

PTA GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

January 9, 2017 at 9:45 AM

Meeting Open and Welcome Remarks

Meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance at 9:50 AM

Christina Walsh (Co-President) opened the meeting and welcomed everyone. She turned the meeting over to Ilene Hellman. Ilene mentioned the Annual Fairfield Blood Drive in is scheduled for February 9. Ilene welcomed the representative from The NY Blood Center, Ashley.

Ashley mentioned:

- The Blood Center serves over 50 hospitals daily
- Need 800 pints of blood daily
- There is a shortage of "O" Negative blood type
- They have been in a "blood emergency"/shortage since Thanksgiving
- 110 pound minimum to donate
- Can reference their website for FAQ sheet or there is a 1-800 to call (also listed on website)
- If you go to the Blood Center directly, mention FF and they can use the code so that FF is credited

Tara Ferrara (Class Parent Rep.) will contact all class parents and reach out to them to get donors to sign up for the drive

Teachers' Reports

Mrs. Crimarco

- Thanked PTA and volunteers for the Holiday Luncheon
- MAGNET finished the STEAM program and Mrs. Tand presented to the program to BOE last week
- Kindergarten is looking forward to the 100th Day Celebration next month and they are continuing to work on reading and writing workshops
- 4th Grade - Learning about Native Americans in NY and gearing up for their indoor field trip, sponsored by Arts in Education. Full day of learning about Native American government, traditions, games, food, lifestyle, etc.
- Mrs. Canning just finished unit on featured articles using TIME for Kids which helped with appropriate text
- 6th Grade - Working on Egyptian projects

Mrs. Landman

- Thanked PTA for luncheon
- Kindergarten - learned about germs and learned how to make their own hand sanitizer and they made it as a gift to bring home
- Mrs. Dorfman/Library - MAKERSPACE for 4th, 5th and 6th Graders going really well. The children seem to love it
- 1st Grade - learning about Chinese New Year and doing a unit on penguins
- 2nd Grade - Mrs. Dorfman took 2nd graders into the lab to learn about coding
- 3rd Grade - Mad Science, Dry Ice Capades

Principal and Vice Principal's Report - Mrs. Dano and Mrs. Gerhardt

- Mrs. Dano laborated on MAKERSPACE and said all groups will get the same number of sessions. One group was scheduled for the ½ days and they will make it up.
- Thanked Mrs. Hellman for her hard work on the Spelling Bee. It worked out great and Olivia Vanderburg is going on to Hofstra. Mrs. Crimarco added that it worked out really well in the classroom and the teachers

got the opportunity to sit in on a seminar to learn all rules and how to run the spelling bee. Children got to watch in the classrooms and were less intimidated and more likely to participate in the future.

- Several Fairfield events have been in local papers lately, thanks to Mrs. Gerhardt who has been working with Andrew Hackmack, to highlight Fairfield students and events in local newspapers

Treasurer's Report -Tara Tarasi

- Closing Balance as of 12/31/16 - \$14,863.93
- Motion to approve Treasurer's report - Sue Foran and Candace Averso seconded the motion

President's Report - Sheila Grauling

- Thanked Nalini Hayes for all great work so far this year in Arts in Education program. The circus worked out great.
- Sweetheart Dance - they will be sending out info soon for volunteers and dessert donations. Please be mindful of nut free desserts

SEPTA and BOE Report - Marie Festa

- Septa meeting on 1/12
- BOE presented the STEAM program, really impressive. They did a presentation on schoolwide enrichment model. Fascinating program, report was amazing. Definitely recommend checking out the presentation on the BOE website.

Committee Chair Reports

Arts in Ed - Nalini Hayes

- Mad Science: 1/19-1/20 - Learn about 3 stages of matter, Dry Ice.Vendors all BOCES approved
- Journeys into Native America: 4th Grade/All Day event, 1/26, learn about storytelling, traditions, government, etc.
- Motion to approve Ilene Hellman and seconded by Doreen Dunne

Paint Night - Kelly Rowland

- Thursday, January 26 at Ziggy's Pub
- Secured location and artists
- Collected several donations for gift baskets, all direct donations
- Each attendee will get 2 wine glasses to paint
- Motion to approve Ilene Hellman and seconded by Traci Lorenz

Skate Night at United Skates - Sheila Grauling

- March 9 at 6:30 PM
- \$5 Entry fee plus the cost of skate rental if needed
- Rink closed to Fairfield students and families only
- Motion approved by Maria Conaty and seconded by Sue Foran

Harlem Wizards - Tara Tarasi

- March 30 in the MHS Gym
- Currently recruiting players

New Business

Nominating Committee

- Need to form a Nominating Committee

- There will be a review of procedures and training class to attend to review if you want to attend
- Volunteers included: Laura Lucchi, Dawn Mollica, Ilene Hellman, Diana Misita and Ilene Hellman

Guest Speaker

Doreen Dunne: Girls on the Run

- Doreen coached this past season and will coach in the Spring, but both her girls are leaving the school this spring so looking for new coach volunteers for this great program
- Girls on the Run is for girls 3rd - 5th Grade
- Non-Profit organization
- Goal is to provide girls the tools to develop confidence and teach lessons, while creatively integrating running
- They compete in a 5K at Hofstra the end of the season (unfortunately it was cancelled due to weather in the fall)
- Meet 2xs a week for 90 minute sessions, pick your days/dates
- Provide training for new coaches
- Teams minimum of 8 girls and a maximum 20 with 3 coaches

Correspondence - Tara Ferrara/Corresponding Secretary

Tara read a thank you note from Mrs. Meininger to the PTA for the Holiday Luncheon

Upcoming Events

Book Fair

- January 31 - February 2, set-up day on January 30
- Fair is being run by Karalynne Esposito and Julia Santiago
- Evening event for Parents and children scheduled for Wednesday, February 1

PTA Meeting

Next PTA Meeting is scheduled for February 8 at 7P<

Attendees:

Jenny Isaacs, Melisa Byrns, Merry Chin, Courtney Mullin Gialella, Laura Lucchi, Kelly Rowland, Jenn Lopez, Dawn Mollica, Lisa Brzezinski, Kim Gonzalez, Randy Jankowski, Susan Foran, Morissa Lagano, Nalini Hayes, Candace Averso, Doreen Dunne, Kathleen Romano, Vito Selvaggi, Kim Gonzalez, Diana Misita, Ilene Hellman, Marie Festa, Christina Walsh, Sheila Grauling, Tara Ferrara, Tara Tarasi, Tatum Salembier, Mrs. Crimarco, Mrs. Landman, Mrs. Gerhardt and Mrs. Dano