

Minutes from TZHS PTSA Meeting
February 18, 2016

- Meeting called to order: 7:00 pm

In Attendance: Maureen Aitchison, Vicki Caramante, Gina Harris, Maureen Schroder, Dan Robinson, Janet Armetta, Kris Campbell, Samantha Olds, Andrea Cilenti, Claire Heatley, Theresa Costello, Gloria Bidmead, Kristan Bridges, Mara LoPresti, Sheresse Loblanco, Jennifer Sullivan, Alyssa Moloney, Roe Cunningham, Ellen Galanter, Rosemary Pitruzella, Sharyn Rubino, Jeannie Dennehy, Marisa Marrone

Principal's Report (Dr. Jennifer Amos)

- Assistant Principal's Report (Rich Neidhart)
- Treasurer's Report –
- Acceptance of January's minutes – Vicki Caramante made motion to accept January's minutes and Gina Harris second the motion.
 - President's Report – Maureen Aitchison
- -Communications Survey update- link to Dr. Pritchard's blog <http://blogs.socsd.org/superintendent/> - From February 22 through March 11, the South Orangetown Central School District will be conducting a Communications Survey to be administered online to gain useful insight from our critical stakeholders. We will analyze the results of this survey to help us refine the way we communicate among ourselves and with our community. In the next few weeks, we will ask each of you to participate in this important survey. We will send you the link when it becomes available through our School Messenger notification system.
- -IMPORTANT UPDATES: The Rockland County School Boards Association Legislative rescheduled for Monday, February 22nd, at 7:00 pm, at the Nyack High School auditorium.
- Central Hudson-Taconic Regions Legislation Education Breakfast is scheduled for Saturday, March 5th, at Palacio Catering & Conference Center in Goshen, NY. FLYER and REGISTRATION FORM
- Available Scholarships from Rockland Community Foundation
- Resource and Transition Fair – Friday, April 15, 2016 - 9:30 am-2:00 pm RCC Field House
- Blood Drive in memory of Jimmy Hauburger – March 3, 2016

- Committee Reports:

- Project Graduation – Nicole Glazer
Intuitive medium fundraiser was a huge success with over 100 people in attendance. Met with students finalized entertainment options on 2/4/16. Art contest for T-shirt design and program design is underway through the art teachers. We will review submissions and decide on winners at our next meeting on March 15th. We will be selling raffle tickets at the Orangetown Shopping Center on the weekend during April and May to raise money for the event. We will be raffling off a tablet this year since Lia Sophia is no longer operating its business through local vendors and we were able to secure a donation for the raffle prize.

- Membership – Sherese Loblanco – 209 members.

Fundraising - - Yankee Game in May-Yankee/Red Sox tickets for Saturday, May 7th game against the Boston Red Sox is now confirmed for a 1:05pm start time. Tix will be \$35.00 and will be sold at the HS during lunch periods during March.

- PTA Council-PTA Council Theresa Costello –We the People – A Multi-Cultural Festival –**March 12th from 11 AM to 2 PM.** STEAM Expo is now SCHOOL MAKER FAIRE March 16, 6:30-8:30pm in TZHS cafeteria. To register, link is <http://blogs.socsd.org/itech/makerfaire/> Founders Day Dinner –April 6, Staff Appreciation Day – May 3, BOE Candidates Forum, if necessary – May 4, Installations/Celebrations – June 13. Next Council PTA Meeting is 3/14/16. HS has an opening for one add'l rep on council.

- Scholarship – Dawn Haughey – Dance festival water sales needs volunteers – dates are 2/29/ and 3/2. March 1st dance festival has been cancelled. To donate water for the dance festival drop off is at Vicki Caramante's house.

- Wellness – Lori Gallo – Met in January.

Curriculum Council – **Curriculum Council** – Qiong Li January 21st, 2016

1. New Course Proposal – Citizen Leadership: Character in Action
 - a. Offered as a semester course. Option to fulfill the grade 12 New York Participation in Government requirement
 - b. Related to character education and develop respectful citizens and leaders
 - c. Geared to community services.
 - d. No additional cost involved in offering this new course.
2. Text Book Adoption
 - a. Proposed text “The Making of the West”(People and Cultures) AP Edition: Since 1341
 - b. Replaced text “A history of the Modern World” (8th Edition)
 - c. The new text book contains ample document analyses and recent western history.
3. Curriculum Maps – Next Steps
 - a. To be extended with additional other activities
4. Hydroponic Gardening at SOMS

- a. Growing plants using mineral nutrient solutions in water without soil.
 - b. Modify the school courtyard into a gardening environment
 - c. Already started concept design All-fashion garden
 - d. Embedded with existing three curriculum
 - e. Cornell Gardening Cooperative partnership
5. Update on Legislative Grant for Makerspace initiative
- a. Makerspace is a workshop and an education platform. A Makerspace is a creative, do-it-yourself space with equipment and material that give students an opportunity to create, invent and learn.
 - b. Updated on how the received grant was spent so far, mainly on 3D printer materials, electronics, robotics, some furniture/AV equipment

BLT – Maureen Aitchison – New Course Proposal Citizen Leadership: Character in Action Mr. Didomenico presented a course overview, which will be designed through the new 3C Social Studies framework recently adopted by NYSED

Dedication Team, Our TZHS Crisis Response Team recently completed a training that led us to consider establishing a Dedication Team of parents, students, teachers, members of the counseling team, and administrators for the purpose of reviewing suggestions presented for ways to remember loved ones that we have lost.

Follow up on earlier conversation regarding ensuring each student has an adult with whom they connect.

Idea: ask each student, “Who in this building would you turn to if you needed help?”

Purpose: to ensure each student has someone. For those who do not list a name, follow up with the student

Supporting at-risk students, specifically the transition into HS. How can we enhance our early identification of at-risk students, parent-involvement in improving student success, and student buy-in?

- Technology – Joey Gottlieb
- Professional Development - Vicki Caramante – Professional Development in December. A way to measure to see if professional development is doing what it should be – measure the outcomes and incorporate it into the plan. Use a hybrid model for elementary levels goals based instead of 1,2,3,4. An article from Stanford University – Growth mindset proves neurologically better in math – growth and fixed mindset.
- Nominating Committee – Jeannie Dennehy volunteered at the last meeting. Sherese Loblanco and Lori Gallo volunteered to be on the nominating committee last meeting. Need 2 additional volunteers. The purpose of the nomination committee is to recognize and seek qualified nominees for the elected leadership of the PTA/PTSA. The nomination committee members have the responsibility of bringing forward the name of the most eligible person for each elected position. In considering which PTA members are the

best qualified to serve in the officer positions, the nomination committee must evaluate each nominee fair, ethical, and impartial judgment based on the nominee's skills, qualifications, and the level of priority and commitment in the best interest of the PTA/PTSA unit. Open positions for next year are President, 2 VP's, Corresponding Secretary, Recording Secretary, and Treasurer. (see bylaws info below)

From TZHS PTSA Bylaws: Section 3. Nominating Committee

(17) a. There shall be a nominating committee consisting of 5 members, 2 of whom shall be elected by the executive board from its body, and 3 who shall not be members of the executive board, elected by the association at a regular meeting of the association at least sixty (60) days prior to the election meeting. The committee shall elect its chair.

b. The nominating committee shall nominate one person for each office to be filled.

c. Members of the nominating committee may be nominees for office without resigning from the committee.

d. Only those persons who have consented to serve if elected shall be nominated for or elected to such office.

(18) # e. The nominating committee shall present its report at the regular meeting of the association in

June at which time additional nominations may be made from the floor.

f. Additional nominations may be made from the floor provided the written consent of the nominee has been secured and the chair of the nominating committee has received notice at least two business days prior to the election meeting of the candidate's intention to run.

5 VOLUNTEERS FOR NOMINATING COMMITTEE?

- Old Business – Traffic around the high school. The SRO will be in front of the high school every day between 8:00-8:15.
- New Business –

Next meeting: March 17, 2016, 7:30 pm TZHS library

Respectfully Submitted,
Jennifer Sullivan