will be meeting with 3rd grade on 11/4. The Holiday party will be on 12/21. Friday Spirit Day and the theme is Wacky Clothes Day.

Committee Reports

1st VP - Carol Planitzer

- Character Counts - Next meeting 12/6 at PTMS at noon. The new technology area will be available to tour.
- Directory - Need committee volunteers for next year. No delivery date yet.

2nd VP – Kathleen Chaudhari

- Membership - Jodi reported everything submitted and on time.
- Ways & Means - Used Book Sale tentatively scheduled for 3/31 & 4/1. Looking at possibility of storing books at MS for early collection.
- Reflections - The judging was last night. Winners will move on to states and regionals.
- School Pictures - There were lots of picture issues. They will be addressed with committee chair, Suzy Stauffer.

Calendar

January 19, 2017 @ 9:15 - Next Area Council Meeting in the District Administration Office Board Room.
Hospitality begins at 9:00 a.m. provided by Pleasant Valley PTA.

Adjournment - Margaret adjourned the meeting at 11:09 a.m.

Date Submitted: January 19, 2017

Amy Pugliano , Secretary