

## PTMS PTA GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

April 9, 2015

- I. Welcome and Pledge of Allegiance
  - President Michele Thomas called the meeting to order at 9:20 AM. There were approximately 11 people in attendance, including the PTA Board and PTMS Principals (see sign-in sheet).
  - The Pledge of Allegiance immediately followed.
- II. President's Remarks – Michele Thomas
  - Michele thanked everyone for coming and introduced the guest speakers.
- III. Secretary's Report – Cathleen Faina
  - The minutes from the March 9, 2015 PTMS PTA Meeting were approved as presented.
- IV. Treasurer's Report – Cathy Vargo
  - The budget was presented without question (see attached).
- V. Guest Speakers – Shelly Belcher, Communications Coordinator and Officer Stevick
  - An overview of the new district safety training was presented. The acronym ALICE is:
    - A - Alert: let as many people know with as much detail as possible.
    - L - Lockdown: buy time by locking and barricading
    - I - Inform: communication needs to continue
    - C - Counter: actually the last resort/step when the intruder is encountered. Disrupt by yelling, throwing, running, etc.
    - E - Evacuate: get away from danger
  - This information has never been shared with the students until now. Teachers will be trained and so will students. Muscle memory will help to develop on-the-spot problem solving. Drills will be held.
  - Police have access to all cameras and maps of the buildings. Cameras will be upgraded.
  - Volunteer clearance laws changed in January. Now any contact with kids, not just unsupervised, must have clearances. Fingerprinting can be waived if resident of PA for the last 10 years. There is a fourth paper to acknowledge volunteer requirements and consequences. Clearances are good for only 3 years effective July 1.
- VI. Principal's Remarks
  - The focus is on testing and transitioning from 6<sup>th</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> grade.
  - First in Math online practice should adjust to the student's level
  - RC (Reading Counts) will become AR (Accelerated Reader) next year
- VII. First Vice President's Report – Melanie Hutnik (not present)
  - Continue to send in Labels for Education and Box Tops. There will be another contest.
  - Thanks to Sharon Traumuller for planning the Student/Faculty Basketball Game. It was successful, but would be better on a night with fewer activities or coaches should allow the kids to skip a practice.

- VIII. Second Vice President's Report – Ria Kartsonas
- The 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Celebration Committee is meeting and the event is being announced.
  - The Area Council book sale made about \$3,000 and about \$4,000 worth of books was donated back. Books not sold were donated to other school districts.
- IX. Old Business
- Election of the 2015/2016 Middle School PTA Board was conducted. The following officers were elected and congratulated: President, Ria Kartsonas; 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, Laura Spernak; 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Gretchen Walker; Treasurer, Lisa Argent; Secretary, Kristi DeVentura.
- X. New Business
- There was discussion of starting a Spirit Wear Committee for gym attire.
  - There was also discussion regarding school supplies offered through School Kids.
  - Both of the above items will be researched further.
- X. Adjournment of the meeting was at 11:00 AM.

These minutes were recorded by Cathleen Faina, Recording Secretary, PTMS PTA.

Approved on May 7, 2015, \_\_\_\_\_  
Cathleen Faina, Secretary