

Peters Township Middle School PTA Meeting- Minutes

September 1, 2011

I. Welcome/Pledge of Allegiance

- a. President Gina Wells called the meeting to order at 9:16 a.m. There were approximately 31 people in attendance. (see attachment)
- b. The Pledge of Allegiance immediately followed.

II. President's Remarks- Gina Wells

- a. Gina Wells introduced the PTMS PTA board for the 2011-2012 school year.
- b. Gina welcomed all in attendance and expressed excitement for the year's events, including a few new events.
- c. Gina encouraged the attendees to participate in the PTA-sponsored events and to return memberships and volunteer sheets as soon as possible.

III. Principal's Report- Dr. Freado

- a. Dr. Freado also welcomed parents in attendance and stated that the year was off to a great start.
- b. PTMS has approximately 20 new students, mostly 7th graders.
- c. Dr. Freado encouraged attendance at the **Rally for America**, a district-wide Character Counts Committee sponsored event on Sunday, September 11th at the Peters Township High School stadium at 7:00 p.m. The event is to honor the 10 year anniversary of 9/11.
- d. A few big changes for this year were discussed. First, there is no longer a recess after lunch; instead a longer, 30 minute lunch period, changed from the previous 20 minute lunch period. Second, there is a new class schedule with a new bell schedule. Finally, new this year is a **Homeroom** period for all students. This new class time is specifically designed for teachers to focus on issues such as character-building, long and short term goal planning, other topics specifically relating to Middle School students, or important school messages. It also allows a time for students to socialize.
- e. Dr. Freado introduced the new district-wide motto:
“Achievement,Character,Community” which encourages all students to strive for excellence in these three areas. The goal of this motto is to instill a consistent set of core values throughout the school district at each level.
- f. Mike Henaghan was introduced as the Assistant Principal for PTMS and shared a video presentation that all PTMS students viewed during an assembly on the second day of school. He explained that the set of core values reflected in our schools include: Honesty, Respect, Responsibility, Character, Integrity, and Compassion.
- g. Mr. Henaghan then addressed any concerns and answered any questions from the assembled parents.

IV. Secretary's Report- Beth Quinn

- a. The minutes from May 2011 PTA meeting were corrected as follows: the spelling of an Audit Committee member's name, E.C. Selinsky, was corrected.
- b. The minutes from the June 2011 PTA meeting were approved without change.

V. Treasurer's Report- Jodi Hannah

- a. A motion was made by Carol Aurin to approve the 2011-2012 budget (a copy is included in the file). Maura Kelly seconds the motion, voice vote carries.
- b. Jodi reminded the assembly that the budget is to be considered a working document, as changes may occur throughout the year.
- c. An audit was held at the beginning of July, and there were no problems to report.

VI. First Vice President's Report - Barb Calfo

- a. Open House will take place on September 15th from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Please remember that this evening is for parents only.
- b. The PTA is in need of a Hospitality Chairperson. If we do not get a chairperson, we will ask volunteers to sign up to bring items to each meeting.
- c. Brenda Falcione is our Reflections chairperson and this year's theme is "Diversity Means....." Brenda will place a box in the office for all entries and the submission deadline is October 31st.
- d. Thank you to Mary Pat DeRienzo who has volunteered to be our Character Counts Chairperson for this year.
- e. Laura Spernak is our PTMS Area Council representative and announced that the first meeting will take place on Thursday, September 22nd beginning at 9:00 a.m.
- f. Debbie Smith is our CashBack Programs Chairperson. These programs include BoxTops for Education and Apples for the Students. Save those BoxTops, as they can be used for raffle tickets at dances throughout the school year. If you are a parent new to the Middle School, don't forget to designate PTMS as your Giant Eagle Apples for the Students school – code #0830.
- g. Sarah Lindsay is our Membership Committee Chairperson. The membership envelopes can be dropped off in the office or mailed in. The membership fee is \$8.00 for an individual. The PTA suggests a \$25.00 tax deductible donation per student. However, this amount is only a suggestion. Because we do not fundraise here at the Middle School, these donations provide the necessary funds for the activities and events that the PTA sponsors.

VII. Second Vice President's Report – Carol Planitzer

- a. Student pictures will be taken on September 7th from 8-11 a.m. and Maureen Brugger is chairing this committee. The district is using a new vendor this year with many options for personalizing each order. The new company also offers to process orders online.
- b. Volunteer sign up sheets are due by September 14th and Lynn Soika is chairing the Volunteer Committee.
- c. Debbie Healey Langley is chairing the Library Volunteer Committee and will coordinate a schedule after the volunteer sheets are received.
- d. The PTMS Newsletter is published and posted monthly via e-mail blast. Any information to be included needs to be submitted to chairperson Carol Aurin monthly, on the PTMS PTA meeting dates.
- e. The Welcome Back Dance will take place on September 30th from 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. There is a need for volunteers and chaperones to make this dance a success. An admission fee of \$3.00 with student ID or \$4.00 without student ID will be collected on the night of the dance. There will be raffles and extra raffle tickets given for BoxTops brought by students.
- f. There are still openings for a Chairperson(s) for the following committees: 7th Grade Celebration, Hospitality, and the Welcome Back Dance.

VIII. Old Business – Gina Wells

There was no old business to report.

IX. New Business – Gina Wells

There was no new business to report

X. The meeting was adjourned at 10:23 a.m.

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

Approved October __, 2011 _____

Beth Quinn, Secretary