
November 14th, 2018 | 6:37pm | Meeting called to order by Dave Hiller

In Attendance

See attached. Board Members present: Dave Hiller, President; Christian McNamara, Vice President; Sarah Gallagher, Treasurer; Misha Serfillippi, Fundraising; Christy Czekaj, Membership, Katie Connors, Secretary. All members introduced.

Spring Glen Mission Statement

PTA Board is to make recommendations, however decisions are made by membership. Each event and initiative of the PTA furthers these goals:

- Build a welcoming, diverse, and inclusive **community** among parents, students, teachers, and staff.
- Strengthen **communication** between parents, the school, and the district.
- Support additional **opportunities** available to all students.
- Provide additional **resources** to the school.

Presentation of Parent and Teacher Survey results

Presented by VP Christian McNamara:

- 2 surveys (teachers and parents) were sent out, 63 total responses (see attached results summary)
- Barriers to Volunteerism:
 - Too few people to share larger commitments
 - Not enough notice of opportunities
 - Smaller shift commitments recommended
- Barriers to PTA membership/participation:
 - Meeting/attendance: time of day a challenge
 - With nonmembers a barrier noted was people felt attendance was required, we will stress this is not the case
 - PTA will stress remote attendance is encouraged
- Significant feedback on events, improving events, new ideas, diversity and inclusion efforts
- Teacher survey goal was to identify what they see as priority areas, low response (survey timing could be potential reason)

Presentation of proposed fundraising strategy

(See draft)

- Fundraising Chair presented PTA plans for Direct Appeal.
- In addition PTA will sponsor many of same activities/fundraisers that are popular and successful. Direct appeal will support events including Art Night, Field Day and teacher grants
- Discussion opened to membership for input: Members discussed possible parent pushback, inclusion of survey data into draft, to provide a suggested pledge amount.
- PTA hopes to execute end of Sept/early Oct. Treasurer reiterated an early start to determine where we need further support.
- Memberships is encouraged to provide continued feedback prior to implementation.

- Introduction of Hamden Special Education PTA (SEPTA) co-president Deana David Lissenberg
- Deana explained the challenges of campus rotations for many special education classrooms, special education students
- SEPTA obstacles: Building an awareness of SEPTA, founded just 2 years ago, and fundraising
- SEPTA suggests partnering with other PTA to become more apart of communities. Often there are feelings of isolation when kids are not in home school, as crossover is hugely important to kids and families
- Next SEPTA meeting TBD

Reports of Officers

- **President** -
 1. Calendar/events:
 - a. PTA had a presence at Back to School Night and PTA sponsored Welcome Back breakfast for staff, both were well attended events
 - b. Organized kindergarten play dates.
 - c. Calendar available on website
 2. Volunteer opportunities:
 - a. Discussed importance of providing larger and smaller scaled opportunities for member volunteerism
 3. Request a community member representation at each BOE meeting. Will have sign up.
- **Vice President** - no additional report
- **Secretary** - no report
- **Treasurer** - presented this year's budget, approved at end of last year. Projected budget and projected income were explained.
- **Membership** - currently at 132 new members, 38%. Currently 23 of 40 new teacher members, 57%. Teacher incentive announced for 100% participation. Community and business members will be encouraged to join membership. PTA will serve 402 students. Member suggestion: link PTA website to Principal's weekly news emails.
- **Fundraising** - no additional report

Reports of Committees

- **6th Grade** - Tim Trama, 6th grade teacher reported. Seeking Parent involvement. Typically first events are teambuilding adventure course in Bridgeport, CT and Kids Night Out (held at school). First fundraiser (coupon book) started today, 9/11/19. Last year \$2,700 was raised with coupon book. Fall festival is a significant fundraiser for 6th grade, date TBD. The idea of local businesses sponsoring 6th grade was discussed, however 6th grade has been self-sufficient last 4 years.
- **Play** - Committee is formed. Show date: May 16 w 2 shows at HMS. Audition will begin in December.
- **5K** – Committee is assembled. Date to be confirmed (4/4/20 or 4/5/20)
- **Website/Social Media** –website, Facebook page, live stream of meetings allows remote attendance
- **Diversity and Inclusion (D&I)** committee has just started conversations. D&I supports diversity and inclusion efforts for training with district, proposed Oct. 18 as International Potluck Dinner at SG. Initiatives include quarterly information regarding international days on PTA bulletin board, research around potential in-school speakers.
- **Playground** – Discussion of volunteers to construct gaga pit. Membership has received quote for materials < \$500. Suggested to combine Fall Cleanup Day/Disney donation/gaga pit construction in late Sept/early Oct.
- **Afterschool**
 - Total participation - 162 current, 112 different students (some enrolled in more than one program) with estimated 80 more sign ups.
 - Scholarship goal: all students are able to attend with same experience as students that pay. Currently 19 scholarships.
 - Transportation limitations were discussed.

Membership Questions and Comments

None

Next Meeting

October 16th, 3:45 pm, Spring Glen School Library

Motion to adjourn 8:13 pm, Misha Serfillippi; Second: Christian McNamara; Carried unanimously.

Minutes respectfully submitted, 9/12/19

Katie Connors, Secretary