



Minutes of
The Merchantville School PTA
General Membership Meeting

April 26, 2017

Meeting called to order 7:04 pm

March minutes approved

Correspondence

- Thank you from NJ PTA
- Thank you from Mrs. Rettinger for the painting of the playground stencils. – Discussion, are there ideas for shade for the big playground? Can we paint the surface or install benches? Nicole Kipp – would we be willing to rent our stencils to other schools? Cinnaminson would like to use them. Ingrid – Ok to rent but make something that they have to sign that says they need to purchase if they are damaged. Need to be properly labeled as belonging to Merchantville School.

Mr. Strong

- Kindergarten Round-Up – Tomorrow, 4/27/17
- PARCC starts next week.

Treasurer's report

- Beginning
 - o General \$5,902.67
 - o Gaming \$3,220.95
 - o Savings \$2,636.11
 - o Playground \$3,743.75
- Deposits totaled \$9,443.11
- Withdrawals totaled \$6,455.99
- Gaming deposit \$3,693.00
- Gaming withdrawals \$1,800.00
- Savings deposit \$0.32
- Playground withdrawals \$2,400.00
- Ending
 - o General \$8,889.79
 - o Gaming \$5,113.95
 - o Savings \$2,636.43



- Playground \$1,343.75
- Should end the year with a total of \$5000 between general, gaming, and savings accounts.
- Pending deposits - Need security deposit back from Bingo. Still have \$135 worth of ads from Tea Party. Still have Spirit wear.
- Questions regarding budget – Music Boosters? Ingrid emailed Mrs. Taylor to see what she needs. Basketball – Judyann wants to hold basketball in the summer, but can't do it in the school because the gym floor is being redone. Can we hold the sessions outside? Diana Pell - not enough hoops. Would there be any expenses for trophies or shirts if we hold in the summer? Should it go through the borough or PTA?
- Car magnets – Is it ongoing? Marisa – how many do we have left? Christina has to count them. Marisa – we won't need the same amount next year because most school families will still have what they received this year. Diana – Ingrid had the idea to include one in each new family packet in the summer. Christina thinks we have between 200-300 left. Ingrid – we can sell for \$1 if we need to.
- Lego Club – Finding someone new to do it. Changing to include 2nd through 5th grades. Should be good for \$100 for budget.
- Music Enrichment – Mat Eiland is willing to do it again next year. Could fit 5 sessions in next school year. We are budgeting \$1200 for next year (4 sessions – first 3 for newcomers, skip over musical time period, offer 4th session as advanced session).
- Book Fair – When should we do it in the spring if Easter is earlier next year? Marisa – after spring break? Diana – Amanda already has March dates planned. Need to run buy Mr. Strong. Diana – are we doing buy one get one again? Felicia question – what is feedback from buy one get one? Good, no one noticed a difference in the quality of the books. Nicole – On the last day, a lot of books were gone. Since it's so short, reorder on the first day if there is a popular book that is flying so we can still offer for the rest of the book fair.
- Getting rid of line item for Student Ambassadors (no need for t-shirts next year).

Programs/Fundraisers

- Teacher Appreciation week – Christina Hunter. Theme is Stars because the Merchantville teachers are stars. Monday – Rise and Shine Breakfast. Almost all food donations are signed up for. Tuesday – Star Spangled Snack. Wednesday – Star-studded luncheon, everything decorated with stars for breakfast and lunch. Thursday – come get your sparkle on, afternoon event for teachers at the community center. Each teacher making a lanyard for their badge. Snacks and Sangria. Friday morning – coffee, continental breakfast. Each teacher getting a gift.
- Do we want to discuss new ideas? Someone discussed cafeteria, but Ingrid spoke with Mr. Strong and he said the food is not something the PTA can be involved with. Summer – No one ever bids against Sodexo because their bid is so low. There is a large population of people who get a free or reduced lunch, so the budget may be low for bids.
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- Rebecca Onkar – School musical. Can it be over a couple days? We would have to ask Mrs. Taylor. Does she want help from parents? Do they need anything for auditorium (headsets, speakers so kids can hear music on the stage)?
- Mariaelena – Volunteerism. Anything that the PTA wants to sponsor to encourage volunteering at a young age in your school and/or community? Felicia – could we incorporate into Kindness week? Mariaelena – might be a good week to introduce and then build on the momentum. Possibly February? Around Valentine’s Day? 7th and 8th graders need service hours for confirmation, scouts need service hours. Summer – the kids don’t have an indoor space around town to hang out.

New business

- Nicole – Summer reading lists for Barnes and Noble Night? Mrs. Nemerofsky will find out when lists will be ready.

Appreciation

- Felicia – Science Expo
- Tea Party – Diana Pell, Danielle Bordi
- Carrie – Playground stencils
- Mary Noel Rasi – Author Day
- Amanda Tennant and Carrie Brown – Book Fair
- Ami Meachum – Musical

Upcoming events

- PrK and K Round up 4/27/17
- Teacher Appreciation Week 5/1-5/5
- General PTA Meeting 5/17/17
- Barnes and Noble Night 5/18/17

Meeting adjourned 8:10 p.m.

Prepared by Marisa Tkachuk
Recording Secretary