

**Minutes for TZHS PTSA Meeting
February 11, 2013 TZHS Library**

1. Call to Order: 7:03

2. Introductions

3. IN ATTENDANCE: Maureen Aitchison, Anne Schlinck, Cindy Yee, Kathy Dellacava, Mary Ryker, Elayne Armaniaco, Maeve Carley, MaryBeth Carley, Marta Rodriguez, Jennifer Amos, Rich Neidhart, Kathy Mart, Nicole Glazer, Michelle Jones, Janet Dayson

4. Principal's Report Mrs. Amos

-Start times are still being discussed, and the studies are on the district website. Issues such as after school schedules for clubs and sports current break of 45 minutes being changed, and discussion of start times for games being ½ hour later. District is looking at the general wellness of the students, as there is no cost savings for changing start times. Suggestion of a phase in approach was discussed.

-Lockdown drill was conducted and school rec'd commendations from the O-town police and BOCES. Security and Emergency management procedures are practiced, some comments regarding substitute teachers not having keys to classrooms for lockdown. Procedures need to be reinforced with non-full time staff. There will be ongoing discussions on improving performance in the future.

-In house professional staff development will be held 2/15, which is a day off for students. Problem based learning, examining how this can be used with faculty and student for experiencing differentiated educational methods.

Questions for administration:

-Why is TV in the library unplugged, no longer being used? Ms. Amos will explore

-Powerschool was closed for 3 weeks at the High School. After midterms, verification takes place in the 3 days after grades are due. Cuts into the time the third quarter grades are available. Ms Amos will look into this. Also, the subscription feature to powerschool has been shut off.

-Graduation Requirements in the curriculum guide and the freshman packet don't match. Also, where is the credit value of each course contained. Ms. Amos will have the packet and guide checked for discrepancies and confirmed that the curriculum guide should have the credit value for each course.

-Graduation essays are part of English 12 curriculum, and the question was asked why does this take place so late in their high school experience. These essays are for the college common application.

5. Assistant Principal's Report – Mr. Neidhart

-Midterms were the week of January 21st, and ran smoothly.

-8th Grade orientation took place, one at the middle school and one at the high school. Tours took place at the high school. Tweaks to the night and how it's presented are being looked at.

Questions for administration

-Are midterms necessary, since they take away from instructional time. Midterms provide an opportunity to sit and be focused for an extended period of time on one subject matter.

Examination of the results of midterms provide an opportunity for classes where grades are

lagging can review material that was unclear. Discussions with Dr. Mitchell and principals about midterms will take place in the future.

6. Approval of Minutes

-January 2013 minutes motion to approve: Motion: Anne Schlinck
2nd MaryBeth Carley

All in favor, minutes accepted

7. Treasure's Report (Cindy Yee)

-9 additional members brought out our total membership to 170, but we are still short thirty member who we budgeted for.

-Rec'd donations for in the amounts of:

\$449 from class of 1990 for project grad

\$425 for scholarships

\$250 from SOCES for scholarships

\$100 from PTA Council for scholarships

\$25 from Asia Garden fundraiser for scholarships

8. President's Report (Anne Schlinck, for Mary Paul)

-Parent Advocacy letters are being worked up by Heidi Garner, President of SOCES PTA. Requesting parents to send to governor's office regarding mandate relief. Will be available to our membership shortly.

-Nominating committee is in desperate need of volunteers. Michele Jones will provide for us the updated forms.

9. Committee Reports

•Membership – 9 new members since January, still short by our projection by 30 members

•PTA Council – NO REPORT

•Fundraising – NO REPORT

•Reflections – NO REPORT

•Health and Safety – NO REPORT

•Scholarship - Fundraising is taking place throughout the months of Feb and March. Asian Gardens and DelArte restaurants, as well as the AMC movie ticket fundraisers are all taking place. Communication to the community has been very good.

•Curriculum Council – AP Environmental Science has been approved and passes to the DLT. Course was approved to be offered in the 2013/2014 school year. Examination of SOCS D Core curriculum was found to be stringent Overall writing skills in the district seem to have gaps in what's being offered, and it was been that way for some time. Ongoing issue for SOCS D.

•Founders Day – Awards dinner takes place on 2/26/13 at Casa Mia. TZHS honoree is Kathy Mart. Tix and raffles are available.

•Technology Committee – RTTT computer based testing discussed. Equipment such as computers, work stations and networks are being examined. 2014 implementation date for standardized testing on the computer. Also questions about network speed.

•BLT – AP Environmental Science passed on to Curriculum council, and was approved for next year. Academic resume for freshman still be discussed with guidance. Administration visited with Suffern high school to examine universal lunch hour. Pros and cons were discussed and will be examined as to whether TZHS could implement. BLT is looking for next topic to work on, maybe a re-working of 8th grade orientation night at the high school.

- Project Graduation – Survey results were compiled. Students chose: Comedian, human foosball, inflatables, old fashion photos, dj, karaoke . Rec'd donation from class of 1990. Also, fundraiser at Applebee's, Rockland Boulders, and Lia Sophia are planned. BOCES is printing up community mailers. Art contest ongoing to choose the front and back of the senior t-shirt.
- Nominating Committee – NO REPORT needs members

10. Old Business -None

11. New Business – Announced Scholarship Essay contest is open for application. 2013/2014 proposed district calendar is online. It is not yet approved.

Motion to adjourn, 8:48pm Marta Rodriguez motion, Elayne Armaniaco 2nd.

Respectfully submitted,
Maureen Aitchison