



Minutes of
The Merchantville School PTA
General Membership Meeting

February 2018

President Ingrid Juliano called the meeting called to order at 7:03 pm

January minutes approved

CSA Report – Mr. Strong

- Mr. Strong is working to improve parent-school communication. When parent has a concern, the appropriate protocol is to go to the teacher first, then to Mr. Strong if there are continuing issues. Ingrid – do children ever come to Mr. Strong about things? Mr. Strong – Yes they do. If there is any kind of medical issue go to nurse.
- 2018-2019 budget will increase due to an increase of students attending Haddon Heights High School.
- School safety – At the end of last school year, people came in from the state and did an audit. The school got very high commendations for the office set up and the process that is followed. The administration is doing everything it can to provide a safe environment for the students. March 14th is a national walk-out for school safety and gun laws. Mr. Strong is working with a bunch of different constituents to support students who want to express their voice in regards to this current problem. Carrie RK – Are other entrances around the school alarmed? Mr. Strong – No alarms and no cameras around other entrances other than the front entrance. That will change for next year, which is part of what is included in the budget. Ingrid – Is it ok to hold front door for people coming in behind your? Scott – If we do, they cannot get into the general population of the school due to entrance only possible via the front office. The school still has the layers of security in place for the main vestibule doors and the main office door. The school takes security very, very seriously. Mr. Strong always tells kids the number one job is to keep them safe.

Treasurer's report

- Beginning
 - o General \$11,661.30
 - o Gaming \$1,680.01
- Deposits totaled \$870.05
- Withdrawals totaled \$985.95
- Ending
 - o General \$11,545.40



- Gaming \$1,680.01
- Christina – Box Tops – We need to find a new chair person for next year. Christina gave Julia T. about the same amount of box tops for the February deadline as she did in the fall. We are going to do a June collection for the class prize. This will help keep momentum for fall and we will also advertise throughout the summer for the coming year's homeroom.

Nominating Committee

- Ingrid explained how it works. We need 3 members and an alternate. The general membership chooses the nominees on a ballot and the three highest are the committee members. The nominee that is written into the number 1 spot the most amount of times is the chairperson. The membership voted and Marisa T. counted the votes. Felicia Dunsmuir is the chairperson and Carrie Rupnow-Kidd and Diana Pell are the remaining members, with Tracy Thomas as the alternate.

Programs and Fundraisers

- Science Fair – Felicia D. Moving to April 19th. Escape Room Science Challenge is the theme. Hopefully we can incorporate multiple teams. Need more hands on deck for planning and to monitor night of.
- Book Fair – Amanda T. Paws for Books is the theme. Need to get the volunteer sign-up out. Many people sign-up and do not show up for their allotted time. Amanda would like to set more reminders for the volunteers.
- Derby – Nicole K. May 5th. The flyer went out. The set up is similar to the Tea Party as we will have a basket raffle. Diana P. and Kari S. are working on donations and baskets. The Derby Fundraiser will go from 4pm to 9pm and we will air the Derby live at 6:30pm. We originally thought we would have betting available on the actual races, but betting laws for the state make that dicey. We will have betting slips available on tables if people want to conduct personal amongst friends. The ticket price will be higher than Tea Party because it will be catered. Guests will be asked to wear Derby attire. The event is BYOB. We will be selling commemorative Kentucky Derby glasses that can be used for refillable refreshments. We will have the wine pull raffle, the birthday board – pick a birthday on the board and you win if your date is pulled, a silent auction with art pieces, 50/50. Caterers will be making Derby-themed food - bourbon chicken. Susie Stevens is from Louisville and is helping with details. We are trying to make it a very authentic experience. There will be a DJ and dancing. As soon as Derby race is over we will call the baskets.
- Basketball – Ingrid – almost 60 kids. It's going very well.

New Business

- ***TEACHERS DON'T READ THIS PART. IT PERTAINS TO TEACHER APPRECIATION!*** Teacher Appreciation – Christina H. Felicia D. is working on with Christina. The Art Teacher, Mrs. Baker has



7th grade students working on a project. Each teacher will have a super hero body. Mrs. Iannucci is doing the letters “THIS TEACHER is a super hero because...” Trying to keep the students involved. Thursday will be make your own super hero cape. The teachers can make scarves with sharpie markers and will look like Monet water colors.

Appreciation

- TYFTSW – Summer – Ami M. helped out with Spirit After Dark. Carrie RK for Sharon R helping with Student Ambassadors.
- Lego Club – Felicia D for Kari S

Upcoming evens

- Spring Book Fair 3/20-3/23
- Spring Book Fair Family Night 3/21
- General PTA Meeting 3/21

Meeting adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

Prepared by Marisa Tkachuk
Recording Secretary