

Hillside Elementary School

PTA Meeting Minutes

February 7, 2017

I. Call to Order by Denise Dunton at 7:04 p.m.

II. Minutes

- A. Motion to approve by Kim Krentcil
- B. Second to approve by Margaret Davis
- C. January 15, 2017 meeting minutes approved.

III. Correspondence

- A. Provided by Jenn Bonardi – nothing to report

IV. Treasurer’s Report

- A. Provided by Meryll Kropac
- B. Bank Balance as of January 31, 2017

Checking	\$50,359.91
Outdoor Resources	\$2,765.42
Money Market	\$1,763.55
Games of Chance	\$100.40
Pay Pal	\$512.31
Total	\$55,501.59

- C. See full Treasurer’s report for additional details.

V. Membership

- A. Provided by Zan Ouyang- nothing to report

VI. President’s Report:

- A. Provided by Denise Dunton
- B. Volunteers of the month: Margaret Davis and Romana Dhanoa for their work on the Read-a-thon.

VII. Principal’s Report:

- A. Provided by Mr. Gramata.
- B. Read-a-thon was a success. Miss Schultz’ class collected the most pledges. Mr. Gramata enjoyed being pied.

- C. On Thursday there will be a representative from the Homeless Bus to give a presentative. (that is if there is school – snow is in the forecast).
- D. The 100th day of school is on Friday (or Monday if there is snow on Thursday). Mrs. Marshall will be Zero the Hero.
- E. Read Across America Week, “Celebrating Differences,” will kick off with *Green Eggs and Ham*. Members of the community will be coming into the school as guest readers.
- F. Multi-cultural night is coming up.
- G. TREP\$ program for 4th and 5th graders.

VIII. Old Business -

- A. Read-a-thon – provided by Romana Dhanoa. Over 78,000 minutes of reading. Raised over \$5,200. It was a success. 6 students got to pie Mr. Gramata.

IX. Committee Reports

- A. 5th Grade Committee – provided by Margaret Davis.
 - a. Sweatshirts are in and look great.
 - b. Bake Sale: The indoor snack sale for February and March – did ok. The outdoor bake sale will return in April. There will be a bake sale at the Valentine’s Day Dance. Need donations, particularly water.
 - c. Charo Ghalston brought up a fundraising opportunity. Frozen in Time will sell \$5 coins. For each one sold, the school will make \$2. Treasurer will look into this, and we will discuss this further.
- B. Year Books: Provided by Marni McNany. Ordering is online. 125 orders so far. The Deadline is February 24, 2017. The links are on the school home page. Still time to submit pictures.
- C. Board of Education Observer: Provided by Kelly Meyer. Last meeting was yesterday. The meeting opened with a moment of silence in memory of the two students who passed away. Next was a presentation on study regarding high school students dropping classes. There will be a challenge day initiative at the High School and Heritage Middle School. A first draft of the budget was presented. There is a desire to increase teachers in the high shoo because expecting 50 new students. However, it was noted that kindergarten enrollment is declining. Also the budget includes an upgrade to the security cameras, and a new bus depot. On March 13, 2017, the BOE will discuss the school calendar for 2018-2019.
- D. Box Tops: Provided by Denise Dunton. 198 Box Tops have been collected. The next deadline is February 27, 2017. Box Tops must be mailed to General Mills by March 1st to make the next check.
- E. Spring Fundraiser: Provided by Charo Ghalston. The fundraiser will be on March 30, 2017. Still working on solicitation of prizes. Volunteers are needed as follows: night of the fundraiser – set-up and clean-up, solicitations for baskets, wrapping of the baskets and advertising in the program. Accepting donations for baskets including gift cards, money and actual items. DeeDee Pulver offered to help get donations.

Also emails were sent out to all parents regarding donations. Teachers are working on their baskets. Still no theme yet.

- F. Nominating Committee: Provided by Margaret Davis. We are looking for a new executive board. Need all positions except for 1 co-president because Denise Dunton will be staying on. The positions are all 2 year terms. Contact Margaret with questions and if you are interested.
- G. Multi-cultural night: Provided by Denise Dunton (Nicole Aaron- Wagener email) and Alex Genis. Will be held on March 9th. Flyers have gone out as well as a reminder on Facebook. Entries are due by February 15th. So far there are 4 volunteers to perform. Those who wish to practice in the gym prior to the performance can do so on March 8th from 6-8. The program will start with tables. India will be in the Art room and China in the downstairs gym. The performances will be after the tables.
- H. Valentine's Day Dance: Provided by Denise Dunton. Will be held on Thursday February 16th. Everything is set. The DJ is excited. There will be two candy guessing games and a photo booth.
- I. School Supply Kits: Provided by Priscilla Moschella. The planning has started. The portal is open for changes by the teachers until April. Sale will start June 1st, and the flyers to go out mid-May. Still looking for someone to take over the committee.
- J. Website: Still looking for someone to take over the committee.
- K. Media: Looking for someone to take over the committee.
- L. Yard Sale: Provided by Jenn Bonardi. Will be held on April 22nd. Has been posted on Facebook and mentioned in the newsletter. Jen's garage is filling up. Remember your trash can be someone else's treasure so spread the work. We need volunteers.
- M. TREP\$: Provided by Jenn Bonardi. This is a new afterschool program for 4th and 5th graders. There will be 5 workshops, a marketplace and a wrap-up session. This is a young entrepreneurship program that goes over advertising, marketing, publicity, etc. At the marketplace those participating in the program will be selling their items and all students will be invited to go shopping. A video was shown explaining the program in more detail. The program will start the first week in March, and students will meet afterschool until 4pm. Teachers will be running the program with parent volunteers. We received sponsorship from Regal Bank. There will be a fee associated to cover costs of the student workbook, apron and end of the program party.
- N. Art Appreciation: Provided by Denise Dunton. Will be held March 13th -March 17th. Still working on the program.

X. Comments

- A. DeeDee Pulver: any interest in having students becoming ambassadors to the Shine A Light on Autism program. If interested go to the Autism New Jersey website. April 27th is the night of the town-wide program.
- B. Mrs. Richmond: teachers are very excited for donating baskets for the fundraiser.

- C. Silvana Krstevan wanted to know if there is anything the school needs. Mr. Gramata replied that we presently have a lot, and that he has been in communications with the E-board. One idea is a maker's space—a community space where students can build and make things. He provided an explanation of the maker's movement in education. Mr. Gramata and Mr. Ebneith attended a workshop on 3D printing. This is something being discussed with the E-Board, and he is still learning more about this.
- XI. Meeting adjourned by Denise Dunton at 8:10.