

Minutes for TZHS PTSA Meeting APPROVED
November 19, 2012 TZHS Library

1. Call to Order, 7:07pm
2. Introduction, Mary Paul introduced the 2012 ESL Mural unveiling event, taking place at the start of the meeting. PTA board introductions, Ms. Fearen speaks of journey of the ESL students in creating the new mural. Juan Molina, Katy Mendoza and Judy Zhang speak of their experience. Mural is unveiled in 400's hallway
3. PTA meeting resumes in library. In attendance: Maureen Aitchison, Tricia McGee, Cindy Yee, Mary Paul, Judy Hurban, Amy Appell, Denise Maguire, Janet Dayson, Anne Schlink, Rosemary Pitruzzella, Nicole Glazer, Mrs. Gevargis
4. Principal's Report (Mrs. Gevargis)
 - Production of Robin Hood took place 11/9 & 10, well attended and well received.
 - Blood drive on 11/8 204 units collected and counting. Was held in name of Officer Sullivan, and what was raised was ½ of the daily requirement of the Hudson Valley area. Great job.
 - Thanksgiving Concert will take place 11/20/12
 - Italian Honor Society induction will take place on 11/27/12
 - Parent Teacher Conferences have been rescheduled for 11/29 in the evening from 6-8pm and 12/7 from 12:30-2:30pm. Using PTC Wizard for the first time, for online registration of appointment scheduling.
 - There will be no in school concert for Thanksgiving, but there will be an in school Holiday concert taking place 12/20/12.

Questions for administration:

On 12/12/12, the choir is singing at Radio City, but member are required to pay \$74.00 each, plus will not be provided a ride home, and if they don't go it will affect their grade. Parents questioned the fairness of this, seeing that no other event is the student required to pay to perform. Mrs. Gevargis will look into this.

Also, chorus members are only allowed 2 bathroom breaks during a marking period. If more than two breaks taken, teacher gives own detention for not complying with the policy. Rational seems to be to limit bathroom breaks in general, however, Mrs. Gevargis will look into the policy of ever saying no to a student who need to go to the restroom. (Acknowledging the fact that some students do abuse trips to the bathroom).

Question on behalf of the Health and Wellness committee was asked of Mrs. Gevargis, regarding the deteriorating conditions of the ladies rooms throughout the course of the school day and if anything can be done, maybe install camera's to monitor who is entering the bathrooms throughout the day. A comment was made that according to the results of the student survey, overall bathroom conditions was an item that the students felt needs to be address. Mrs. Gevargis noted the comments and left the meeting.

5. Treasure's Report

- So far Receipts of \$1025 in Membership Due
- PTA Council dues of \$700 pd.
- Mailing of Membership form was \$197.18
- 11/19/12 budget attached to minutes

6. Approval of Minutes

September minutes, Motion to approve, Amy Appell, 2nd Anne Schlink, Unanimous in favor of approval, motion passes

October minutes, Motion to approve Mary Paul, Anne Schlink 2nd Unanimous in favor of approval, motion passes

Approved minutes will be posted on TZHS webpage

7. President's Report

- PTA Central Hudson Valley Regional Principals Dinner, Maureen Aitchison represented TZHS PTA, keynote speaker Dr. Mitchell. Well attended by SOSCD principals. Topic was NYS testing, unfunded mandates and having to keep within the tax cap. Very passionate crowd, PTA very supportive of schools who feel testing is over done.
- AP and Regents results from June 2012 will be presented to the board and to the PTA at January meeting.
- TZHS Student survey, results are being compiled by grade. May present the results of the survey at a future PTA meeting
- More student involvement and participation in PTSA. Sr. Zoe Ferrante, or another student rep. have committed to attending a PTSA meeting and report on what's going on in clubs, gov't, teams etc..
- In meeting w/ Dr. Mitchell, discussed transportation, issues on the bus, we need specific bus numbers if the are to be tracked.
- Start time survey has been e-blasted and is on the website. Please spread the word to all interested parties to take the survey, it's very short, and share thoughts on the changing of school start times. Rosemary Pituzzella indicated that results of survey may be ready for the 12/20 BOE meeting. More info will be shared at that time.
- Weekly Friday Communication e-blasts from the district will include PTA meetings in future
- Looking into having Det. Grimes return to present to the 10th and 11th grades, as well as jointly with SOMS. Expense is \$950for three sessions and we're looking into splitting with SOMS or SOCASA
- Future meeting presenter could be a sleep study expert to share thoughts/studies on adolescent sleep patterns and needs.
- Make up days for Sandy if NYS does not declare emergency planning for school day closures. In showing due diligence for the district, Dr. Mitchell proposed 2/15/13, 2/19/13 and 4/1/13 as in session school days if more snow days are used.
- Spring informational meeting with SADD and SOCASA will cover hosting liability. Parents need to be informed of their liabilities if student drinks while at their house and then gets into an accident. More info to come.
- TZHS PTSA needs to start forming it's nominating committee for the next school year.
- Parent question about use of library for Sr's during 4th period resolved and the limitation of access has been corrected.

8 Committee Reports

- Membership – no report
- PTA Council – Amy Appell reported that at the last Council meeting, a lot of discussion regarding school start times, Council's budget was passed, agreed to make a donation to Sandy Relief via the Central Hudson PTA. Council is in need of a TZHS nominating committee representative for 2012, as the entire council is turning over next year. Trying to encourage families with younger children.
- Fundraising – Gail Henry Flynn reported via Mary Paul, Yankee Candle raised \$790.80.
- Reflections – No report
- Health and Safety – Janet Dayson reported concerns regarding sledding on TZHS hill, parking lots will be blocked, and temporary soft fencing will go up in the winter months, with signs indicating no sledding. On 12/5/12, the committee will be hearing a presentation about start times. Allergy subcommittee has been meeting over the differing policies and enforcement throughout the school buildings. Example was brought up the WOS does not allow food in the classrooms. Nurses and staff were spoken to and it was reported that food is not prohibited and that needs to be more consistently communicated.
- Scholarship Cindy Yee will be regrouping in January, forming a committee and start fundraisings. If anyone has new ideas for fundraising, please pass them along to Cindy. Some ideas were restaurant fundraisers as well as using a jar at events in the district
- Curriculum Council – no report
- Founders Day – Mary Paul indicated Founders Day will take place on 2/26/13. VP's of council will be contact unit VP's for nominees to be honored
- Technology Committee – Cindy Yee reported that there have been various upgrades to the systems, adapting our systems to support a more mobile user devices. Investments to devices is not cost effective, since the technology becomes outdated so quickly. Talk of bring your own devices for use at school, as well as digital textbooks in the future.
- BLT – Maureen Aitchison reported BLT is working on student resume starting in freshman year, holds all info regarding academics, activities and interests starting early. Also, spoke about acknowledging student achievements outside of athletics

9. Old Business, none

10. New Business – Question about school policy on truancy and how a parent is gets school/truancy officer involved. Education Law speaks to the requirements. SOCS D has a policy.

Motion at adjourn, 9:10pm Rosemary Petruzzella, Janet Dayson 2nd, meeting adjourned

Respectfully submitted,
Maureen Aitchison