

Peters Township Middle School PTA Meeting – Minutes

April 4, 2013

- I. Welcome and the Pledge of Allegiance
 - a) President Gina Wells called the meeting to order at 9:22 AM. There were approximately 17 in attendance. (see attachment)

- II. President's Remarks – Gina Wells
 - a) Gina introduced guest speaker, Captain Michael Yanchack. Captain Yanchack addressed many safety issues regarding the PTMS students. Captain Yanchack asked for the help of the PTA and those present to make parents aware of the safety dangers of students walking after school. He stated the safety concerns with students not using the crosswalks and running into oncoming traffic. The local merchants have filed many complaints and reports of property damage and students loitering. Many businesses have set rules in regards to no backpacks allowed in the store and limit number of students entering at one time. With the warmer weather comes great concern for the local merchants and problems they will face with the increased number of students walking. Those in attendance were shocked by hearing about the students using offensive language, drugs, disrespectful behavior, and inappropriate sexual behavior on the merchant's premises. Captain Yanchack requested any help and advice on how to address these issues. Parents are asked to discuss with students, the consequences if caught loitering, vandalizing or participating in any other illegal activities.
 - b) Captain Michael Yanchack also addressed the bomb threat at PTMS and the safety procedures that were followed. He stated the prominent concern for the Police department and District is the safety of the students. If evacuation is needed, it must be done in a timely manner, and for parents to wait to be notified before coming to the school. With so many parents coming to the school or even just driving by it made the traffic a major issue and can hinder emergency response teams. Many in attendance asked questions and there was a lengthy discussion of what could be improved. All were in agreement, the situation for the most part, was handled very appropriately by the emergency responders, district administration and staff.
 - c) Shelly Belcher discussed her participation and responsibility in an emergency situation. She answered many questions, and thanked all for what she felt was a successful evacuation.
 - d) Captain Yanchack stated that there will be more information announced to PT residents regarding the Drug Take Back Program that will take place the end of April.

- III. Principal's Remarks – Dr. Freado
 - a) Dr. Freado stated that the guidance counselors will be working with the 7th graders regarding their online class scheduling for next year.
 - b) Dr. Freado announced the 8th Grade Dance dress code will be sent out in an email blast by Shelly Belcher.
 - c) Dr. Freado discussed the bomb threat and evacuation at PTMS.

- IV. Secretary's Report – Barb Calfo
 - a) The PTMS PTA Meeting Minutes from March 7, 2013 were approved.

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

- VI. First Vice President's Report – Carol Planitzer
 - a) Carol asked for those interested in volunteering next year to please write their contact information on the sheet that was passed around.

- VII. Second Vice President – Cindy Chapman
- a) Cindy thanked all those who volunteered for the Student/Faculty Basketball Game, which was a huge success.
 - b) Cindy reminded everyone to please send in all their box tops and soup labels for the cash back program.
 - c) Cindy stated that the 7th Grade Celebration will take place on Thursday, May 9th, 3-5 PM. Those that are interested in volunteering for this event, please contact, Margaret Rauscher, the committee chair.
- VIII. Old Business – Gina Wells
- a) Gina announced the nominees for the election of the 2013-2014 PTMS PTA Board. The assembled PTA members voted all-in-favor, voice vote carried. The board members are—
President: Rochelle Saxon, 1st Vice President: Cindy Chapman, 2nd Vice President: Michele Thomas, Treasurer: Cathy Vargo, Secretary: Cathleen Faina.
- IX. New Business
- a) The Character Counts Meeting will now be on April 23rd, 7-9 PM @ PTMS LGI.
 - b) Area Council will hold a Used Book Sale at PTMS on May 16-17. Books will be collected in box at school entrances April 8 thru May 10th.
- X. Adjournment
- a) Meeting was adjourned at 10:50 AM.

These Minutes were recorded by Barb Calfo, Recording Secretary, PTMS PTA.

Approved May 2, 2013 _____

Barb Calfo, Secretary