

**HUNT VALLEY PTA
MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 11th, 2016**

Attendance: Julie Whitehouse, Jodie Langford, Rebecca Fernandes, Kelly Van Buskirk, David Fee, Maura Green, Gary Odum, Tracy Montenegro, Amy Barnes, Jen Puryear, Roseana Bess, Jim McMahon, Andrew Clarke, Catherine Luby, Tim Evans, Jenn McAnallen, Marina Trad, Stephanie Curb, Gelila Teshome, Missy Gogel, Danielle Gunderson, Mary Picard (22) **I apologize for any misspellings - Kelly Van Buskirk

Welcome: The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m.

Secretary's Report: Minutes from January 2016 meeting were approved as presented.

Treasurers Report: The Treasurer Report from January 2016 was approved as presented. Checks have gone out for Orff instruments, STEAM lab, Benevolence Fund, Staff Development, and Field Trips.

Communication from the Board:

- **Spring Family Night/Book Fair:** April 11-15th. Chris Cakes is available to come on Friday, April 15th to serve pancakes, sausage, Tang, coffee and a fruit medley. He will plan to arrive earlier to pre make pancakes to try to not have such a huge line. We have a basket raffle chair person - Alice Link! She will need to get a committee together and also needs help with Book Fair. Let us know if you are interested in helping.
- **Labels for Education Update:** This program is going away and will no longer be contributing funds to schools as of June 1st - In the past we have received gift cards in amounts of \$150. **Target Red Card** program will also be ending in May - We received \$1,000 last year. **Safeway** will also no longer be contributing - they will be requiring that essays be written for grants. In the past we have received \$100+. There is a possibility that **Giant** will be ending soon as well. ** These are some big financial changes that will take place for next year. There was discussion of getting a possible committee together to help come up with letters for grants. The new board will decide on this so stay tuned for more information.
- **Nomination Committee:** Job descriptions and estimation of hours are on the PTA website. We must have a President, Treasurer, and Secretary. All positions are up for election. We have Stephanie Curb interested in President or Secretary and Theresa Pedrotty interested in Treasurer. Please check the PTA website if you have a nomination for the committee.
- **Spirit Night Event:** We will be having spirit nights at Austin Grill on Wednesday and Thursday February 17th and 18th from 5-9pm. The restaurant will donate a portion of the nights sales to our school. Please come out!
- **Hospitality:** Amy Barnes said we have 9 people signed up and can use 3 more!

Budget Amendments:

- Winter Festival brought in \$1,600 more than anticipated and the Book Fair brought in \$700 more than anticipated. This is \$2,300 above budget! With that being said, we would like to propose to increase some line items on our current budget.
- **1) Take Home Reading - Chema.** Currently at \$500 and we would like to make it \$1,000. (4 years ago it was \$1,000). We need to vote on this because it is over the \$299 amount. Mrs. Chema would need to know if we can do this before March 1st so she would be eligible to receive bonus books, discounts and more. **APPROVED by general Membership!**
- **2) Classroom Fund Requests:** Currently right now we have classroom fund requests for grades K-6, gym, art, and technology. Budget is currently \$3,000. We would like to propose to add \$500 to the budget for Multiage classes - Special Education, Autism, and Special Needs. There are currently 11 teachers and 6 classrooms dedicated for these children and they are in need of

funds. We need to vote on this because it is over the \$299 amount. **APPROVED by general membership!**

- We are currently adding \$1,000 to our budget but still have a surplus of \$1,300.
- Catherine Luby suggested creating an Amazon Wish List for teachers to add things to the cart before the end of each quarter to motivate them to use their classroom funds

Committee Chair Reports:

- **Beautification Day:** Jim McMahon is the Committee Chair - We have voted and chose Saturday, May 14th as our annual Beautification Day with rain date on Sunday, May 15th. Mr. Fee mentioned that the county will provide mulch and dirt and need at least a month notice to fill in a work order and an estimation of how much is needed in cubic yards - Jim will provide this information to Mr. Fee. Some topics that were discussed to do are : 1) The Boy Scouts need mulch for the front school sign and will clear out weeds. 2) Flower box by door 3 3) Possible SACC sidewalk area - waiting to hear when the walkway will be completed so may or may not be done. 4) Tree by the playground. 5) Stain/clean benches and clearly litter and debris around property. 6) Educational Garden will be put on hold until we have a committee and more time to talk to local nurseries with advice and suggestions. More to come on this as it gets closer.
- **After School Programs:** Jen Puryear is looking for someone interested in taking over the after school programs. Let her know if you are interested!
- **Special Ed Liaison:** Catherine Luby sent out surveys and received feedback. She is planning to set up a meeting with parents sometime in March to get more interest in potential programs. One idea is a Peer Buddy Program that would include reading and games and help students build relationships and another is looking into some after school programs such as yoga or kickball. The program here at Hunt Valley has tripled in the past years.

Volunteer of the Month:

- **Catherine Luby:** She is currently serving as our Special Ed Liaison for extra resources for parents with questions and concerns about the program. She has lots of wonderful ideas and just wants to help make more connections with parents and teachers. Thanks so much Catherine!

School Administrator and Faculty Report:

- **Ms. Green:** WIDA testing is going on now. March 7-11th the first graders will be taking the Naglieri Test which is a nonverbal, puzzles, problem solving and patterns. Any questions or concerns please contact Ms. Green.
- **Mr. Fee:** He has called all the principles about the March 1st Primary. Currently there is a 2 hour delay scheduled and the voters use the gym for voting.
- **Snow Removal** - a possible topic for next year's budget is to go in on an industrial size snow blower for the school grounds to help with removal since county only clears the parking lot. The new sidewalks cannot be salted for 3 years. He would like to recognize the 4 custodians for all their hard work in removing the snow.
- Projection for next year is that our school will be full. Currently 688 students.
- School Board has voted to not start before Labor day for the 2016-2017 school year but can be a possibility for the 2017-2018 school year
- Budget will be decided in March

Upcoming Events and Reminders:

February

15th President's Day Holiday - No School
24th US Navy Commodores Band Assembly

March

3rd PTA Meeting - 7pm in School Library
21st Spring Break Begins

The meeting adjourned at 8:26 pm

