

Division Avenue High School PTSA
General Meeting Meeting Minutes
November 3, 2014

President Laura Brown called meeting to order at 7:35 pm. Pledge, quorum.

Recording Secretary - Lynn Petrofsky absent due to illness. Dani Jeffer took notes for minutes.

Minutes accepted as read.

President's report – Trees in front that were unstable removed. District is now looking at trees district wide. At superintendent meeting: Garbage pails on field to be replaced in spring, lighting in main hall to be upgraded. Field usage by local teams discussed also upgrades to our camera system. I attended Heart Screening and was impressed by entire program. Went to NARCAN training offer by Nassau Region PTA, recommend next time this is offered to membership to take advantage and attend. Adopt A Family collection being done by unit for Senior boy in need of sweatpants/shirts and warm clothing.

Treasurer's report – Pat Genco reported. The general fund had a starting balance of \$6,128.81 with income of \$825.75 and expenses of \$1,172.00 with a closing balance of \$5,782.56. The senior awards fund had a starting balance of \$2,001.11 with income of \$220.00 and expenses of \$192.29 with a closing balance of \$2,028.82. Mr. Randa made motion to move \$400 from health and wellness to the cultural arts line, increasing Cultural Arts to \$2,500 second, all in favor, Motion carried. Debe Howe makes motion to amend budget from 2800 to 2500 for cultural arts and 100 to 700 for legislation (due to a printing error); second, all in favor; Motion carried.

Principal's report – Ms. Lorelli reports on Unity day. Valery Marcos was named Long Island Young Scholar of Mathematics. The Dig Pink fundraiser raised over \$1800. Upcoming events were discussed.

Executive Committee Reports

1st VP – Open position

2nd VP – Dani Jeffer 333 members: 41 staff, 175 parents and 117 students

3rd VP – Open position

Corresponding secretary – Amanda Smithwick reports no correspondence.

Student Liason – James Lunetta chose Dawn Kim in raffle

9th grade food drive requests food donation

12th grade senior application for photo due/prepping for spirit night

Council Delegates – (open positions) 6 needed

Committee Reports –

Standing Committees: Mrs. Medina did a presentation on gambling

SEPTA – Liz Kirk reports that there were two meetings, 10/6 and 10/27. Behavior intervention plans were discussed. Division hosted a panel discussion and presentation on Transitional post graduate placement and adult programs. Dr. Susan Izeman, PHD, was our guest speaker. She presented “Stop the Bullying” and “Improving your Child’s Social Skills”. They have 276 members. Anyone who wants to order yankee candles can still do so online. Our guest speaker was Marlies Brandt from The Cody Center. She presented a Power Point on “Addressing Puberty and Sexuality with your Special Needs Child”. The next meeting is 11/17.

BJ's – Pat Genco reported that we have sent BJ's 42 memberships. The estimated profit to DAHS PTSA is approximately \$210.

Bookfair – Marion Renda – set for December 13th, 2014/ 10-12 chorus and orchestra/art displays/Mr. Coscia will be behind the counter serving.

Sweeps – Dani Jeffer reports that various table reservations have been received; the event will be on

March 6th, 2015, help is needed in all aspects, donations of baskets, cakes, etc. We have “begging letters”, some mailings to businesses have already gone out and we have donations from NY Hall of Science, NY Lizards and Hall of Fame so far.

Honorary Life – Pat Genco reported that the letters went out and recommendations had to be received by 11/7.

Plant Sale – Pat Genco reported the fall fundraiser brought in 498.71. Pat Genco makes motion to look into info for Winter fundraiser, second. All in favor. Motion carried. A vote of confidence is made for Laura to make decision.

Secondary Curriculum – Mary Rickard reported that an issue that came up with a phys ed assignment. No assignment should be given without receiving feedback of some kind. The policy is being looked at and they will decide if the assignment should be eliminated all together or if there should be a rubric developed for grading and inclusion in the students’ grades. The district is considering changing the sequence of the science regents curriculum. Currently 1. Earth Science 2. Living Environment (Biology) 3. Chemistry 4. Physics (with 8th grade accelerated students taken the first class while in middle school) The district is considering making Living Environment first and Earth Science second. They feel the success rate on the Living Environment regents would be higher than Earth Science and therefore better for our students to have a more positive first regents experience.

Sr. Award Fund – Linda reports that application is on website and deadline is May 1st. Forms are available at the Guidance office.

Elementary Curriculum – Dawn Tiemer reports the district has created a draft of an elementary version of the code of conduct called a "Bill of Rights" but it was emphasized at the meeting that this is still to be considered a draft. Parent workshops are made available online soon after they offered.

Food service – Pat Genco reports on out of order equipment. The district has looked into and priced providing our own lunch program. There were complaints regarding chicken nuggets, pizza and the bread used with the grilled cheese. Ms. Rifkin sent letters to all schools requesting student representation. If students have any concerns they should speak to the head cook.

New Business – Mr. Renda thanks swim team / Esta Lachow and Holiday Adopt a Family

Unfinished Business – Laura Brown discusses Hempstead Tpke. issue. Dani Jeffer made a motion to give Laura a vote of confidence to read a “state of concern” letter to the delegates at the NYS convention, second, all in favor, motion carried.

Meeting adjourned 9 pm