

Abbey Lane PTA Minutes

October 21, 2014

Call to order by Gabrielle Herbert at 7pm, Quorum present. Welcome to all, followed by Pledge of Allegiance.

- I. **Recording Secretary:** Stephanie Gannon – Minutes from September 16, 2014 presented for review and were approved. Minutes to be filed as written.
- II. **Treasurers Report:** Report by Michelle Fielding, Treasurer's report distributed and filed for audit. Please refer to the filed budget. July Books were audited by Jaime Mahoney; August and September Books were audited by Marie Adams and were found to be in good standing. Updated Budget for 2014-2015 School year was presented to membership. Follow up from September's meeting, Vendor Fair was added to the Income budget lines, with a proposed \$250. Motion made by Michelle Fielding to approve budget - 1st by Mrs. Schneider and 2nd by Jenny DeMeo. All in Favor, None Opposed, Motion Carried.
- III. **Special Committees:**
 - **Boo Party** - To be held on October 24th, Volunteers are needed to assist with the games and bake sale. Haunted Hallway will be held for 5th Grade fundraising. *Linda Savage – Chair*
 - **Gift Wrap Fundraiser** - Orders were submitted, delivery is expected by Monday, Nov 3rd, Flyer with pick up times will be sent home, About 75 orders were placed with a projected \$8,000 in sales. *Beth Lyons -Chair*
 - **Kids Stuff Coupon Books** - Books are still available, Please send in payment if books were kept, we were able to give away 5 books from promotion "6th Free with Purchase of 5", Sold 183 books with projected \$2,287.50 as a profit, Best sale so far since starting book fundraiser. *Jenny DeMeo – Chair*
 - **Pie Sale** – Sale starts Oct 27th and will end Nov 10th, using a new vendor Grand Café, Delivery will be last week of December before holidays; Items will have to be picked up or they will be donated. Items cannot be sent home with children. *Trinity Galarza – Chair*.
Entenmanns Pie Sale will be in November, *can reach out to Jen Banfich-Chair for more information.*
 - **Bling Apparel** – Orders will be submitted very soon, and can still place orders at the Boo Party, Another sale will happen during the year. *Please see Dawn Marmo – Chair for more information.*
 - **Book Fair** – Will be held on November 6th & 7th, Classes will be able to visit during the day, will also have an evening session on Thursday, Nov 6th from 6:30-8:30pm, Volunteers Needed, Classes will be able to create a "Wish List" and have a chance to have books donated to classes, Theme is "Sir Read Alots Castle". *Samantha Stanley & Jen Pirozzi- Chairs*
 - **Islanders Game Night** – Sixteen tickets have been sold so far, due back 10/22/14, Looking into booking another game on Jan 19th, which is Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Kids are off from school. For more information, please see *Greg Bodkin – Chair*
 - **Picture Day** – Went well, slight delay that day due to not receiving labels in advance before, Retakes will be on Nov 25th, the 5th Grade will also take their group picture and club photos that day. *Marie Adams - Chair*
 - **Vendor Fair** – Confirmed Friday December 5th from 6-10pm, About 10 vendors have signed up, room still available for more business, \$25 a table and donation of a basket for Annual Fundraiser required. Please see *Dawn Marmo or Gaby Herbert – Chairs*, for more information.
 - **LEADD/Red Ribbon Week** – Children will be receiving pennants by the end of the week; LEADD Fair & Walk will be on Sunday October 26th starting at 10:30 from Levittown Memorial. *Jamie Mahoney – Chair*
 - **Blood Drive** – Scheduled on December 11th from 3:45 – 8:15pm, Targeting 65 Pints for the 65th Anniversary. *Marie Adams – Chair*
 - **BJs** – Flyers will be sent out and due by November 7th, Membership is same price but adds an extra 3months and percentage comes back to the school. *Jamie Mahoney – Chair*
 - **5th Grade** – Yearbook Packets sent home and due back by January 10th, Banner is being organized, Haunted Hallway, \$1 Admission, will be held at Boo Party to fundraise for a Photo Booth. *Jamie Mahoney-Chair*
 - **School Apparel** – Last month, shirt colors was discussed; Both colors, Red and Grey will be offered with personalization available for \$3 extra. Dawn Marmo motioned, 1st Jamie Mahoney and 2nd by Kerry Olivos. Flyer will go home in November. *Gaby Herbert & Lisa Lanyo - Chairs*

IV. Standing Committee Reports:

- Cultural Arts – Report given by Gaby Herbert for Marion Renda. 4th Grade had the American Indian Program presentations this week. 5th Grade is scheduled to have an I.Robot Program, Grade K-3rd will have a theater presentation of “Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day”; 3rd Grade will have a Bugging Out presentation by Botanical Gardens, Grade K will have a Touch Tank; Grades 2 – 5th will have a physical education Hacky Sack program “Myachi”; Grades 1-2nd will have an author Darien Sarell present.
- Membership – Currently at 220 Members, PTA Membership Drive - the grade with the highest percentage of PTA memberships by May 31, 2015 will receive an ice cream party at the end of the year. Since each grade varies in size we are calculating the results by percentage versus the grade with the most memberships. Results to date: 1st Grade leads with 49%; 5th Grade with 41% Grade K with 38%; ABA with 33%; 2nd Grade with 32% and 3rd Grade with 31%. Will be posted on the Website.
- Annual Fundraiser will take place on February 27th, 2015 at Verdi’s. Theme for this year is “Abbey Lane’s 65th Anniversary”, Donations still needed, Classes have chosen their theme baskets, will notify class moms, Invites will be going out in November and offer an early raffle, The Planning Committee will meet again next month; Anyone who would like to take part, please contact *Dawn Marmo or Amy Hoffman - Chairs*
- Reflections - Theme for this year Reflections Contest is “The World will Be A Better Place....”, Packets can be requested from Gaby Herbert and are due November 18th.
- Honorary Life - Fliers will be sent home to nominate someone who has gone above and beyond for the community and children, Dinner will be held on April 30th at the Crest Hollow Country Club for all Honorary Life Award Recipients. *Beth Lyons - Chair*

V. Liaison Reports:

- Elementary/Secondary Curriculum: From September’s meeting it was announced that there is a new social studies program at the elementary level, integrating language arts, resources will be available online. Reading blocks are being structured to monitor and target difficulties by intervals. At the secondary level, “Project Lead the Way” is bringing science and engineering together, such as hands on robotics technology. Parent Workshops will be scheduled to inform parents on common core requirements targeting each grade. Looking into a 10th grade workshop for resources of information, timeliness and the road to college. Levittown had the highest opt-out for the State Assessment Reports, more than 20%. Gardiners indentified as a LAP school, Local Assistance Pan, due to the large gap in scores. No more Pre-Tests this year.
- SEPTA- Susan Yalvac reporting on meeting held on October 6th, currently have 145 members, 100 members are staff. Renee Muschitello, TA is our liaison. New director Lisa Carelli-Lang spoke on the current training for teachers and SPED staff in the district. There is a new 8:1:2 class at Summit Lane, Yankee Candle Fundraiser will be extended, there will be a transition meeting on 10/23 at Division. CSE is looking for Parent member, can contact Linda Verre. Dr. Susan Izman was the Guest Speaker for “Stop the Bullying”. Next meeting is on 10/27 at 7:30pm.
- Food Service – Equipment that needs to be repaired or replaced at the schools will be evaluated, BOE has given permission to re-invest money into new kitchen equipment. We have a new food service provided New food service Aramark as well as a new Director of Food Services. Their contact information is listed on the menus and on the distribute website should anyone have any questions. Alarms will be installed on fridges if left open. 10 cent increase in lunch is due to state minimum requirement. Food portions and options are made to abide to the federal nutritional guidelines. Committee is looking into other options and the pros and cons on not using the government meal program. Breakfast is served at certain schools; Northside, Gardiners and Summit Lane, both middle and high schools, determined by surveys sent home. Visit to cafeteria went well, wait time was on average 8 minutes. Food complaints are being looked into, questions or concerns can be forwarded to Jenny DeMeo.

VI. Principal’s Report:

Dr. Maurer welcomed PTA board, members and parents, Thanked all for a well attended Back to School night and successful Picture Day. Fire Prevention Assembly went well. Student Council is up and running, elections will be held soon. They began selling Pink Pumpkins for breast cancer donations. Student’s art was on display at the Board of Education meeting, Abbey Lane is displayed in October, they will be honored in the Spring.

Second Grade had their Library Trip, Kindergarten went to Schmitt's Farm, 4th Grade will have their American Indian Program presentations. Parent University will be held on Oct 29th from 6:45- 8:30pm, there will be 25 minute intervals, children will be able to watch a movie with supervision. Sessions included accessing the Parent Portal, Report Card Viewing and how to access and navigate through the online content and materials that are available for Math Envision and ELA Journey. There will be a PTA Apparel Basket up for raffle for attending and the class with the most parent attendees will have a pizza party. Any questions or concerns, Dr. Maurer can always be reached via phone, email or appointment at the office.

VII. Unfinished Business:

Ballot vote was held for two members plus 1 alternate from General Membership for the Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee's role is to recommend candidates for the officer positions of the PTA Board for the 2015/2016 school year. The proposed slate is presented at the March meeting and additional nominations can be made to run against anyone on the proposed slate (refer to bylaws for guidelines). From the Executive Board Amy Hoffman, Jennifer Banfich and Dawn Marmo were voted onto the Nominating Committee, with Lori Edvabsky as an alternative. From General Membership, Frank Marmo and Samantha Stanley were voted onto the Nominating Committee, with Beth Lyons as an alternative.

VIII. New Business:

Gaby Motioned to have a voice of confidence to send Marie Adams and Tina Bodkin to NYS PTA Convention to represent Abbey Lane PTA. 1st by Sue Yalvac and 2nd by Jenny DeMeo. All in Favor, None opposed, motion carried. PTA Resolutions were discussed and were voted on and collected at the meeting. Resolutions articulate the official PTA positions that the State PTA goes to our legislators to support. The three resolutions being voted upon relate to education on HIPPA, Social Host law and Electronic Cigarettes and Youth. Dawn announced that she will be looking into another Fundraiser in January for "Paint Nite Out" for about \$45 a ticket, more information to follow. Gaby Herbert stated that we are still in need of chairs for some committees; Poinsettia Sale, Pancake Breakfast, Plant Sale, Mother's and Father's Day Sale.

Meeting Adjourned 8:15pm by Gaby Herbert

Minutes submitted by: Stephanie Gannon/ Recording Secretary