

Peters Township Middle School PTA Meeting - Minutes

January 5, 2012

- I. Welcome/Pledge of Allegiance
 - a. President Gina Wells called the meeting to order at 9:22 a.m. There were approximately 16 people in attendance. (see attachment)
 - b. The Pledge of Allegiance immediately followed.

- II. President's Remarks- Gina Wells
 - a. Gina welcomed the administrators, board members, and parents.
 - b. The EZ Child ID Program will take place beginning Monday, January 9 through Tuesday or Wednesday of that week with approximately 74 students signed up to participate. This program is coordinated by the Peters Twp. Police Department who purchased the software and laptop. It is a resource for parents who will receive a CD with fingerprints, video, speech patterns, and physical characteristics of their child. The information is not retained by the police department and immediately erased after the child participates. The CD is released only to parents who are required to personally pick it up in the school office.
 - c. The Spelling Bee will take place on January 11th at 7:00 p.m. at McMurray Elementary school. There are 112 students who qualified to participate in grades 6, 7, and 8.

- III. Principal's Report- Dr. Freado
 - a. Dr. Freado also addressed the upcoming EZChildID.com program. The faculty has received a letter to notify them that students will be temporarily pulled from class through Wednesday to participate in the EZ Child ID program. The program may be offered again at the end of the month after a safety-themed week in school has taken place. The safety week is sponsored by the "Friends of Christine Guenther" organization and is designed to focus students on awareness and strategies to keep themselves safe.
 - b. Dr. Freado discussed the possibility of changing the date of the 8th grade dance from June 2nd to June 1st due to a conflict with the Relay for Life.
 - c. Mr. Henaghan talked about the student variety show that took place on the last day before the holiday break. He addressed the courage that it takes for students of this age to perform in front of their peers and complimented the students on their respectful behavior in the large group setting.
 - d. Mr. Henaghan shared a teacher-produced video that was presented to the student body. The video focused on attributes of character-building: anti-bullying, being a leader, the impact of small acts of kindness, and choosing to make positive changes.
 - e. Dr. Freado and Mr. Henaghan then addressed questions regarding the current Math curriculum.

- IV. Secretary's Report- Beth Quinn
 - a. The minutes from the November 3, 2011 PTA meeting were approved without change.

- V. Treasurer's Report- Jodi Hannah
 - a. Jodi presented the updated monthly budget.

- VI. First Vice President's Report - Barb Calfo
 - a. Barb thanked Mary Ellen Bruce and Sandy Levin for providing hospitality for the meeting.
 - b. The next Area Council meeting will be held January 19th at the Peters Township Library and begins at 9:15 with the principals from district schools attending.

- c. Cash Back Programs chair, Deb Smith, has continuously been collecting and submitting the Box Tops for Cash and says thank you to parents. We have received a check for \$718.60 from the October submission.
- d. The Labels for Education campaign has been taken on by Carol Planitzer.
- e. Thank you to Brenda Falcione for her dedication to the Reflections program. The Middle School had an all-time record number of more than 30 entries; it was also the highest number of entries for any school in the district. The results are as follows:

Visual Arts: 1st place-Will Ketyer
 2nd place-Ava Falcione
 3rd place-Maille O'Toole
 4th place-Luke Gerben Kaspar
 5th place-Cindy Hsieh

Photography: 1st place-Hannah Falcione

Literature: 1st place-Emily Fornof
 2nd place-Lillian Fornof
 3rd place-Grant Allison
 4th place-Kelly Bergman
 5th place-Lauren DiCello

Music: 1st place-Cindy Hsieh

Area Council Level (PTMS & MCM/ 6,7,8 grades):

Visual Arts: 1st place-Will Ketyer
 2nd place-Ava Falcione
 3rd place-Luke Gerben Kaspar
 5th place-Maille O'Toole

Photography: 1st place-Hannah Falcione

Literature: 2nd place-Kelly Bergman
 3rd place-Emily Fornof
 5th place-Lillian Fornof

Music: 1st place-Cindy Hsieh

Regional Level (Washington, Fayette, Greene & Westmoreland counties):

Visual Arts: 1st place-Will Ketyer
 2nd place-Ava Falcione
 3rd place-Luke Gerben Kaspar

Photography: 2nd place-Hannah Falcione

Literature: Honorable Mention: Kelly Bergman

Music: 2nd place: Cindy Hsieh

- f. The January social event, the Hot Chocolate Café, will take place on Friday, January 27th from 7 to 9 p.m. in the cafeteria. Its format will include performances from PT high school students, raffles and desserts. Tickets will be sold in advance for this event.

VII. Second Vice President's Report – Carol Planitzer

- a. Thanks to Rita Reo, Lisa Scott, and Lynn Soika for the success of the first Student/Faculty Volleyball game. There were and estimated 125 attendees.
- b. Thanks to Maureen Brugger and Sandy Levin for an extremely successful Book Fair; there was approximately \$5000.00 in gross sales, over double the amount from last year.
- c. The Labels for Education campaign had a balance of approximately 3000 points. The December submission was roughly 650 points and we received a bonus of 500 points to be applied in January. There are currently two ways to earn points: 1) the Giant Eagle circular is offering 100 Labels for Education points when parents register at Giant Eagle Labels for Education online, and 2) look in the Sunday, January 8th newspapers for the Labels for Education insert. Attach 5 labels for 100 points or just send in the insert without labels as the inserts are not reproducible.

VIII. Old Business – Gina Wells

No old business to present.

IX. New Business – Gina Wells

- a. Jodi Hannah announced that the Peters Township Education Foundation (PTEF) is looking for recipe submissions for a cookbook that will be sold as a fundraiser. The PTEF funds grant requests from teachers who are looking to incorporate new and innovative ideas in the classroom.

- b. Dr. Freado gave an update on the outdoor bathroom facility used mainly during the football season. There will either be a small building constructed on site or there will be entry to the lower level of the district administrative offices available.

X. The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

These Minutes were recorded by Beth Quinn, Recording Secretary, PTMS PTA

Approved February 2, 2012 _____
Beth Quinn, Secretary