

## **DIVISION AVENUE HIGH SCHOOL PTSA MEETING MINUTES, September 17, 2018**

Linda Pereira called the meeting to order at 7:00pm, followed by the Pledge.

**President's Report** - Linda Pereira welcomed all attending and provided updates:

PTSA provides programs & events for the whole entire student body, providing assemblies that educate on topics such as awareness about social & emotional issues, anti-bullying, social media, texting while driving and bringing in motivational speakers. All fundraisers & including membership help support in being able to do so. As a PTSA member, please use the opportunity to volunteer and chair committees; As well as receive email updates, \$10 to join for parent, \$5 for students. Facebook page also provides updates. Looking for delegates to attend Board of Education meetings to report back. Biggest Fundraiser is "Division Sweeps" fundraiser for senior scholarship, held in March.

Report from President / Superintendent Meeting on 9/13/2018. Dr. McDonald is sending out a letter detailing on how the school district is handling the situation with Voting at the Schools, requesting to end the accessibility to the schools, as they are not allowed to ask for IDs from voters or election workers, this is highlighted as an issues as the Governor just passed a bill to allow registered sexual offenders to vote in schools.

Recognized the Hall of Fame inductees that will be announced at Division Homecoming; made remarks how Levittown parents should be wary of social media banter and see positive remarks instead of attacks; Regents results will be announced at the next BOE meeting and mentioned Doug Koch being named as the new Head Custodian for Division.

**Principal's Report**— Mr. Coscia updated membership on the school's ongoing activities and few achievements within the school body:

- Introduction of Mr. Sam McElroy current Assistant Principal and Mrs. Jaclyn Guidice as new Assistant Principal
- Continuing program to have a "freshman academy" – 9<sup>th</sup> grade students get a chance to meet with their peer leaders and at orientation reviewed academic / behavior expectations
- Congratulations to two Division students who reached NYSSMA All-State Honors and will attend conference in Rochester in November - senior Joanne Chun and junior Jacqueline Testamark
- Three College Fairs scheduled for the first half of the schools year.
- Central Administration toured / walk through of the building and view instruction going on – such as Mr. Breves class room using the flex seating learning set up.
- Mr. Jeff Miller was recently selected as a recipient of the University of Chicago's Outstanding Educator Award; Dylan Chase, a member of Division Avenue High School's Class of 2018 and a first year student at the University of Chicago, nominated Mr. Miller for his commitment to educating students year after year.
- Mr. Verdi is getting ready to launch a APP – to replace the "Dragon Tales Newsletter" which will be used as a bulletin board and news throughout the school
- Senior Portraits have been moved due to the turf to September 27<sup>th</sup> ; Locker Rooms are complete and in use
- New Entry System for students and visitors working good so far, students must have id to scan in or punch in their student number; visitors will be asked for their ID and scanned into the system before being let into the building

Mr. McElroy detailed the Behavioral Program that is being implemented - PBIS - Positive Behavior Intervention Supports framework- meant to supplement our safety and discipline from a positive proactive view regarding behavior, involving a committee of teachers and different staff members and define expected behaviors around the core social values of the community when participating in daily events at schools. Based on early intervention research in promoting positive behaviors in different methods to encourage such behavior or working with individual students that are having difficulty. Second layer will be to introduce a "Student Mentor Program" with teachers.

**Treasurer's Report**— Proposed budget for 2018 -2019 presented to membership. Motion made to approve the budget; Carried by Betsy Baquet – 1st and Sue Massoni - 2nd. All in Favor: Motion carried. Please refer to the filed budget. July, August and September books were audited by Stephanie Gannon. Filed as written.

*General Fund* — Opening Checkbook Balance: \$8,222.217; Expenses: \$53.00 Total Income: \$969.13;  
Closing Checkbook Balance: \$9, 138.30

*Senior Award Fund*— Opening Checkbook Balance: \$4,623.34; Expenses: \$491.98; Total Income: \$7,600.43;  
Closing Checkbook Balance: \$11,731.79

**Recording Secretary** – Approval of the Minutes from May 2018 were approved as written.

**1<sup>st</sup> V.P.** - Lynn Testamark informed the committee of fundraising items: Plant Sale – all orders to be in by September 21<sup>st</sup>; Actual Sale / Pick up date is October 5<sup>th</sup>; BJs Membership due on October 6<sup>th</sup>; Levittown Tribune fundraiser is due on 10/12; Kona Ice will be at Homecoming; Pop Sockets being sold for \$10

Looking into a Pallet Paint Nite – no minimum will be \$35 per person – profiting \$10 for each; No date set yet  
Motion made to use Mastropolo Arts – Betsy Baquet carried – 2<sup>nd</sup> by Roxana - Motion carried – All in Favor

**2<sup>nd</sup> V.P.** – Kris Eckberg reported that for Students to obtain their own PTSA card – must submit their own email. As of today, 75 members.

**3<sup>rd</sup> V.P.** – No Report – In need of selection

**Corresponding Secretary** – Sympathy card sent to Rzemieniewski Family; Received Thank You cards for Staff Luncheon and two senior students who received scholarship

**Council Delegates** – Looking for 7 delegates to report out from BOE Meeting

## **STANDING COMMITTEES**

**Arts in Education** – Linda working with new social worker and Mr. Coscia with upcoming assemblies

**Communications** – Emails continue to go out to membership. If anyone likes to assist in maintaining Facebook page, please reach out to Linda.

**Legislation** – Convention in November 2018 to be held in Saratoga.

**Audit** – Committee meet during the summer, and found to be in order.

## **SPECIAL COMMITTEES**

**Agenda Books** – Need Committee Chair

**By-Laws** – Need Committee Chair; As they are up in April 2019 to be updated

**Nominating** – Will need 2 general members and 2 executive members

**Honorary Life** – May 2<sup>nd</sup> Date Set – Need Committee Chair

**Reflections** – Theme “Heroes around Me”

**Senior Awards** – Need Committee Chair –to gather members to select applications - Last year 48 students received scholarships

## **LIASON REPORTS**

**Staff Appreciation** – Need Committee Chair

**Curriculum** – Elementary and Secondary being combined – September 25<sup>th</sup> – Chair Needed

**Food Services** – Chair Needed

**SEPTA** – Report from last school season meeting – 3 Meetings to be held this year - Liz Kirk would like to chair the committee – if no other person would like to chair – can be reflected back to Liz as a repeated chair.

**Student Liaisons**: Senior – Kayla Gannon placed a request for consideration for Class 2019 Liaison.  
In need for Freshman, Sophomore & Junior Classes.

**New Business**: Parents raised concern for having Junior Prom being held along with MacArthur at Crest Hollow.