

PTA Meeting Minutes- Approved

February 2, 2016 7:32

- ☑ Introductions- Attendees introduced themselves.
- ☑ Agenda from January was approved
- ☑ Minutes from the January were deferred until the March meeting.
- ☑ Tom asked for any gripes about the snow that people couldn't help but voice; nobody had anything they needed to say.

Principal's Report- Kenwyn Shaffner

☑ Transition to middle school – Presentation by Johanna Boyers, Williamsburg Middle School Sixth Grade Counselor (60 Minutes)

- Ms. Boyers and Ms. Susan Flynn are expected to be the counselors for 6th graders next year. There will be two due to the size of the class.
- They will likely have to increase counselors and specialists due to number of kids.
- Likely will have 4 teams next year, as opposed to the three this year.
- Ms. Boyers provided an overview of the schedules for 6th Graders, an explanation of the team system, and a description of the various courses such as Math, Spanish, English and Reading.
- Ms. Boyers also explained after school activities: Clubs, which are drop in, and ACT II class, which are actually classes that meet twice a week and for which a grade is given.

There was a discussion about cyber bullying and cyber safety. Tom said he would like to have Amy Blaine come back and discuss Cyber Safety again.

Officers' Reports

Internal Relations: Jennifer Leonard

Nominating Committee: Jennifer Leonard provided an update on the Nominating Committee, which consists of Jennifer Leonard, Robin O'Reilly, Alison Cassels, Megan Mabry, and Bethany Matz.

Fundraising: Auction Report: Shannon Haines:

Shannon provided a report about the status of the auction, which is moving ahead with great speed. The auction items are fantastic. Now we need people to buy tickets. Tom noted we have some challenges. We have fewer students. We have lost some big donors.

Community Relations: Maurine Fanguy

- February is Pennies for Patients. On Fridays, Dr. Speiz needs assistance for three Fridays getting the change to the bank.
- Folk Dance night is February 26th.

- o Bingo Night will be re-scheduled as it was snowed out.
- o There is a CIP meeting on February 3, 2016. There will also be one in March and April . These are important meetings that will decide whether there will be a new Middle School, as well as other middle and high school capacity issues. February is community engagement month and there needs to be significant engagement. By June the School Board will approve the plan.
- o The draft calendar for 2016-2017 is out. It is open for comment.

Communications- Sara Batla

- o Tom complimented Sara for re-designing the newsletter. Its easy to read and follow. Sara reported that group photo day for the year book is February 19th in the morning.

Treasurer- Report by Tom Jensen

- o We are in good shape financially.
- o There is a small stream of revenue from the auction and grocery store programs.
- o The financial report was distributed and reviewed.

Presidents' Report – Tom Jensen

Tom noted that he has gotten a number of emails from parents about the amount of homework their children have. We are trying not to overstep into school practice, APS policy, and individual experiences. However, we are also trying to address the emails that have come in. Tom plans to poll the Board and committee members about the issue before deciding what, if anything, to do. We had a robust discussion around homework, including specific challenges. The meeting adjourned at 9:20.