

SMS PTSO MINUTES - 14 SEPTEMBER 2016

Attendance

Gina Holbrook, Lisa Russo, Marianne Ferrier, Julie Brum, Liz Lukowsky, Edita Beasain, Cher Palmer, Maureen Pflug, Lisa Gooch, Jane Rodriguez, Wendy Natherson, Marta Pulawski, Nicole Jensen, Stephanie Donnelly, Ame Ehil, Rita Chiha, Kelly Liebel, Martina Reisky.

Gina welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Minutes

Marianne had an amendment to the August Minutes. Under Staff Birthdays it was stated that treats were distributed to staff for August and September birthdays. It should have read July and August. Minutes of the August meeting were then approved by Melissa Tomasso and seconded by Lisa Russo.

Administration - Mrs Dorn – Principal.

Mrs Dorn explained the State Equality Laws to the meeting. There followed a short questions and answers session. Mrs Dorn asked for a parent volunteer for SAC. Please contact Mrs Dorn if you are interested. She continued to report that a Student Council would be introduced to SMS. There will be four main office bearers and elections would be forthcoming. There is a new updated school website. A grill has been purchased and lunch will be provided once a month for staff appreciation. See sign up genius for volunteer opportunities. A new LA and Math practice tool has been introduced to the school called iReady. This informative tool diagnosis the level of students and provides specific tutorials/activities for teachers. This is in place for 6th graders only and will be expanded to 7th and 8th. All students will take a diagnostic test which replaces the state benchmark testing. This tool was provided by the district with no charge to the school. Mrs Dorn reminded the group to sign up for Remind.com if they wish to receive text messages from the school. It was announced that Lori White is

retiring this year. The district is holding an event in her honor. Mrs Dorn asked if PTSO would consider sponsoring a table at this event for 5 SMS staff members at \$100 per person. Mrs Dorn addressed the dress code issue. Dress code will be enforced. Staff are asked to check students in their first period class. Mrs Dorn is hoping students will continue with wearing the appropriate attire throughout the school year. She would like to set up a committee with student council, teachers and parents for dress code. If you are interested please see Mrs Dorn.

President's Report

Gina had received a request from Coach Joiner some time ago for \$3,000 to purchase PE equipment. Admin donated this money. Mrs Dorn has asked for \$1,000 from PTSO to contribute to her donation. Gina put forward a Motion to grant Mrs Dorn \$500 to go towards Lori White's retirement event and \$500 to be used at Mrs Dorn's discretion. Lisa seconded this Motion. All were in agreement. It was also discussed that the PE pavilion be researched this year with a view to start funding the following school year. Gina informed the group that student reps will be announced shortly. Applications were available to any interested students.

Committee Reports

Vice-President – Lisa Russo. No report.

Secretary – Marianne Ferrier. All attendees are reflected in the Minutes.

Treasurer – Wendy Natherson. Wendy distributed her report.

Parliamentarian – Melissa Tomasso. Melissa asks that discussions at PTSO meetings be brief.

Volunteer Coordinator – Cher Palmer. Cher would be attending a volunteer coordinator meeting at the Landings. There have been an additional 100 volunteers added to sign up genius.

Website Coordinator – Traci Doughty. Traci asked that any updates for the website be sent to her at tracidoughty@comcast.net.

Box Tops – Julie Brum/Candice McLeod. Box tops can be handed into the front office, to first period teachers or to Julie and Candice at PTSO meetings. October 14th is next deadline.

Renaissance - Edita Beasain. Maureen Pflug has volunteered to help with this program. Thanks Maureen.

Business Partners – Liz Lukowsky. Signs are being made and will be hung as soon as available. Liz is working on Panther Run sponsors. Liz also reported that the student agenda book sponsor has not paid their dues for two years. The last loss amounted to \$3,600. The group agreed that more vigilance is needed.

Yearbooks – Cher Palmer. Cher reported that Yearbooks can be ordered up until March 24th 2017. Forms can be picked up from the front office or orders can be made online. Yearbooks are \$40.

Staff Birthdays – Cher Palmer. Going well.

Sweatshirts – Marianne Ferrier. Sweatshirts and Tervis Tumblers can be purchased from the front office throughout the school year until supplies last. Both are \$20.

Open House Dinner – Fabiola Beckman - absent. The dinner was wonderful. Huge thanks to Fabiola and her team. A new Chair is needed for next year. Cher added that 4 yearbooks were sold at open house and 7 sweatshirts.

6th Grade Social – Tiffany Mercier - absent. All is going well for Oct 7th. See sign up genius for ticket sales.

Old Business

Sally Hritz is looking for NJHS donations. It was unclear what donations are needed. Gina will investigate.

New Business

It was suggested that a typing class be introduced to school to help students with online testing.