

PTA Meeting Minutes

Patapsco Middle School PTA Meeting

October 18, 2011

Provisional, Pending Approval

Attendance: Therese Cozzo – teacher representative, PTA Board members Allison Anderson – president, Emily Rice – first vice-president, Caroline Bodziak – second vice president, Kari Schumm – treasurer, Tina Siedlecki – recording secretary.

The meeting was called to order by president Allison Anderson at 7:04 pm in the library of Patapsco Middle School. Fourteen members were in attendance. A quorum was present.

Meeting minutes from September 19, 2011 were presented for review, and approved as written.

Financials: Kari Schumm presented report of expenditures to date vs. approved budget. Copy attached to minutes. Movie night went well; only paid half due to technical difficulties, company returned our payment. We are trying to spend carryover money (\$3500) which is accounted for in budget (added money for reflecting cultural events, reflections). As every check must be signed by two people, Kari will pick up check requests week before PTA meeting; please let Kari know if need check more quickly. We sent audit report to MD PTA and heard back that we need additional reviewer on our report; audit report must be reviewed by three individuals who are not those with signing authority on checks (two if one reviewer is a CPA); Kari is contacting HSES PTA co-president to do final check.

Principal's Report: (None) Cindy Dillon and Carol Ketterman not present, at Sixth Grade Outdoor Education.

Staff Report: Therese Cozzo had no news to report from staff. In response to request, she will look into when after school math workshop for students will start.

Committee Reports:

Membership: Allison Anderson reported that Ms. Dillon was hoping for 100% staff participation in PTA this year; emails have been sent to staff from Committee. Terry Purnell and Dana Hemelt have been doing a great job with Membership Committee. To date, we have registered 361 members (there are 600 students at school), and are ahead of this time last year. Several families have sent extra donations. We have received \$4,500 of donations (goal was \$4,000).

School Spirit: Caroline Bodziak reported that about 250-300 people attended movie night, and we collected about 35 boxes of tissues for teacher's drive. We will continue to find ways to incorporate the tissue drive in future activities, including parent-teacher conferences. Suggestion made for home room tissue collection competition. Next event is Winter/Snow Ball dance on January 27 in gym with refreshments and games; Spring Fling will be in March with DJ in cafeteria and games in gym, refreshments. Bonnie Benesch has agreed to co-chair 8th grade dance with Caroline. The school will have an in-class carnival on November 22 (half day of school) called "Patapsco Fare."

Hospitality: Caroline reported that Kim Miller (hospitality) will be working on staff lunch in November, and will be sending out request for help.

Mt. Hebron: Darcy Bellido de Luna reported that Mt. Hebron renovation is nearly complete and leaks in roof have been repaired. Working on electronic marquis for front of school. This Thursday at 7pm, parents may want to attend board of education meeting that will address using \$2 million of alcohol tax proceeds for turf fields at two high schools (Atholton and Hammond). If funds not used, returned to state. Controversial issue as Hebron had attempted to use extra budget to build turf field during renovation, but was turned down because wouldn't be equitable with other schools if Hebron was a pilot. River Hill also was turned down previously for same reason. Hebron PTSA has sent letter to board.

Allison mentioned that she received PTA emails on other issues today and asked for input on how much to distribute email blasts on these subjects; on this issue, suggestion made to spread through word of mouth, and to send email blasts on issues with local impact. Parent reaction is important; on recent board redistricting issue, enough feedback was received to slow down the initiative.

PTA Council: Allison looking for volunteer to be Patapsco's liaison to PTA county-wide coat drive. Last year, collected 5,000 coats in county. Lisa Arens volunteered.

Martin Luther King essay contest for middle and high school students with cash prizes (\$200, \$150, \$100); deadline is Tuesday, November 15. Flyers were distributed today.

This year, Patapsco participating in Reflections contest as we have volunteer chair, Nhung Tran. Contest is for art, writing, music and dance entries based on the theme "Diversity Means..." Deadline is November.

Green Team: Patapsco will submit to become a green school in spring. School has created staff teams of 12-14 members each for competition with awards

(lights out when not in use, recycling, carpooling, etc.). PTA will support staff competition by giving lunch to winning team each month.

Spirit Wear: Patti LeConte reported that 8th grade tshirt orders are in and should be delivered next week. Flyers on spirit wear will not be distributed to all. Instead, Patti will be at school on Tuesday during lunch periods with order forms, or they can be printed in line and available on facebook. Expect that orders will be delivered prior to Thanksgiving. New items this year include yoga pants and rhinestones on some items. Looking for volunteer for spirit wear next year who can work with Patti in spring.

Volunteer Sign-ups: Allison stated that we are doing well as volunteer information has been forwarded to the committees. Still need chairs for beach blast, growth/planning, PTAC delegate, green team, substance abuse and after-school programs.

Music Boosters: Emily Rice reported that music boosters have a Concert Closet. They are looking for donations of unneeded black pants/skirts, white collared shirts, black dress shoes.

President's Report: Board of education members are responsible county-wide, but they are assigned as "cluster representatives." Allison has invited Brian Meshkin, our Board cluster representative, to attend future Patapsco PTA meeting. We discussed proposed redistricting and we will continue to support St. John's Lane efforts addressing the issue; change in districts may be moved up by one year depending on budget.

New Business:

No new business presented.

The meeting adjourned at 8:04 pm

Next meeting: Tuesday, November 22 at 7pm

Respectfully Submitted
Tina Siedlecki