

## PT PTA Area Council

- ❖ **Call to Order-** Pledge of Allegiance
- ❖ **President Report-** Sue Deegan, President
  - **Introductions of Board & Presidents** with Brief pause at 9:19 am on 9/19/19
  - October 12 Wellness & Well-being Walk, PT Year of Kindness
- ❖ **Reading and Approval of Minutes-** Kathleen Chaudhari, Secretary
  - May 23, 2019 Meeting Minutes, approved
- ❖ **Treasurer's Report-** Lisa Argent, Treasurer
  - May/June Financial Report- Motion to pay May/June bills Laura Spernak and 2<sup>nd</sup> Minna Allison, motion carried
  - 2018/2019 Audit- Motion to approve audit (July 21, 2019) Karen Molk and 2<sup>nd</sup> Julie Collins, motion carried.
  - Due Dates- membership dues should be postmarked by 9/30; 990N due by 11/15 with easy online submission; Check renewal dates for tax exempt status.
- ❖ **Superintendent's Report- Dr. Jeannine L. French-**
  - Good start to school year. High school project: it's on track for completion for October 2020 and within budget. Dry wall is being installed on the 3d floor. Staff visited school in TJ, they had big delays and our admin wants to learn from their experiences. Board considering what to do with current High School. Reynolds & Hayes Design giving assessments and idea on costs to turn High school into a new Middle School. Maybe move district offices there, too. Board meeting on Sept 23 to review details. Cost would be between 12-20 million. Finance cmte meeting on Oct 3<sup>rd</sup> to discuss costs. Middle school and DAO property is 18 acres and most valuable property in district. PTSD budget is \$68.1 million
- ❖ **Administrative Reports-**
  - **Deputy Superintendent- Dr. Jennifer Murphy-**
    - Congratulations to our High school teacher Mrs. Hodgin-Frick for award from Staples "Thank a Teacher" Program, her former student and Blogger Elle Walker nominated her and surprised the district with a \$10,000 award
    - AP & SAT scores continue to improve
    - AP Scholars increased, in 2010 there were 109, in 2019 there were 205
    - After takes PSAT exams, more students are qualifying for scholarships.
    - Rachel's Challenge/Legacy-There were presentations at all of the schools, clubs were formed, MS gives out birthday cards. High school has cmte with 56 students, looking at service projects. Trinity and Canon Mac training teachers.
  - **Assistant Superintendent- Dr. Michael Fischer-**
    - In charge of keys at the new high school, big job.
    - McMurray—Mr. Brookie is working on bus behavior. Mr Brookie and Mr Stoehr are traveling class to class with counselors to discuss Rachel's Challenge. Schedule change at McMurray, took bells out of the day to increase instructional time (9 times @ 3 minutes) and kids are not interrupted. Have 9 week rotations of specials, have consistency to work through projects. RTI Block working with the "middle kids" getting things on level and build this program.

counts, did a raffle to encourage kids to dress up. September 12<sup>th</sup> there was a welcome back breakfast with Chic-fil-A, over 300 sandwiches. It was stated that the Chic-Fil-A in Washington, PA is very supportive and easy to work with. Picture day was September 18, with Deanna Gallagher the chair and she did a great job with no big issues---the middle school needs 3 photographers next year. Open house is on Sept 26, Snack day on Sept 27, Apple Crunch day on Oct 31<sup>st</sup>.

- **McMurray Elementary-** Report from Beth and Sonia who were not present. The fourth grade social went well. Jessica Smith and Megan DeSimone did a great job. Team Building this year was Sept 5<sup>th</sup>, teachers did a variety of activities for their students, Picture day went smoothly, Open House is Oct 7 and Oct 10. Halloween parties are being planned for Oct 31<sup>st</sup>, McM PTA is using AtoZ for membership and welcome packets, membership is at 436, PTA meetings are not in the LGI but location will be announced prior to the meeting. Next meeting is Oct 8<sup>th</sup>.
  - **Pleasant Valley Elementary-** Maria Zuzek-Asst to the President, - Mr. Marquis won the PTA Award, Room Parent meeting was yesterday 9/18. There are a larger amount of students now at PV, at 446. Every grade now has 5 classes. There are 240 PTA members. October 17<sup>th</sup> is Open House. There was a discussion about box tops. PV PTA offered a grant to encourage teachers to join the PTA
  - **Bower Hill Elementary-** Samantha McVicker- There are 392 PTA members, they gave envelopes and paper forms to staff to join the PTA. Twentieth anniversary of BH Birthday Bath was a huge success. Thanks to Mrs. Tracey Bidoli in the PTSD Transportation office who coordinated shuttles and busses. The read a thon is underway. Some larger issues with school pics-details were relayed to Sue Deegan.
- ❖ **AC Committee Reports**
- 1<sup>st</sup> VP- Melissa Konggaard
    - Character Counts- Next meeting is 10/8 They are kicking off the year of kindness and will publish a calendar. Suzanne McKay reported that nominations for Character Counts awards are year-round, there is an awards ceremony this November.
    - Reflections- Theme is "Look Within"; deadline for submission 10/28. Do not go to National Reflections website for forms, please go to the local PTSD PTA webpage. Judging day is November 13
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> VP- Lori McRoberts
    - Scholarship- Moving deadline up earlier for 2020 to hopefully get more applicants
    - School Pictures- Issues w/ Lifetouch have been reported, bids from vendors soon.
- ❖ **Old Business/New Business**
- ❖ **Calendar**
- Next Month's Meeting- October 17, 2019, 9:15 AM at DAO
    - Hospitality begins at 9:00 AM provided by McMurray PTA
    - Principals' reports
- ❖ **Adjournment-11:28**

**Presented 10/17/19**

**Recorded 10/17/19**

  
**Kathleen Chaudhari, PT PTA Area Council Secretary**

**October 19, 2019, 9:15 AM**  
**Principals Report**

Area Council PTA Meeting Minutes

- ❖ **Call to Order**-9:17 am Pledge of Allegiance-
- ❖ **President Report**- Sue Deegan, Thank you to McM PTA for breakfast, Welcome principals, informed them that AC will not have principals on the May agenda, instead having a working mtg w/ school PTA's. Congrats to Mr Marquis, will receive award at convention in State College. School pictures: Sue is in contact with Lisa Boltz from Lifetouch daily. MS has issues with blurry and/or missing pictures, Nov 13 retake day. Email/call Lisa [lboltz@lifetouch.com](mailto:lboltz@lifetouch.com) or cell 724-355-4067. AC met with Mrs Boni at the HS about school pictures now and in the future.
- ❖ **Reading and Approval of Minutes**- Kathleen Chaudhari, Secretary
  - September 19, 2019 Meeting Minutes- read for approval and will be recorded
- ❖ **Treasurer's Report**- Lisa Argent, Treasurer was not present but submitted the following report
  - For the month of September, we began with \$12,162.27, there was 1 deposit that included dues for BH, PV, and McMurray Elem. There are no expenses for the month of Sept.
  - Reminders: 2018-19 Audits should be submitted to Mary Hess at the PA PTA—keep in mind the audits must be voted on by the general membership, if you forgot to do this, just have it approved at your next meeting. 990N Due Nov 15<sup>th</sup> for June year-end. It can be submitted online if your gross receipts are under \$50,000
- ❖ **School Principals**- and Unit Reports
  - **PTHS Principal**- Mrs. Lori Pavlik-Rachel's Challenge, doing bi-weekly lunch meets, "Be the One" is theme. Thanks to PTSA for speaker on Dec 13, Wes Lyons, talking about positivity, persistence, & being a good citizen. College & career readiness, 9<sup>th</sup> grade transition day, meet 4 times a year w/ mentor (25 min). FAFSA night Oct 3<sup>rd</sup>, College Fair Oct 8<sup>th</sup> at Cool Springs. Trade show small but solid turnout on Oct 16<sup>th</sup>. Next Thurs parent conference day, college planning by counseling office. Getting ready to transition to new bldg, last full year at the current bldg. New traditions, technology, how will new bldg. change curriculum (ex: PE). Fall play opens next Friday "CLUE", 20 students here from France. ? about ceiling tiles with handprints....cannot move them, thinking of new tradition, deciding what to do with them now. ? about theft...mostly when kids leave things out and now in lockers.
    - Mary Pat DeRienzo- PTSA President- Sports are doing great, Girls tennis, golf, soccer, boys football. Concession stand, beat #'s from last year. October 25<sup>th</sup> Seton LaSalle game. Walk for wellness trust crew Oct 12<sup>th</sup> raised \$1600.00
  - **PTMS Principal**- Mr. Adam Sikorski- Bringing back THON, January 31<sup>st</sup> from 6-10 p.m. Proceeds Ronald McDonald house, goal is to raise \$25,000. Next Friday fundraiser, scavenger hunt/bonfire/escape room 100 kids signed up to date. Career chats—attorney, accountant, law enforcement, chef, construction. Musical is Mary Poppins. Officer Emory (SRO) got promotion so is leaving. New SRO is Joe Johnston, he is a retired state trooper and will be teaching DARE classes, too. Red Ribbon Week Oct 29<sup>th</sup>, Cool to be Clean
    - Ann Bondi- PTA President- struggling w/ membership, 200 members, down 50 from last yr. Will have envelopes in office. Friday snack day, Halloween skittles. PTA providing dinner for teachers on conf. day, sign up on AtoZ, Apple crunch day is coming up too.
  - **McMurray Elementary Principals**- Mr. Michael Brookie- Field trips are happening, Zoo, Meadowcroft. October 4<sup>th</sup> Char counts week, Oct 28 Red Ribbon wk. TY to everyone for coming to open house. Hero program focuses on safety, new moving into kindness and charity. Hero spotlight winner in each classroom, can nominate teacher, too. Friends of

Rachel-Kindness club. New scheduling starting w/i next 9 weeks. Art teachers gave feedback that with the time change, giving students a chance to focus more in depth with the subject.

- Sonia Koupiaris- PTA Asst. President- Homework helper, 46 kids in 8 weeks. Nov. 4<sup>th</sup> had after school classes sign up are beginning. Halloween parties are all set to go. 507 members, down by 200. Sent an envelope & letter asking for donations. Provided water filling station, just installed at the school. Dinner to staff on Oct 24<sup>th</sup>, P-T conference day.
  - **Pleasant Valley Principal-** Mr. Greg Marquis-AC presented Mr Marquis with a gift to celebrate his state PTA recognition, he was grateful and gave us many thanks. Open house at PV is tonight Oct 17, Fire safety truck Oct 17 and 18, Hero week was Sept 23<sup>rd</sup>. Be the "I" in Kind. There was a 4 foot "I" made at the HS for PV. November 8<sup>th</sup>, JA day for grades 2 and 3, November 11 is PV's got talent at the HS, there are 48 acts.
    - Maria Zuzek- PTA President, Diane Damon- PTA Asst. President- Not present
  - **Bower Hill Principal—**Mr. Robert Garvey, Principai. Good start to school year, thanked PTA for 20<sup>th</sup> birthday bash for buzzer. In the middle of open house and book fair. Kicked off Rachel's challenge—kindness, recognition on BTV, gave water bottles. Finished up read a thon, raised over \$32,000, it Funds the Fun at BH!
    - Angie Glud- PTA Vice President-Great fundraiser for read a thon, made \$7,000 more than expected, now deciding what to do with the extra \$\$.
- ❖ **Special Guest-**Adam Swinchock from District Office IT Department. He spoke about the email problems in the district. Delivery of email not a guarantee. Six of PTSD staff members accounts were compromised in July. 30,000 emails were sent out from those emails and that got our district on the "black list" and that makes our email system not work properly. No new issues since late August because of enhanced security. "Sender Score" we were "0" for a week and a half, then at 80 and now at 97, most all emails going through. Verizon, aol, & yahoo are the same company, 300,000 emails a month are sent. Cyber-security training for staff is being done.
- ❖ **Report of School Board Representative-** Minna Allison Change HS to the MS, budget numbers are fluctuating. Finance cmte says borrowing capacity is \$20 million, low interest rates beneficial. Board decided on ceiling of 16 million for HS rehab. Takes 12 million for warm, safe and dry. Other 4 million remodeling—among other things, moving admin suites to the front. Not sure where DO will end up. Any PTA person who wants to go see the new HS, let Minna know.
- ❖ **Committee Reports**
- 1<sup>st</sup> VP- Melissa Konggaard
    - Character Counts- November 5<sup>th</sup> "Year of Kindness"
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> VP Lori McRoberts
    - Looking at school picture vendors
- ❖ **Old Business/New Business-** None
- ❖ **Calendar**
- Next Month's Meeting- November 21, 2019, 9:15 AM at DAO, District Administration Reports
    - Hospitality begins at 9:00 AM provided by Middle School PTA
- ❖ **Adjournment- 11:57 a.m.**

Presented 11/21/2019

Recorded 11/21/2019

  
Kathleen Chaudhari, PT PTA Area Council Secretary

## PT PTA Area Council

- ❖ **Call to Order @ 9:17a.m.-** Pledge of Allegiance
- ❖ **President Report-** Sue Deegan, President, Welcome to November meeting, Pictures are still a mess, meet with rep, meet with school, company merged with Shutterfly and they just can't get ahead of it. Lifetouch has agreed to refund 50% of purchase price to all customers, district wide. Middle school had quality issues and they are still working on it, hopefully will be mailed this week. Working on RFP for photo contract for next year. District wide directory is up and working. PT Year of Kindness, website advertised on electronic boards, banner, etc PTYOK.org to go live mid-Dec with events starting in Jan.
- ❖ **Reading and Approval of Minutes-** Kathleen Chaudhari, Secretary
  - October 17, 2019 Meeting Minutes, approved
- ❖ **Treasurer's Report-** Lisa Argent, Treasurer October Financial Report For the month of October, we began with \$12,707.27 There was 1 deposit for the month of October- \$22.50 in dues for PTSH PTSA and one check issued to Lisa Argent for September hospitality in the amount of \$17.95 Ending balance \$12,711.82 Motion to pay the bills: Samantha McVicker, First Beth Matthews-Ruth Second
- ❖ **Superintendent's Report- Dr. Jeannine L. French-** High school coming along nicely, roofers and masons a little bit behind, but inside moving along with drywall. Monday board agenda, approved to put to bid for qualifications for the middle school project, due in January. Need to increase mental health services, met w/ St Clair hosp. Partner with our library for info services. How to move past academics to support children and families. Question: what about other buildings? Would not make the change unless at the beginning of the year for the new middle school, with 6<sup>th</sup> grade moving, would not do unless beginning of year. McMurray Elem would be just grades 4 and 5. Need to monitor K to 3 if there is a big blip in more kids, but other schools could accommodate future growth. Under 4000 students for the first time in a while, so we are down in enrollment. Question: Penn dot update? Gave ok for southern road, that is for students to get to the parking lot. Not anticipating issues where it could not be finished in time. McM rd would not delay the opening of the school. Bad weather and delays? Tracey is out at 4:30 a.m. driving around, consults with Public works. Buses with chains, not kids in cars. Parents have discretion in sending kids on bad days.
- ❖ **Administrative Reports-**
  - **Deputy Superintendent- Dr. Jennifer Murphy-** Bringing NMSI back, will not be full scale program. No rewards but supporting professional development for teachers. Going back to mock exams. Spent less than \$12,000 (approved through the board for \$25,000) Math, science, English, history, psychology, Spanish. Deadline to order exams is Nov 15, Over 1500 kids taking exam. Be aware of mental health and taking too many AP exams, though. Highly selective schools look at the rigor, PT offers 21 AP exams, so they look to see how many you took. But if you are not going to the Ivys then do not overextend yourself. Question? Doesnt AP lighten the load in college? Yes they do, but it's not a golden ticket to get into schools. Moving targets getting into highly selective schools. SAT scores have to be amazing, and good rigor scores. AP classes are a great prep for college, even if you get a 1 or 2. Four club: doing a drive for Rachel's Closet in Baldwin, need clothing and toiletries. Question: Fifth grade test need help with study skills, where do you go? Critical piece missing of knowing how to study, how to learn? Dr French

answers: Learn application is to practice, "that doesn't make sense", need to practice and application in Science, new skills is hands on practice, working with teams, there is failure until you figure it out. It's challenging for kids but need to allow them to struggle a bit. Teach them about learning and not correct answers. Is there enough time in the classroom that is not graded? Some teachers are better than others in fitting this in.

- **Assistant Superintendent- Dr. Michael Fisher**-Interventions in elementary school, this year partnered with Wilson for next level in McMurray "Just Words" grades 4 to 6. Wilson brings a trainer on site, had training in August. Modeled lessons to the teachers and had them do small lesson. Will be back 3 more times to monitor and provide feedback. Focusing on students with dyslexia and training teachers to help them help our students, those strategies help all students so it's a win-win. K to 6 Math curriculum Good results with envisions Math, data has been highest it's been in very long time, teachers have good feedback. Pearson has new version 2.0 and they would like to share it with us, not really sure if we want to make the switch. Teachers use Envisions but supplement with other materials so not sure if they want to change. Publisher came out last week and did a presentation; teachers are reviewing and doing comparisons. Health office: emailing parents to be sure all screenings are done, district does offer free screening if needed. Question: Days that kids miss school? 10 parental excused days and unlimited medical excuse days Don't like to get over 18 days. Edu trips is parental excused.
- **Communications Coordinator- Mrs. Shelly Belcher** Held 2 ALICE training sessions, addressed reunification. Working with teachers and staff to help them be prepared just in case. School Mint, answering questions and data, had people check boxes they didn't want to check. Shelly has list of people who don't want to be in the yearbook, there are 11. Need to work with PTA in each building, have PTA chairs reach out to Shelly. There is also a list of kids who are not to be on social media, so PTA needs to be aware.
- ❖ **Report of School Board Representative Lisa Anderson**-School Board, had an election 5 people running for 5 spots. 4 re-elected and Jennifer Grossman new member, start on Tuesday Dec 3<sup>rd</sup> Board voted to issue bonds for new schools 20 million for high school completion and for refurbishment of old high school for middle school (Safer entry and move offices to the front among other things) Refinanced 14 million of old bonds, 400-475,000 dollar savings. 20 year repayment Second read of policies at last board meeting, highlights now have board training requirement, need to do 5 hours, reelected needs 3 hours, removed 2 items that could be used for proof of residency. Will proceed with rehab of current high school as a GESA project, do not have to go with the lowest bidder, the contractor is obligated to make contingency changes and they guarantee energy savings (they make sure building is working efficiently). They are not PLANCON eligible but there is a moratorium on reimbursement anyway. Voted to have 2.4% tax increase, the maximum. Mrs Chenervert is organizing a French Trip, organizing on her own and not school oriented, but Board approved that she could do that, District has no oversight. Thank you HS PTSA for the speaker Wesley Lyons, on December 13<sup>th</sup> (former Steeler, very engaging and upbeat), cost \$2000. Board members House bill 1800, contact your legislator, voucher bill for Harrisburg SD, could apply to the entire state. Would take money away from public district and allow students going to private schools to get some of that money (50%). 52 students cyber charter 238 kids in private/parochial school Tuesday Dec 3<sup>rd</sup> reorg meeting, Dec 10<sup>th</sup> Education cmte meeting Jan 6<sup>th</sup> finance meeting, January 21<sup>st</sup> regular voting meeting.

❖ **Unit Reports** by PTA Presidents-

- **PTHS-** Mary Pat DeRienzo- Varsity FB game for WPIAL championship Nov 23 vs Gateway at Norwin, \$2 for fan bus, PT Coffee House Dec 5-7. Concert Band and Wind Symphony concert, December 9, Jazz Band concert Dec 11, Partnered with counseling office to present assembly, Wes Lyons, former Steeler, on positivity, will be upbeat and engaging. Membership 94 students, 135 parents, 27 staff (last year was 180, 213, and 21)
- **PTMS-** Ann Bondi: 211 members, 49 faculty/staff Down thousands in donations, so they need to address it. THON fundraiser was a success, planning another one in December. Movie night added to calendar, first Friday in December
- **McMurray Elementary-** Sonia Koupiaris Halloween parties went well, 23 reflections applications, got \$1800 additional donations from letter, holiday parties December 20, Beth Rayball came to the library (childrens book author)
- **Pleasant Valley Elementary-** Maria Zuzek-Asst to the President, - PV's Open House and Book Fair was on Oct 17. Due to space constraints at PV, the book fair runs one day. We reached our goal of selling over \$10,000 in merchandise. Halloween parade and parties were held on Oct. 31. The parade was moved inside due to weather. Diane Damon and Jennifer Hanko attended the state conference in State College the week-end of October 26th. Mr. Marquis also attended and received his principal of the year award. The students at PV through Mrs. Ali have colored place mats for Thanksgiving dinner at City Mission. Maria will be delivering the placemats on Nov. 26. PV's Got Talent was held in the Peters High School Auditorium on Nov. 11. Food donations were accepted for the Peters Township Food Pantry. Dec 4 is our next PTA meeting. PV's Holiday Parties are Dec. 19.
- **Bower Hill Elementary-** Samantha McVicker- Halloween parties went great, did parade around the school, holiday party link went live for volunteers, cookie workshop for faculty and staff in December, November PTA meeting discussed what to do with extra money---top 3 were doing a water bottle filler, new playground equipment, and STEM night.

❖ **AC Committee Reports**

- 1<sup>st</sup> VP- Melissa Konggaard—Character counts meeting at the fire station, year of kindness information was presented, Reflections judging was last week, Jan Trombitas & Mary Lou Bulseco did a great job, possible new chair next year
- 2<sup>nd</sup> VP- Lori McRoberts Pictures, looking for next year RFP. Give a month for them to give to us. Exc board, presidents and AC representative can vote on the vendor. Used Book Sale, looking for a date, possibly in May.

❖ **Old Business/New Business** AC starting a FB page, Thank you note from Mr. Marquis

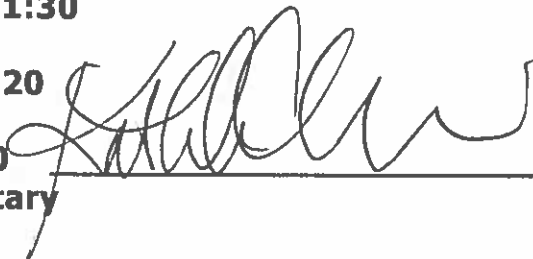
❖ **Calendar**

- Next Month's Meeting- January 23, 2020, 9:15 AM at DAO
  - Hospitality begins at 9:00 AM provided by Pleasant Valley PTA
  - School Counselors will attend

❖ **Adjournment-11:30**

Presented 01/23/20

Recorded 01/23/20  
Area Council Secretary



Kathleen Chaudhari, PT PTA

## PT PTA Area Council Meeting Minutes

- ❖ **Call to Order-** Pledge of Allegiance, 9:15 am
  - **President Report-** Sue Deegan

Welcome to the New Year and welcome counselors, thank you PV for hospitality. Jan. school board appreciation month, donated \$100 to each school library in recognition of our board members, Sue was at meeting Monday night and thanked them personally. School pictures, RFP was sent out to local and national vendors, we are expecting them back by Feb 7<sup>th</sup>. We will get that information to individual boards, take a look and talk about it at your meetings. March meeting we will be taking a vote, presidents, area council rep with no duplicates.
- ❖ **Reading and Approval of Minutes-** Kathleen Chaudhari, Secretary
  - Review of November 15, 2018 Meeting Minutes
- ❖ **Treasurer's Report-** Lisa Argent, Treasurer
  - November/December Financial Report
    - Balance, deposits, and expenses reviewed for November 2019, Beth Matthews-Ruth motioned to pay bills, and Mary Pat DeRienzo 2<sup>nd</sup>
- ❖ **Communications-** Shelly Belcher talked about next year's calendar and the new high school. There will need to be dismantling of computer labs, lockers, books, supplies. School board built in as much time as possible to preserve normal year with graduation June 11, there were 14 versions of this calendar, this is the best one they could come up with impossible to keep everyone happy. Already working on the next year's calendar, there will be a little later start in year 21/22. Labor Day is late that year, don't think it will be after Labor Day. We will have something similar to walk through night for the new school. Shelly was at the new high school last night, very easy to find things and know where you are going.
- ❖ **School Counseling Department Reports-High School-**Leyna Steffen and Mr. Sudol Mrs. Steffen-- Freshman students work in small groups and paired with upper classman, build in a 27 minute activity period during the day, 365 thank you program. Students will have a chance to think about people to thank and notes will be delivered. Mr. Sudol-9th and 10th grade, career research years 11 and 12<sup>th</sup> grade college focus. Focus on career to make meaningful course selections in later years. Select high tier college based on career interests. PIP meetings, Junior year, plan out next 2 years to get into the school you want. 5 counselors at the high school Question?: Are there in school therapists at the high school? We have outside vendor and counselors helps refer out. We have student assistance program. People are more comfortable talking about anxiety, the problems have always been there but now kids are asking for help. Also counseling departments have more resources. Communication with teachers have increased, more recently parents are telling counseling departments more. Opening the door and shedding the light on what is going on at home. Ratio of students to counselors compare to other schools? Student to counselor ratio varies by school, Mrs. Steffen not sure of ratio. Dates for scheduling? Mid to end of February, set up recommendations, there will be videos played in the morning



announcements, open office hours in March for students to come down and ask questions. Middle school scheduling for 8<sup>th</sup> grade overlaps with the high school at the beginning of March. District contracts with a school psychologist, his role in the high school is to work on testing and help students during the school day. McMurray, Middle and High School psychologist is Gary Bole, he is full time, role is evaluation piece, they work with kids who might need learning support or enrichment. The psychologist at BH and PV is Julie Williams, they have no case load but mostly work on testing. Two school social workers are through IU Full time, they see students on a case load A lot of IEP students, emotional needs. Question asked about mental health—if you have more time and resources, what would you use it for in your building--- PV , more emotional support, life skills, managing kids who are adhd, more training and support. Middle school: More time for training to better assist, kids come in with a small problem and need attention---it's difficult to find time to do everything in one day. High school: would like more time with each student, more time empowers students, each students needs varies

- ❖ **Middle School Counselors-** Bianca Goodwin and MaryBeth Kenny-Massaró, secretary is Mrs Tina Kramer. THON, huge fundraiser held every other year, next Friday January 31 \$25,000 goal , already at \$20,000 money goes to Ronald McDonald house, a lot of effort of all staff, 140 students registered to be dancers, fundraising all year long, selling breakfast, free food Friday, scavenger hunt, 3 point basketball challenge, pie in the face, jean week, attendance is open to the public \$5 at the door starting at 5:30. Careers: some activities are built into classes, 8<sup>th</sup> grade has class called Goal and they research a career, Tech ed plans for producing something, also they offer career chats, speakers come in during home room – chef, police officer, Ace hardware, Mascaro construction, Scott Blasey, Natalie Mahalek, plus others . They are wrapped up for this year but always take suggestions for future years. Scheduling is coming up, high school comes to them and they go to McMurray March 5 Parent night for 6<sup>th</sup> grade parents, with kids going to the Middle school. Lisa Anderson suggested doing a career budget activity with the students. Middle school does that on a smaller scale. Maybe can use some down time at the end of the school year?
- ❖ **Pleasant Valley Counselor- Stephanie Ali-** friendship groups at lunch time for social skills, kid talk process (includes principal. Counselor, psychologist, teacher) meet as a team for quick touch of students and how they are doing, additional resources for social/emotional needs---fresh new books and guided texts for each grade level. K-3 career, they do interest inventories as young as kindergarten. 3<sup>rd</sup> grade use JA day, do test taking strategies for 3<sup>rd</sup> grade. HERO week in May, Pennies for Patients.
- ❖ **Report of School Board Representative-** Minna Allison with assist from Lisa Anderson. Minna arranged tour of the new high school for Area Council, looking at another date in February/March. Minna has been there various times and in only a few weeks it makes a huge difference. They are making fast progress. Voting meeting was on Monday, committee

chairs were announced. Personnel—employee on unpaid suspension was approved, building and grounds--change orders were approved. Question: library at Bower Hill approved a long term substitute, how to parents find out? Not always announced. But long term sub was approved. New name for stadium, Confluence Financial Partners, beginning March 1, 2020 for 3 years. They will have advertising in our new stadium. Will give PTSD \$10,000 each year for 3 years. There is a morality clause so that the advertisers match the goals of the district. This year will be the last graduation at the old facility, 2021 will be inside and in the gymnasium of the new school. Multiple staff members will be attending continuing education workshops and it was all approved by the School Board. Approved donations and were thankful for them. 2020/2021 calendar was approved. School Board has the right to change the calendar at any time. Finance cmte meeting and joint meeting with town council & school board coming up. March 16<sup>th</sup> next regular voting meeting. Approved an energy audit for the old high school. #1 in Keystone scores, 3<sup>rd</sup> grade was #1. Regular lead testing is done in each building and they all came back normal.

- ❖ Dr Murphy was present for the School Board part of the meeting and helped to answer some questions. New program in South Fayette, Biz Town, 20-25 store fronts. They are affiliated with Junior Achievement and it would be a field trip which is the culminating activity after some classroom time. May add this to the 6<sup>th</sup> grade curriculum.
- ❖ **Unit Reports** by PTA Presidents-
  - PTHS- Mary Pat DeRienzo-Meatballs and Music Feb. 8<sup>th</sup>, next meeting Feb. 13<sup>th</sup>, Rowdy Rhythm group took top honors at the Barbershop Honors Conference
  - PTMS- Ann Bondi- Gearing up for THON on 1/31. Hoping for 150-200 dancers. Still accepting monetary sponsorships, donations, items/coupons for dancer goodie bags to help our kids get to 25,000 goal for Ronald McDonald House. 12/6 was Movie Night where we showed Elf. Had a good turnout. PTA sold concessions and donated the \$200 profit to THON. 12/12 Picture Retake Day was uneventful 1/7 PTMS and BH cohosted a successful Character Counts meeting and yummy luncheon at PTMS 1/14 Spelling Bee for 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> graders at the MS. Over 60 students, who qualified after the first round test, participated. 7<sup>th</sup> grader Caitlyn Strine was the winner and will represent PT at the next level. 1/16 happy to announce PTMS as champs at the faculty volleyball tournament to benefit Make a Wish - thanks to NHS and the HS 1/24 Snack Day - all students will be receiving a free snack from the PTA during lunches. Blasting out PTYOK info and website through PTA newsletter. Info and graphic (thanks to Maggie Cameron) was forwarded to all PTA presidents for distribution in building level email newsletters. If you need the info forwarded again, please email me at [annwgbobdi@gmail.com](mailto:annwgbobdi@gmail.com)
  - McMurray Elementary- McMurray Elementary-Jessica Brodzinski Holiday party went well, good response for 6<sup>th</sup> grade Hope for Holidays (18 kids names and got gifts for them), Reflections ceremony on Jan 10<sup>th</sup>, planning for 6<sup>th</sup> grade celebration
  - Pleasant Valley- Maria Zuzek-Asst to the Pres- Jan 13 to 29 Read a thon Feb 5<sup>th</sup> PTA meeting family night Feb 13<sup>th</sup> Valentine's day party Mathnasium grant- PV Read-a-Thon runs through Jan. 30<sup>th</sup>- Family Fun Night is Feb. 8<sup>th</sup>

- Bower Hill Elementary- Samantha McVicker- great holiday parties, family game night tomorrow, after school classes enrollment down, they are re-thinking how they do them for next year, dance a thon for American Heart Association, kicking off next Friday, getting ready for Valentine's day party.

❖ **Committee Reports**

- 1<sup>st</sup> VP- Melissa Konggaard  
Member Hub does directories for the entire district; this is a change from last year. School Mint does not have capability for a directory. Character Counts next month at the Library Feb 4<sup>th</sup>
- 2<sup>nd</sup> VP- Lori McRoberts – RFP's went out for pictures, back by February 7<sup>th</sup>.  
Voting will be in March, so stay tuned for dates.  
Scholarship forms all ready to go, will be sent out soon.  
Used book school, May 7-9.

❖ **Business/New Business**

Standing rules, need to revise them each year. 3 signatures on file at the bank were changes to allow for flexibly, current committees were updated, Part 2E Social media for PTA communications, need to comply with PTA guidelines, added info about AtoZ directory.

Motion to approve the revisions: Melissa Myers, first Lori McRoberts, 2<sup>nd</sup>. They are approved

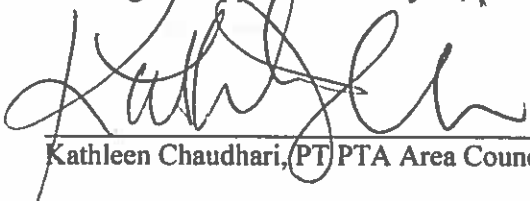
❖ **Calendar**

- Next Month's Meeting- February 20, 2020- 9:15 AM at DAO
  - Hospitality begins at 9:00 AM provided by Bower Hill PTA
  - District Administration Reports

❖ **Adjournment-** 12:05 p.m.

Minutes taken by Kathleen Chaudhari, Secretary, January 23, 2020

Reading and Approval February 20, 2020

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Kathleen Chaudhari, (PT) PTA Area Council Secretary

2/20/20  
Date

## **Peters Township PTA Area Council Meeting February 20, 2020**

### **School Picture Meeting and District Administration**

- ❖ **Picture Meeting Call to Order-** 8:30-9:30 a.m. Review of Picture proposals with Presidents and AC reps 9:30 to 10:00 Discussion with Presidents and AC reps and audience, then voting. 15 out 15 votes for Redford-- will be photography provider for next 3 years for PTSD. Back up vote was taken, but was not revealed to the group
- ❖ **Regular Meeting Call to Order-** Pledge of Allegiance 10:04 AM
- ❖ **Reading and Approval of Minutes-** Kathleen Chaudhari, Secretary
  - January 23, 2020 Meeting Minutes approved for records
- ❖ **Treasurer's Report-** Lisa Argent, Treasurer--Beginning balance was \$12,392.59, there were 2 deposits \$17.00 dues, \$15,185 commission from Lifetouch. There were 2 checks for expenses \$190 for insurance and \$500 for School Board appreciation books. Ending balance is \$26,904.59. Lisa Argent made motion to pay the bills: Laura Spernak 1<sup>st</sup> Samantha McVicker 2<sup>nd</sup> Motion carried
- ❖ **Unit Reports** by PTA Presidents--We did 2 Unit reports early since the Presidents have to leave before the end: High school report Mary Pat DeRienzo, Musical Big Fish March 19-21 7 p.m., March 22 2 p.m., Schedule portal to select classes will be open Feb 24-March 6, Eighth grade move up day is March 2<sup>nd</sup>. Library Arts Café is March 2-6 during school hours, SAT given at our high school on March 14 Middle school, double their goal for THON, made \$47,491.30, big check ceremony yesterday, looking for people on Nominating Committee to put together slate for next year's board, Great Valentine Snack Day was 2/13, gave out chocolate & gummies, May 30 8<sup>th</sup> grade dance, Eight grade picnic June 3, Spelling Bee in January, Kaitlym Strine winner, Hot Chocolate Café March 26
- ❖ **Administrative Reports-**Dr. Jennifer Murphy: Mary Poppins at the middle school, new high school project, tiles on the wall, bathrooms almost done, gym floor is poured, big change order for southern road (road that goes to the student lot), \$400,000 cost, students have own entrance into the student lot, Seniors will get parking, but not sure of juniors, scheduling was changed at the high school to get the middle school students up to the high school earlier around scheduling (this will be March 2<sup>nd</sup>). Orientation in August for the kids to walk around. Counselors will come to the middle school after that, parent night after that. THON was amazing, Ronald McDonald most they have ever received in one check. March 14 10 to noon Big Fish ticket sales, Orientation in August will have clubs there. Question? Are injuries in sports reported and reviewed? If there is a trend we can recognize it and address it. Nothing will get solved without people saying something. Dr. Fischer K-6 updates, midyear benchmark testing. Acadience (formerly Dibels) schools have increased skills by 25% Proficient we want 100% but all grades are in the 90% level, so as a district we are doing really well. Envisions math is 6 years old, going to recommend to the board to extend the use for a few more years.

Kindergarten registration is online and portal is open. 160 kids registered, normally we are up to 300 so we have a ways to go but we are on track. Early December, state releasing PA smart grants focused on STEM grants and computer science. Applied for and received \$35,000 grant for McMurray, Chrome book carts, series of training classes with reps from every building. Question about Biztown---need to incorporate their curriculum for 9 weeks, we are not doing Social Studies curriculum review for a few years so we are not sure when we are going to put that in. Suggestion to Dr. Fisher to increase communication to parents at McMurray for special projects and opportunities like Shakespeare, Math enrichment, etc. Shelly Belcher-Alice drill at the high school, Shelly brought up that there are some groups that don't like Alice drills. 2 reasons: they don't want to do active shooter drills with kids (we don't do them here with the kids, just with the staff), they don't like surprise drills. But Shelly does not want to take that away for good reasons. So as a district we are still supporting Alice drills. We do one a year announced to refresh and everything after that is surprise. There is some anxiety from the kids and so people are concerned about that, please let Shelly know if there is something she can help with. Talk to Shelly about what concerns there are out there and how we help them be prepared and less anxious. Anxiety is not a reason to not train our kids. Not training them would be far worse.

- ❖ **Report of School Board Representative**-Art 8 is new name for 8<sup>th</sup> grade art course, 12 week 60 day class, Media basic editing and design is now Media Editing High School, PA school board association requested as many district to pass charter reform legislation and it was passed. Create a more equitable way to fund charter schools. 22 years ago created charter school to improve student learning. They are funded by our tax dollars and our district pays to educate each of our students who go to a charter school. \$12,151 per year our district has to pay for the charter school. Creates an inequity. Monies that the charter school receives are not always used on the students, not a lot of accountability. Large push that something has to be done. 44 to 46 kids going from Peters to charter school \$756,000 sent in for charter schools. Suppose to improve student learning. 9 different schools our students attend. 85.5 of our kids are proficient and advanced but our charter school kids are 12 to 65 advanced. Incentive to get an IEP because the charter school gets more money.
- ❖ **Unit Reports Continued:** McMurray Elementary Sonia Koupiaris, Mad Science coming in soon, 6<sup>th</sup> grade celebration cmte has started, March 26<sup>th</sup> talent show is at the middle school. Reaching higher is on March 23<sup>rd</sup> Pleasant Valley Maria Zuzek, Family Fun night was rescheduled because of the snow day, March 24<sup>th</sup> spring enrichments, March 6<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> breakfast with someone special (1 person), made over \$12,000 for the Read a thon Bower Hill Samantha McVicker, Bingo for books this Friday Feb 21<sup>st</sup>, just one session (2 last year) and 250 people coming, Struggling to get parents to help with things, even in

the evening, First bower hill day meeting is next week so getting ready for the end of the year, gave stadium blankets away for Spirit recognition.

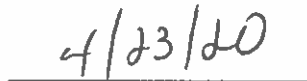
- ❖ **Committee Reports** 1<sup>st</sup> VP Melissa Konggaard The lunch for Character Counts, wondering about background information for why each school funds it. MS and HS PTA's does not always have the money. 2<sup>nd</sup> VP Lori McRoberts School pictures were voted on. Scholarship is on Naviance for Seniors. First Week of May is the book sale, need to ask Lisa to start getting the word out.
- ❖ **Old Business/New Business-** next month will form nominating committees
- ❖ **Calendar**
  - Next Month's Meeting- March 19, 2020
    - 9:15 AM at DAO Hospitality begins at 9:00 AM provided by PTHS PTSA
    - Principal's report
- ❖ **Adjournment** 11:52 a.m.

Minutes recorded by Kathleen Chaudhari, Secretary, February 21, 2019

Reading and approval of minutes April 23, 2020



Kathleen Chaudhari, PT PTA Area Council Secretary



Date

PT PTA Area Council

Virtual Zoom Call due to COVID-19 (No March Meeting)

Attendees – PTA: Julie Collins, Samantha McVicker, Cathy O’Neil, Mary Pat DeRienzo, Ann Bondi, Lori McRoberts, Lisa Argent, Sue Deegan, Kathleen Chaudhari, Melissa Konggaard School Board: Minna Allison, Lisa Anderson

Administration: Mrs. Shelly Belcher, Dr. Jeannine French

❖ **Call to Order-** Pledge of Allegiance

❖ **President Report-** Sue Deegan, President

- Motion to Amend the Standing Rules to state that the PTSD Area Council can conduct business via virtual platforms. First-Samantha McVicker, Second-Mary Pat DeRienzo, Motion Carried
- Discussed protocol for unit PTA’s, Election of officers, spending and fiscal year concerns. State PTA allows waiting for next year, our schools would be better to have new officers, suggestion to have nominating cmte, slate of officers and then post in May. June membership meeting in person or could do a special mtg in July. The more we can have in place the better. Encouraged to spend the money, safely reschedule celebrations if possible. If they cannot be rescheduled, just carry money over. Fundraising might be impacted in the fall and units have to be prepared. HS PTSA has asked AC for help in creating special keepsake boxes for all seniors. Consider a \$1350 donation from AC. PTSA will match donation. 1<sup>st</sup> Melissa Konggaard, 2<sup>nd</sup> Lisa Argent Motion carried. Reallocation of unspent directory money.

❖ **Reading and Approval of Minutes-** Kathleen Chaudhari, Secretary

- February 20, 2020 Meeting Minutes- minutes were presented and will be recorded

❖ **Treasurer’s Report-** Lisa Argent, Treasurer

- Financial Report- no bills to pay

❖ **Administration Report-** Shelly Belcher-It’s volunteer appreciation week, thank you to PTA volunteers. Roll out of planned instruction went better than they thought. Not without struggles but its ok. Impressed with families with multiple children, please forward any constructive suggestions. Seniors— admin feels terrible about them missing milestones. Also thinking of 3<sup>rd</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders, transition years. Prom was rescheduled to July 30, Commencement to August 1<sup>st</sup>. June 5<sup>th</sup> is virtual commencement, will receive official diplomas, everybody will be able to watch on YouTube or vimeo. Ordered signs for every senior yard, principals hopping on school busses and putting signs in yards. Friday night will be light up night 8:20 p.m. Will hand deliver goodie boxes to every senior, everything rescheduled dependent on when this will all end. Prom has 1000 people. Already decided next year to have 3<sup>rd</sup> grade teachers go to the 4<sup>th</sup> grade mixer to say hello and goodbye. Awards ceremony done virtually. “Attendance has been fun” Reminder that school is in session on Saturday, May 9<sup>th</sup>, 24 hour lag to get attendance data entered. 3 consecutive days not signed in, and then the district calls the

family. Next year's calendar at this point is not changing. HS construction—does have people up there working, 1/3 of the staff. Big place and keeping safety measures. Mild winter was a blessing to keep us on track. Dr French stopped in to the meeting for a few minutes to say hello and to see if we had any questions or concerns. She asked how our kids were doing and a few people commented that it's going ok. She said they took time in the beginning to train the teachers and do it right before they went live, school districts that went live right away were using an alternate curriculum.

- ❖ **Report of School Board Representative-** Lisa Anderson There was a lot of work behind the scenes, teachers training etc. for planned instruction. It is heartwarming to see how teachers are doing everything they can. We are blessed with the administration and teachers that we have. Construction: construction halted, issues occurred that needed to be addressed. Bldg. could not be closed up properly at the start of the stay at home order. Board decided our project was critical. Still some trades hesitant to come back. If trades are social distancing, still anticipating they can meet construction deadlines. Retirement: BH School Nurse, Mrs. Crowley, 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade teacher at PV, Mrs. Johnston, Librarian at McMurray, Mrs. Owen. Big issues dealing with is budget. Tax raise to index for 5 years. Something they have to do. Next year significant number of teachers on next step with \$40,000 salary increase, close to \$1 million extra for salaries. Reduced revenues this year, less home sales, low residential construction. Still need to raise to index. \$698,000 deficit next year might have to use money from our fund balance. Tax implication for every \$100,000 it costs \$35.00. For \$300,000 house, taxes in PT are \$4100, USC \$7900, ML \$7400. Hard to vote for a tax increase but you have to look at the big picture. \$2,000-\$3,000 less spent per student versus state average. Not spending extravagantly and we are cost conscious. Next regular board meeting is May 18<sup>th</sup>, policy cmte meeting May 11<sup>th</sup>. School district required to pay every single employee on staff before March 13<sup>th</sup>, savings are miniscule because of closure for covid-19. Minna Allison—added that finance documents with rate comparisons are posted online.

- ❖ **Unit Reports by PTA Presidents-**

- \*PTMS- Anne Bondi They had board meeting earlier in the week, with Mr. Henaghan and Mr. Sikorski Discussed end of year, yearbooks will be ready at the end of May and will possibly distribute in July as kids clean out their lockers, will do in shifts. Mr. Griffin working on a virtual yearbooks—asking for photos. Traditional yearend things—T shirts for 8<sup>th</sup> graders, PTA will cover the cost (usually they pay) No 7<sup>th</sup> grade or 8<sup>th</sup> grade events. Make welcome back a bigger event and include 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders. Tentative 8<sup>th</sup> grade vent scheduled for July 31<sup>st</sup>. No sure if inside or out. Use funds from picnic and dance and use for that event. Hoping teachers will come. Ready with slate of officers for next year.



\*Bower Hill Elementary School—Samantha McVicker Having a board meeting tomorrow and going over the budget for next year. There will be money in the account to do summer event. BH Admin, counselors and speech therapists did Live from the Hive, Yearbooks May 29<sup>th</sup> shipped to school, may do drive through to pick up. Nominating cmte—no slate yet but they are working on it. They will move forward, with ½ of the current board moving on.

❖ **Committee Reports**

- 1<sup>st</sup> VP- Melissa Konggaard
  - Regional reflections ceremony, got awards and ribbons delivered
  - Directory—no print one next year
- 2<sup>nd</sup> VP- Lori McRoberts
  - School pictures-Met with Redford and awarded them the contract, all picture days are on the books
  - Scholarship-2 of them available this year, Mrs. Steffan working on a virtual ceremony, will send out rubric in May
  - Use Book sale cancelled

❖ **Old Business/New Business**

- By-laws Cathy O-Neill She reached out to state to see if they have guidance on closing up this year and opening up next. No answer yet, but forward her any questions you might have and she will get info out to everyone. Not a lot of guidance from state of PA “suspend ordinary rules” is what was found that other states are doing. Change standing rules to allow virtual voting. If we can host actual meeting in June, then try for that.
- Misc. Planning for next year, take one day at a time. Curriculum changes this summer will be in-class and virtual. Everyone is planning for going back in the fall. It is complicated because of the collective bargaining agreement. Union was cooperative, teachers are embracing virtual teacher-based curriculum

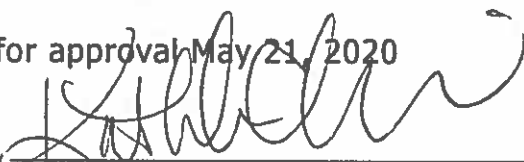
❖ **Calendar**

- Next Month’s Meeting- May 21, 2020, 9:00 via Zoom
  - Principal’s report, if possible

❖ **Adjournment- 10:36am**

Minutes presented for approval May 21, 2020

Minutes Approved -

  
Kathleen Chaudhari, Area Council Secretary

PT PTA Area Council

Virtual Zoom Call due to COVID-19

**Attendees – PTA:** Julie Collins, Samantha McVicker, Cathy O’Neill, Mary Pat DeRienzo, Lori McRoberts, Lisa Argent, Sue Deegan, Kathleen Chaudhari, Melissa Konggaard, Michelle Adams, Missy Meyers, Missy Tetrick, Paige Cendroski, Suzanne Mackay, Karen Lingis, Sonia Koupiaris, Julie, Beth, Dina, Camille

**School Board:** Minna Allison, Lisa Anderson **Administration:** Mrs. Shelly Belcher

❖ **Call to Order-** Pledge of Allegiance

❖ **President Report-** Sue Deegan, President, Welcome and thanks for attending. Slate was presented for next year’s board by Mary Pat DeRienzo, nominations for executive board will be taken from floor of June meeting. Committee discharged of duties.

❖ Nominations are open for next year’s board, please let Mary Pat know if interested

❖ **Reading and Approval of Minutes-** Kathleen Chaudhari, Secretary

- April 23, 2020 Meeting Minutes- minutes were presented and will be recorded

❖ **Treasurer’s Report-** Lisa Argent, Treasurer

- Financial Report- expenses were Zoom fees and the money for the Senior gifts in May, in June there will be expenses for the 2 Scholarships (2 @ \$1000 each). Motion to approve the expenses and pay the bills—Mary Pat DeRienzo 1<sup>st</sup> , Cathy O’Neill 2<sup>nd</sup>
- Lisa asked for volunteers to be on the audit committee, thank you to Cathy O-Neill, Missy Meyers and Mary Pat DeRienzo for volunteering

❖ **Administration Report-** Shelly Belcher-Thank you, lot of things going on to recognize our kids. Graduation is coming up. Recording videos, some things coming up next week Links on website for all of the events. Big question is what does next year look like? With the guidance they have been given, they just don’t know. 3 plans: plan A school is normal, plan C things not in a good place and we still need to be remote. Plan B is in the middle is where most of the work is being done, how to bring them back with keeping 6 feet apart, temp check, etc. Huge undertaking. Team looking at facilities, air handling system, deep cleaning every day, technology. Technology to hand to all kids, purchasing devices possible, what do we have in stock that would already have, and to purchase there is a backlog because all schools are looking at this. Busing is huge part. Hard to keep kids 6 feet apart in a school bus. Max is 42 on a bus. Have to take temp before they get on the bus, do not want to expose kids on the bus. Transitions in the school, how do they move throughout the day? Alternate schedules throughout the day. Do some parents want to take their kids remote all the time? Kids with health conditions, deliver curriculum all remotely? People want specifics, but it’s impossible. All of the options are on the table. Admin are working hard, with other superintendants with other states. State says it’s a local decision. Kids might have to be sent home getting on the bus, if child doesn’t meet the threshold for temp then they have to be sent back home. Shelly trying to be the parent lens, we might not be able to make it easy for parents.

Require a lot of creative thinking. PTA activities, shift in how we do things. Lunch-how do we do lunch? Can't go through the lunch line. Potential that next year will look different, be ready to adapt. Staff has done an amazing job, really new for a lot of them. New platforms should make things easier. Plan B or C is not what we want but we might have to do that. Wish she had better news. Question: Is there a plan for a town hall? Talking about different ways to think about that. They are at the fact-gathering stage. So many things change and so it's hard to feel like they are ready. Hard part about feedback—sometimes nothing we can change, when we don't have a choice about how we roll things out. They are doing surveys soon. Lisa Anderson: asked Dr French at the meeting this week, what help or assistance in planning is she getting from DOE and she said they are getting nothing. IU and Superintendent are meeting virtually and discussing ideas, collaborating with other districts. Probably going to be restrictions at some point next year. State is big into restrictions but not telling you it's a local decision. Lisa agrees with the town hall but on the other end the district likes to get things out when there are answers, it's a balancing act. Don't want to communicate incorrectly 5 times. Any questions that could be thought up are thought out. Sue Deegan: there is some comfort in saying "this is what we are thinking about" Even hearing what they are working on would be helpful. Minna Allison: always looking at things through a parent's lens. The level of proactiveness with our administration is amazing. A message from our superintendent would be a good idea. Check out tape from Monday's school board meeting and Dr French did talk about next year. Back to Shelly: Looking at new technology this past week, call with 20+ people with admin, principals and teachers, and also IT dept. Looking for training resources available for parents in addition to students and teachers. Collaboration with other districts is so important. Looking at platforms that would work great after all of this over, too. Lisa Anderson: why can't there be live instruction? Students sharing devices, watching younger siblings, internet issues. Assessments for next year: Dr Fisher is looking into this; everybody has missed out on classroom time. Transitions from students moving: working with staff in each school, 8<sup>th</sup> grade did theirs early so they were there, 3<sup>rd</sup> grade hasn't, so doing robust 4<sup>th</sup> grade mixer with 3<sup>rd</sup> grade teachers there and do formal tour and get the kids oriented. Kindergarten orientation moved to August. 6<sup>th</sup> grade doing a video send off at McMurray, 3<sup>rd</sup> grade the same. Pick up process for getting stuff from the school is in progress. New high school construction: everybody is back to work, laying the tile in the cafeteria, everybody wearing masks, school nurse taking temperatures. Huge donation from Sharp for technology for the new building. Academic classrooms coming along nicely. Looking forward to all of that. Roads are township issues. Lisa Anderson: she has not heard anything either, Route 19 is not a township road. School calendar is staying the same

❖ **Report of School Board Representative-** Minna Allison—school board meeting on Monday, donation is from Sharp thanks to Adam Swinchock for his contacts, \$258,000, naming rights to auditorium. Cafeteria will have a video wall with 9 55 inch televisions. Renewed subscription to Envisions Math. Next year increase of 15 minute teacher time from the last contract will begin; they are to use it to collaborate more. Lisa Anderson: extended the contract of assistant athletic dir to 2023, Lori Motosicke, going from McM to BH nurse. Mr. Matthew transferring from gifted to librarian. 3<sup>rd</sup> Carrie Williams, new teacher replacing Mrs. Johnston who is retiring, approved draft school calendar for 21/22 school year, first day of August 24, last day June 3<sup>rd</sup>. Adopted general budget (could be changed), raising real estate taxes to the index. \$300,000, would increase taxes by \$105. State revenue coming in under the CARES act, \$94,000 for extra money. Most money going to districts that can't rely on their tax base. Rebecca Bowman and Lisa participated in an advocacy meeting with our senator Kim Iovino (senator) Natalie Mihalik (representative) has also been responsive in phone calls. Spent 25 million dollars more than we received from the state for all of their mandates. \$750,000 last school year went to cyber charters with much lower proficiency. Look at proficiency levels compared to our PTSD levels. June 22 finance meeting, regular meeting June 29. Minna: thank you to HS PTA and AC PTA for the generous gift for the seniors. How are we keeping teachers accountable? Principals have divided supervision of the teachers.

❖ **Unit Reports** by PTA Presidents-

\*PTHS- Mary Pat DeRienzo Administrative teams delivered signs to the seniors, families are really grateful. Seniors will be getting other treats next week. PTA meeting possibly mid-June to finalize the year, get budget done, posted slate at the March meeting, will vote in June. More info to come. Thanks to everyone for everything they are trying to do, make a happier time for our seniors. Are you waiting for green phase for the meeting? Not sure, Mary Pat has talked to Mrs. Pavlic.

\*PTMS-Ann Bondi not there but sent report-- Slate of officers went out to membership, elections at next in person meeting, hoping for June. Board has agreed to move money from 8<sup>th</sup> grade picnic to pay for 8<sup>th</sup> grade t shirts. Follows state PTA guidelines. Distributing t shirts with yearbooks when kids clean out their lockers. Hopeful for 8<sup>th</sup> grade dance July 31

\*McMurray—Sonia Last meeting May 12<sup>th</sup>, going to move 6<sup>th</sup> grade donations for celebration, going to purchase t shirts instead, not sure about distribution, they are working with Mr. Stoehr. Teacher appreciation, buying 3 hole punches and 3 paper cutters as a gift, instead of regular celebration. In need of one VP to have a full slate. Planning on a June meeting, or will need to have a virtual meeting, no date yet.

\*Bower Hill—Samantha McVicker was at the meeting but had to leave early

\*Pleasant Valley- Not in attendance

❖ **Committee Reports**

- 1<sup>st</sup> VP- Melissa Konggaard-nothing to report, all good
  - Reflections, Reflections awards will be distributed by school (Reflections chairs have medals).
  - Directory—in need of a Directory chair for next year
- 2<sup>nd</sup> VP- Lori McRoberts
  - School pictures-no report
  - By-laws-no report
  - Scholarship-a number of seniors applied, picked 2 winners, will be announced during the virtual ceremony

❖ **Old Business/New Business**

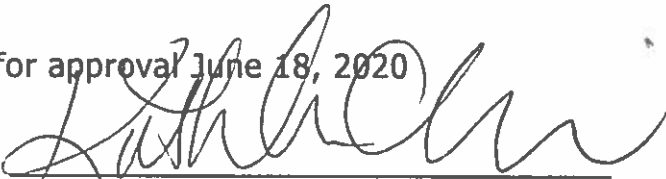
❖ **Calendar**

- Next Month's Meeting- June 18, 2020, 9:00 via Zoom Vote on budget and officers only and review last month's minutes. Will try for in-person meeting.

❖ **Adjournment- 10:39am**

Minutes presented for approval June 18, 2020

Minutes Approved -



Kathleen Chaudhari, Area Council Secretary

Virtual Zoom Call due to COVID-19

**Attendees – PTA:** Missy Meyers, Mary Pat DeRienzo, Lisa Argent, Lori McRoberts, Sue Deegan, Jen Hanko, Anne Bondi, Sonia Koupiarus, Beth Ruth Matthews, Karen Lingis, Melissa Konggaard, Nancy Zimmer, Courtney Irwin, Samantha McVicker, Penelope Butler **School Board:** Minna Allison **Administration:** Shelly Belcher

- ❖ **Call to Order-** Pledge of Allegiance
- ❖ **President Report-** Sue Deegan, President, Welcome and thanks for attending. Slate was presented for next year's board by Mary Pat DeRienzo, she asked for any further nominations from the floor for each position and there were none. All positions were voted on and the following are the Area Council officers for 2020-2021: President- Sue Deegan, 1<sup>st</sup> VP- Melissa Konggaard, 2<sup>nd</sup> VP- Lori McRoberts, Treasurer-Lisa Argent, Secretary-Kathleen Chaudhari Congratulations everyone!
- ❖ **Reading and Approval of Minutes-** Kathleen Chaudhari, Secretary
  - May 21, 2020 Meeting Minutes- minutes were presented, no changes, will be recorded
- ❖ **Treasurer's Report-** Lisa Argent, Treasurer
  - Financial Report- May deposits are from: dues from BH and McMurray. May expenses are from: zoom subscriptions, senior gifts, scholarship, and postage. Changes to budget: reduction in dues income and increase in administrations budget in case we need more zoom meetings for next year. Motion to adopt the budget: First, Melissa Konggaard, Second, Mary Pat DeRienzo, Motion Carried
- ❖ **Administration Report-** Shelly Belcher-For next year, not a lot of specifics, different groups of A, B, C. Making sure we can handle any variation, seeing what we can handle, hands-on work, measuring each classroom and how many kids we can fit. Guidelines are still changing, data gathering stage right now. Goal is to keep schools open and trying to keep that as a reality. Survey that went out, a lot of response 1700 families, large portion of community. Transportation is big part of this, 72 passenger bus normally, how to social distance, a lot of people willing to drive their kids. Question: will start times changes? Can't drop off kids at 2 different schools at same time. "Soft start time" Are they going to temperature check on the bus or school? At this point, we are doing when they get to school. Likely masks on the bus, siblings sitting on the bus together. If we are back in the classroom, what to do with medically at risk students. Definitely a part of the plan, either kids or parents are medically at risk, there is flexibility. Not sure what September or January will bring, need to move quickly to the environment. Sick kids are going to stay home, more absenteeism, that will help kids to stay on top of things. Also snow days will not affect us as much, can learn from home. Information in the survey is not binding, like for driving. Are most of the teachers comfortable coming back? Yes,

most of them are anxious to come back. Will work with staff that are at risk, if there are concerns they are talking through it. But generally speaking teachers want to go back. Looking at air filter. Question about remote learning? Does the potential exist for synchronis learning? Yes, because of Canvas it makes it easier, they are looking at everything, can't guarantee how it will look but they are exploring. A lot of feedback came back to say they wanted to see their teacher face to face, and this is built into the new Canvas platform.

❖ **Report of School Board Representative-** Minna Allison—On Thursday, June 4<sup>th</sup>, the board did approve purchase of 3500 one-to-one devices: Grades 2 to 6 will use a Dell Chromebook, Grades 7 to 12 will use a Dell laptop and K and 1 will use iPads (did not need to purchase them, used the ones we had) Our district has a 4 year lease and then hope to replace them in the future. One year subscription to Canvas costs \$35,000 per year. Platform will enable all of the communication to come from one platform, a great management system good for students, parents, and teachers. Thermometer has been picked out, just looking at best price. Question: Canvas is one platform, so can teachers use their favorite like Edmodo or does everything transfer to canvas? Canvas is meant to be used on its own, so teachers should not be using other options. 24/7 support using Canvas, if your kids are having technology issues. Will backpacks, binders, notebooks etc. be discouraged next year? Not part of the bucket of work that Shelly is working on, will be easier to take notes on laptop, she is not sure though. She could see less use of lockers. Calendar? Any changes anticipated? Everything is remaining the same. Construction moving along. Absences for educational field trips next year? Less rigid next year since kids can't make it to college visits right now. Shelly says days not in school is going to be less rigid. Is there a pandemic coordinator? Yes, Dr. Mike Fischer, a safety plan will be posted. For all activities, not just academics. Some will require board approval. When will schools board meeting be public? Option to come in or virtually. Not sure about public? Doing a hybrid meeting, some availability to come in but still recommending virtual. Not a lot of room in the board room for the public. Take temperatures and wear masks. Will still offer on-line version.

❖ **Unit Reports** by PTA Presidents- Welcome to Jen Hanko, incoming PV President!

\*PTHS- Mary Pat DeRienzo- This Saturday at the stadium holding graduation for Seniors, in 4 separate groups based on last name and 2 parents. Scholarship winners: Michael Batko, Natalia Hillen. PTSA meeting on June 24<sup>th</sup>, social distancing at the parking lot at the high school, approving board and budget, and should be brief.

\*PTMS-Ann Bondi - Last PTA meeting was yesterday June 17<sup>th</sup> virtually, new board elections and budget were taken care of, did not have to reallocate money, all is good. Ready for Sam McVicker as President. Question? What about 8<sup>th</sup> grade dance?

Nothing has decided yet. Wanted to give it a little bit longer. 250 person limit might change later in the summer, they are looking for an AC rep

\*McMurray—Sonia Koupiaris- Final meeting of the year scheduled for June 29<sup>th</sup> to vote on officers and budget.

\*Bower Hill—Samantha McVicker –Final meeting scheduled for June 29<sup>th</sup>, will do elections and budget update, voting on standing rules, budget looks similar, planned on decrease for read a thon for next year, budget looks simple, a lot are leaving BH but good slate of officers coming in.

\*Pleasant Valley- Jen Hanko – PV PTA did have elections, and Diane Damon is Asst to the President, approved the budget for next year, not a lot of changes, did move money around from 19/20 budget, approved to be moved to staff appreciation, exploring how to modify events, updated standing rules, scheduled audit for July 13<sup>th</sup>, a lot of committee chairs moving on to McMurray and she and Diane will work over the summer to get the positions filled. Will you be using member hub? Yes, have had a lot of success.

❖ **Committee Reports**

- 1<sup>st</sup> VP- Melissa Konggaard
  - Reflections – no report
  - Directory—Thank you Karen Lingis for taking over as Directory chair for next year
- 2<sup>nd</sup> VP- Lori McRoberts
  - School pictures- questions about dates for next year? Redford has reached out to each school, all dates are scheduled. Lori will get a list of dates and send them to everyone
  - By-laws-no report
  - Scholarship-scholarship recipients are Liam O’Neill and Elizabeth Brucker

❖ **Old Business/New Business** None

❖ **Calendar**

- Next Month’s Meeting- September 24, 2020, 9:15 via Zoom

❖ **Adjournment- 10:09 am**

Minutes presented for approval September 24, 2020.

Minutes Approved -

  
Kathleen Chaudhari, Area Council Secretary