

Hammond Middle School PTA

Meeting Minutes for December 9, 2014

Attendees:

- Pat Johnson, President
- Jen Larsson, Treasurer
- Tricia Miller, Secretary
- John Woodson, PTACHC Rep
- Mary Altaner, PTA member

Minutes

- **Opening:** The meeting was called to order by PTA President, Pat Johnson.
- **Secretary's Report (Tricia Miller):** The November 2014 meeting minutes were presented. No revisions were proposed. John Woodson made a motion to approve the minutes; Mary Altaner seconded; the motion passed.
- **Treasurer's Report (Jen Larsson):** Jen provided a summary of the month's activity. The current cash position for the PTA is \$6,556.98. Jen also provided a spreadsheet reflecting YTD actual amounts in comparison to the budget.
 - **Spirit Wear:** is currently in the black. Recommended for next year: a dedicated spiritwear coordinator should start the process during the summer. Sales were most effective when parents were onsite (back to school night / 6th grade orientation). Next year's order should include more T-shirts in various colors. The remaining inventory is at Pat's house.
- **Membership (Heather Witt):** not present / no update
- **PTACHC Report (John Woodson):**
 - News from last PTACHC meeting: elementary school model being updated, academic calendar planning committee being formed for next year (considering how to make up snow days - during the year or at the end), new wellness policy.
 - Wellness Policy: PTACHC has asked local PTA chapters to respond to a survey on this policy. After some discussion, the following survey responses were agreed upon and John Woodson will forward to PTACHC by 12/23/14 on our behalf.

(1) Does your PTA leadership have concerns about the implementation of the Wellness Policy, specifically the new restrictions placed on school celebrations? **YES**

(2) Is the requirement that only foods that are prepared in commercially licensed facilities too restrictive? **YES**

(3) Would you like PTACHC to advocate that:

a. Principals have the discretion to allow school celebrations more than once a month? **YES**

b. Food and beverages served at school celebrations do not have to comply with the IOM Nutrition Standards? **YES**

c. Food and beverages served at school celebrations are not required to be prepared in commercially licensed facilities and can be prepared at home? **YES but qualified. Some concerns were raised about ingredients in home – prepared foods not being properly disclosed – risk for children with allergies.**

- **1st Vice President's Report (Pat Johnson reporting for Liz Boateng):**
 - Staff Appreciation: concerns raised about insufficient volunteers at events. Discussed possible solutions. Eblast / newsletters will emphasize the importance of having volunteers at Staff Appreciation events.
 - Spelling Bee: will send a final eblast reminder for Geo / spelling bees. Ms. Altaner will also follow up with Mrs. Page about advertising in the morning announcements.
 - Restaurant Night: Amy Shugar is coordinating several restaurant nights as a possible additional source of funds for the 8th grade dance.
- **2nd Vice President's Report (Pat Johnson reporting for Shari Obler):** Still no volunteer to coordinate either the Spring Fling or the Talent Show
- **Principal's Report (Kerry Dufresne):** not present / no update
- **President's Report (Pat Johnson):**
 - **Geography Bee:** see 1st VP report
 - **Gift Card Fundraiser:** profit of \$659. More families participated than last year – program is growing.
 - **By-Laws Committee:** updated by-laws have been posted to PTA website. Notice to members went out as required. We will need a minimum of 10 members at our January meeting to approve the new by-laws.
 - **Vacant PTA positions:** 2nd PTACHC – John W is OK with handling these duties. Will likely redirect our efforts from Spring Fling / Talent Show to the new Rainbow Run event.

- **New Business:**
 - **Accepting Credit Cards:** will discuss at next month's meeting. Shari Obler is putting together an analysis of our options. Jen raised the question: how will PTA address additional cost associated with using credit cards – absorb or pass on?
- **Roundtable:** no additional topics raised.
- **Closing:** John Woodson made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Jen Larsson seconded; the motion passed.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Tricia Miller, HMS PTA Secretary.