

## Old Mill Road General Membership Meeting

### October 18, 2022

Meeting called to order at 7:05 pm.

- Pledge of Allegiance
- Motion for September meeting minutes; approved by Erin Teta and second motion from Laura Squillace

#### President's Report

- 520 Adventureland tickets sold! Thank you everyone for your support!
- Walk and Roll to school day was a success.

#### Principal's Report

- The school year is moving quickly!
- K chromebooks have been delayed - have been shipped out and once received they need to be programmed before distribution.
- Parent question about why chromebooks cannot stay at school - Mrs. DeLuca explained that students need to have them at home for charging. They used to be stored on carts but those up too much space. Teachers are aware that backpacks are heavy and being mindful of what is sent home. Trying to supplement with handouts when they can.
- Parent question about chromebook restrictions - Mrs. DeLuca explained that teachers are alerted of what students are searching. Restrictions are in place but some sites/content can filter through. As a result, programs need to be shut down until problems are resolved.
- Mindfulness clubs are starting in Nov. for 6 weeks. Grade 5 & 6 mentorship program beginning. This is an ambassador program where older students help younger grades by doing mindfulness activities. K-2 and 3-4 mindfulness club starting next.
- Other clubs being looked into - steam and photo-shopping.
- Best buddies - pilot program for K-2 right now. This program will blend special ed and gen ed students together in a social environment to develop social skills. K-2 participants will meet all together, 1x/cycle and sometimes outside of school (i.e. movie night) Starting in November and students will be pulled during a non-critical learning time. Mrs. LaPenna and Mrs. Dombrowsky will oversee the program.

#### BOE (Dr. Senuik)

- So good to be here again and the fall is going quickly!
- Oct BOE meeting and annual auditors report. District had an almost perfect report - steps have been taken to get us off the fiscal stress list.
- Some highlights: walk to school day we had perfect weather, but, where were the squirrels!? A lot more coming up and a lot to look forward to.
- Getting excited for the Fall Festival and extra security will be present.
- Reminder about trunk or treat on Fri, 10/21 @ 4p - great weather predicted.
- Parent University - 6pm start time, not 7p. More faculty and staff signed up to host a table than ever before. We are back to normalcy.
- Parent Conferences Tues, 11/8.

- Next BOE meeting 11/9 @ 7pm HDF.
- Parent suggestion - Trunk or treat should be inclusive of those with food allergies. Dr. Seniuk will look to implement that and adjust advertising to include. Ms. Moser shared that allergies were taken into consideration when planning for the event.
- After Care Program Survey - looking at survey closely to see if parent needs have changed.

#### Treasurer's Report

- Blue highlights numbers that have changed to accommodate budget change - some line items needed to be adjusted to help offset costs. Increasing budget for some programs and able to reduce budget needs for others.
- We are carefully planning fundraising activities to cover all expenses this year and we are off to a tremendous start.
- Adventureland made 7K (13K sales).
- Welcome Back Picnic made 2K.
- Laura Squillace first and second Melissa Chambers to approve budget.

#### Correspondence

- School PTA website has been organized and updated - tricky to navigate.
- There are two virtual backpacks - one is for PTA and one is for school administration. All PTA flyers will be kept on virtual backpack as well as minutes.
- Open to suggestions on how to organize.
- Vouchers are under the Committees tab (for Committee Chairs spending money on events).

#### Teacher Reports

- K - OMR's kinders have continued to learn all about the numbers 0 to 5 in math and kicked off the National Geographic science program by both "meeting a scientist" and using their very own science notebooks.
- 1st - First graders are learning to think like scientists! This week our pumpkin explorations have begun and we are very excited to see what new things we can learn!
- 2nd - Second grade is very excited to participate in our first STEAM Parent Event later this month. Children will work with their parents in our school cafeteria and become familiar with the DESIGN process. Our second graders are enjoying their Marine Life tanks. They even had a chance to look closely at our hermit crabs! It has been an exciting month in second grade.
- 3rd - The 3rd graders are off to a great start. The beautiful weather has allowed us to enjoy outdoor snacks and activities. We have begun exploring multiplication. This month we will be exploring weather as well as the life cycle of a pumpkin! Happy Fall!
- 4th - We are launching our Realistic fiction unit. In social studies, we are focusing on our state's geography and map skills. In math we are learning different strategies for finding the product of 2 digit numbers.
- 5th - In Math, grade five students are learning how to multiply multi-digit whole numbers. In Reading, we are learning to form good habits as readers through various lessons as we read *Loser* in class. In Science, we are currently finishing a unit about the

scientific method with tools and safety in the science lab. In Social Studies, students just completed a Geography unit and will begin learning about the United States government. We are all looking forward to having a fun fall and enjoying a safe Halloween!

- 6th - In science class, the students are learning about Newton's Laws of Motion. They have demonstrated them with fun, hands-on experiments and activities. In social studies, students are working on a unit about economics in which they will learn about different types of economies, economic questions, and producers, consumers, goods and services. In Word Power, the students are excited to begin their realistic fiction book clubs. All sixth grade classes are filling their Writer's notebooks with ideas and beginning to write personal narratives. In math, students have been reviewing place value and operations with whole numbers and decimals. They are also beginning to learn the skills for algebra.
- Library - In the Library, October is all about Hispanic Heritage Month!! All grades concentrated on a different country that celebrates this festive holiday. Once each country's geography was explored, all classes focused on their country's music, cuisine and clothing. Our culminating activity will produce a jamboard for every grade sharing each country's beautiful culture!! Mrs. Constantino would like to thank the PTA for the awesome scholastic Book Fair donations. The books are great!!!!
- Art - We are moving into the second element of art, SHAPE! All classes are beginning their second unit. We are expanding into new mediums and creating art inspired by contemporary artists such as Vassily Kandinsky, Reggie Laurent, Henry Matisse, and Pablo Picasso.
- Music - Music classes just finished Hispanic Heritage Month where they learned the Spanish alphabet; the "Itsy Bitsy Spider" in Spanish and different Hispanic dances. We are learning Halloween/Fall music over the next few weeks
- Phys Ed - Students in grades K-6 are continuing to practice their dribbling, passing and shooting skills during our soccer unit.
- ENL - Grade K is reviewing letters, sounds and sight words, as well as introducing fall related vocabulary. In grades 3-5, we are working on reading comprehension, fall vocabulary, figurative language, and grade appropriate math skills such as place value and estimation. Fifth grade students in Mrs. Wan's ENL class are learning about the parts of speech and how to stretch sentences by using better word choices.

### SEPTA

- October was eventful - a lot of support for boo bags. Thank you!
- Next meeting at HDF on 10/27 @ 6:30p - spooky bingo. Register via QR code.
- Spirit wear has launched online and available through 11/11.
- Almost 200 members! Thank you for joining!
- Follow SEPTA on Facebook and Instagram.
- November SEPTA meeting is on 11/14 @ HDF - a paint night for kids.

## Committees

- Picture Day had a better flow this year since we could be in one spot. Thank you for volunteering! Digital images available by end of October.
- Scholastic book fair - thank you to volunteers! Great turnout with e-wallet. Two more fairs this year, encouraging e-wallet for them.
- Fall Festival - chairs are working really hard to make it an epic event - entire school will participate at one time as in years past. Lots of activities planned and want to keep them under wraps until the day of. Thank you in advance for volunteering.
- 11/9 is picture retake day and grad pics for K and 6th grade.
- K-3 dance is on 11/18. DJ is already confirmed. Splitting the dance into K-1 and 2-3 (1hr each). Erin Teta and Katie Lopez volunteered as chairs.
- **Standing committees**
- Assemblies - Tina Silvers - Harlem Wizards - kids were so excited and it went really well - a few more assemblies in the works.
- Box Tops - Erin Teta - \$101 so far - the stress is downloading the app itself. Once you download app, it's easy. Suggestion to implement a school-wide goal to help generate interest/support through box tops. Gaga ball pit is suggested. Mrs. DeLuca needs to talk to Tom Carder and PTA would need to approve as well.
- PTA gifted \$1500 for Site Base Programs - Mrs. DeLuca and Natalie discuss options for what programs are brought in.
- Book of the Season - shifting from Book of the Month and will work with Mrs. Constantino to select the book. The North Merrick Library has agreed to loan us a large quantity of books each season to help us save money and, in turn, support our local library.
- Fall Festival - parade precedes the festival at 9am and then two hours of activities beginning at 9:30am.
- Reflections - google form went out to complete - form is on the website but need original Parent Square post to enter.

## MAMS

- Nothing to report as a committee chair is still needed for this position.

## Fundraising

- Adventureland - coming up on 10/29. 522 tickets sold! Tickets can be purchased at the door for \$5 extra (\$45 per person). Parents also need to pay.
- Pie fundraiser - was due Friday, 10/14. Pick up will 11/22 from 4-6. Items not picked up will be donated to a local food pantry. Contact Kathleen to make different arrangements if you can't make it.
- Serengeti - Sunday, 11/13 from 12-4p - holiday portrait mini-session. Limited appointments and 20% sales donated to PTA. Appointments are back in the studio.
- Spirit Wear - looking for new, fun, trendy vendors who offer online ordering to make it easier to place orders. Trying a local company for just the staff first to see how they like it. Also working with SEPTA spirit wear website creator to help us create an online portal.

- Class t-shirts - looking into a new vendor who is an OMR family. An idea was brought up to hold a drawing contest for a new mascot.
- Adult Paint night - Thurs, 11/17 - holiday items.
- Amazon Smiles - a year round fundraiser with Amazon - reminder - Kathleen posted the link on Facebook and posted on bulletin board.
- Mums was a hit - increase from previous years.
- Trying to make up from fundraising deficit last year so thank you all, in advance, for your support. We are off to an amazing start so far!

#### Membership

- 277 which is incredible for this time of year.
- Our goal is 303 as set by NYS PTA - we will be recognized for reaching 60% of membership goal
- Thank you for your support, as always.
- Reminder to make sure you are a member if you are volunteering - parents, extended family, etc.

#### New Business

- 6th grade event - parents night out at Newbridge Inn from 7p - 11p on 10/22 - 6th grade fundraiser - \$50 per person. No money at the door - must purchase in advance. Not affiliated with the pta and everyone is welcome.
- Next PTA meeting 11/16 @ 7p.

Meeting adjourned at 8:17pm

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Recording Secretary, Lisa Luchsinger

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President, Natalie Ciccone