

Division Avenue High School PTSA
General Meeting Minutes
March 2, 2015

The Reflections Presentation began at 7:01 PM. Debe Howe presented awards.

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

Recording Secretary – Minutes were approved as presented.

President's report – The district is in full swing in planning this year's school budget. The budget is coming in at less than 2% with no cuts in services at this time.

Treasurer's report – Pat Genco reported. The general fund had a starting balance on 1/12/15 of \$3,587.86 with income of \$44.37 and expenses of \$242.00 with a closing balance on 2/9/15 of \$3,390.23. The senior awards fund had a starting balance on 1/12/15 of \$2,394.48 with income of \$940.00 and expenses of \$711.12 with a closing balance on 2/9/15 of \$2,623.36. The general fund had a starting balance on 2/9/15 of \$3,390.23 with income of \$19.26 and expenses of \$151.00 with a closing balance on 2/2/15 of \$3,258.49. The senior awards fund had a starting balance on 2/9/15 of \$2,623.36 with income of \$1,175.00 and expenses of \$125.33 with a closing balance on 2/2/15 of \$3,673.03.

Principal's report – Ms. Lorelli reports the Valedictorian of the class of 2015 is Krysten Garcia and the Salutatorian is Christopher Thompson. The Trial Law Class participated in the Nassau County Mock Trial. The Media Production Class won Honorable Mention in the Nassau County Public Service Announcement contest. The science Olympiad team earned 4th place in the regional competition and qualified for the state finals. Spirit Week was very successful, the seniors won spirit night. The boys bowling team competed in the County championships achieving 6th overall in Nassau. The girls' basketball team was the conference champs for the third year in a row.

Executive Committee Reports

1st VP – Open position

2nd VP – Dani Jeffer 419 members: 116 staff, 180 parents and 123 students

3rd VP – Open position

Corresponding secretary – Amanda Smithwick reports that sympathy cards were sent to Lisa Curran and Donna Papa.

Council Delegates – (open positions) 6 needed

Committee Reports –

Standing Committees:

Communications – Facebook has 270 members. The weekly email blasts are well received by the membership.

Legislation – Debe Howe reported on the Leg/Ed Conference.

SEPTA – Liz Kirk reports the meeting was held on 2/23/15. Patricia Kolodnicki went over changes to the NYS graduation requirements for students with an IEP. There will be a fundraiser on 3/8 at Governors comedy club. SEPTA will be hosting an Autism Awareness Day at Citi field. The next meeting will be held on 3/30.

Special Committees:

Sweeps – Dani Jeffer reports the event will be on March 6th, 2015, help is needed from 1:30- 5:30 and throughout the evening.

Honorary Life – Pat Genco reported that money is due if you are attending the event.

Nominating Committee – The committee met and presented the following proposed slate for the 2015 – 2016 school year: President: Laura Brown, 1st VP: Pat Genco, 2nd VP: Linda Pereira, 3rd VP: Liz Kirk, Treasurer: Dawn Tiemer, Recording Secretary: Ann Johnson, Corresponding Secretary: Jen Benz. All nominations from the floor must be submitted as per our bylaws. Elections will be held at our April meeting.

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

Staff Appreciation – The event takes place in May. We need a chairperson for this.

Plant Sale – Flyers are being prepared for the spring sale. Prices will remain the same as last year and we will be using the same company.

Liaison Reports:

Council Budget - The committee presented to Council on 2/26 and it was voted on to be presented to the BOE on 3/11.

Secondary Curriculum – Mary Rickard reported meetings were held on 1/22 and 2/11. There was discussion on the criteria to be placed in an Honors class. 6th grade going into 7th, a rubric is used. ELA or Math test, 3rd quarter average and teacher recommendation are all used to determine eligibility. To remain in honors students must have a greater than a 65 average at the end of the first quarter, greater than a 75 average at the end of the 2nd quarter and a final average of 85 or higher. Catalyst is an ACT prep program. It will take place over a weekend, 4 hours a day. The cost will be approx. \$160 per student. Changes have been made to the phys ed paper. The topics were redesigned and a grading rubric was provided. The next meeting will be 3/23.

Elementary Curriculum – Mary Rickard reported that the meeting was held on 2/11 jointly with secondary curriculum. Kerin Slattery, the new English curriculum associate was in attendance. She presented some of the shifts in ELA and Literacy including: balancing informational and literacy text, building knowledge in all disciplines, staircase of complexity, text based answers, writing from sources and academic vocabulary. Students will continue to do text rendering in order to develop the skills necessary to succeed with this shift. The next meeting will be 3/14.

Food service – Pat Genco reports the quality control checklists from each school. Some issues brought up were: a refrigerator is down waiting for a compressor, tacos were cold, children are discarding fruits and vegetables, children like the popcorn chicken but not eating the larger chicken nuggets, eggs are watery, Bosco sticks are a big hit, water stations are great and some units are not sending representatives. The next meeting is 3/18.

Health and Safety - The meeting was held on 1/29/15. Most schools need their speedbumps repainted. Summit needs speedbumps. Pick up and drop off of students were discussed. There were talks of setting up an anonymous tip line for middle and high school students to be able to report things without the fear of others knowing. Lunch personnel were offered a free training in CPR and first aid. There are procedures in place regarding children with allergies.

New Business – Levittown Council and Wisdom Lane Scholarship applications are now online. Division Avenue Lacrosse blankets are on sale for \$40.00.

Meeting adjourned 8:40 pm

Submitted by Lynn Petrofsky, Recording Secretary