

MINNESAUKE PTA MINUTES
GENERAL MEETING & BOARD ELECTIONS
May 9, 2023, 7:30pm, Minnesauke Cafeteria

- Call to Order at 7:33pm
- Pledge of Allegiance
- BOE Report (Dr. Kerman) – The Board of Education is still working on Strategic Planning and late start time. Election next Tuesday from 6am-9pm at Ward Melville. Please vote for the budget and school board members up for election, including Dr. Kerman. Budget is right at the tax cap. Christine Kanakaris asked about timing for strategic planning changes. Timing is still to be determined. This Friday is Meet the Candidates Night on Three Village YouTube channel at 7pm.
- Correspondence (Leslie Dahl) – No correspondence.
- Treasurer's Report (Christy Barry) - Current balance = \$53,816.10, which is higher in large part due to our successful soiree (estimated profit about \$23,000). Movie Night coming up. 6th grade has had some movement. Bus Driver appreciation breakfast this week. Danielle Butler says budget looks large now, but it largely funds the Arts & Education budget for next year, which includes field trips, in school spend and additional Arts & Education programs.
- Council Report (Danielle Butler) – Dr. Biscari was pleased that opt out totals were only about 9% compared to about 60% in years past. HR has notified the teachers being excessed. Interviews being done for ENL positions. TVTA has raised about \$15,000 in scholarships.
- Principal's Report (Mrs. Pickford)
 - Completed ELA and Math state testing. There is no state science test this year and next year it will be for 4th grade instead of 5th grade. We were selected to participate in CBT Field Tests – the 5th grade will take science (on May 23) and 6th grade will take ELA. If you opted opt for math or ELA the opt out would apply for 6th grade ELA, but 5th graders would have to specifically opt out of the science exam. There will be a letter about it.
 - Multicultural week is this week. Thursday night is the big event and also the art show.
 - Kindergarten screening is next week on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday (not Wednesday because it's the Spring Concert at night and Cherished Guests Concert during the day). There are not tickets for Cherished Guests, but certain seating will be blocked out. There are tickets for the evening show and a letter will go out by the end of the week.
 - Off Memorial Day weekend Friday through Tuesday.
 - Several classes went on field trips recently. Second graders went to West Meadow today. Kindergarten went to Benner's farm (1st trip for Minnesauke Kindergarteners in 10 years).
 - Dr. Biscari and Dr. Scanlon sent a letter about placement. Deadline is May 15. The e-mail for Mrs. Pickford is a separate mailbox different from her e-mail address specifically for placement letters. It's very difficult to complete placement process when overwhelmed with teacher requests. Please trust the process which aims to create balanced classes. If you have something pertinent you would like us to know send to that e-mail, but teacher requests cannot be accommodated.
- Membership Report (Samantha Lodato) –399 members.

OLD BUSINESS – Michelle Capobianco

- Recent Events
 - Minnesauke Soiree (4/27) – Best turnout by staff. Have gotten a lot of positive feedback about theme and baskets. Amount of money raised was beyond our goal and it all goes to the kids.
 - Staff Appreciation Week (Week of 5/1) – So many volunteers came in and decorated the staff lounge. A lot of love from parents and PTA.

NEW BUSINESS – Michelle Capobianco

- Upcoming Events
 - Multicultural Week (Week of 5/8) – Thursday night is a great time for parents to come in and celebrate diversity. The art show also looks phenomenal.
 - Bus Driver Appreciation Breakfast (Thursday, 5/11)
 - Spring Plant Fair Pickup (Friday, 5/12) – Thank you to Christina Haas.
 - Spring Concert & Ice Cream Social (Wednesday, 5/17, 7pm; Cherished Guests at 9:30am)
 - Spring Fling Outdoor Dance Party (Friday, 5/19, 6-8pm) – Also '80s themed (90 kids and 60 adults have signed up so far). Will take place outside on blacktop.
 - Family Picnic & Movie Night (Friday, 6/2)

- 4th Grade Beginners Music Concert & Ice Cream Social (Monday, 6/5, 7pm)
 - Field Day (K-5) (Wednesday, 6/7); 6th Grade Field Day (Thursday, 6/8)
 - 6th Grade Celebration (Friday, 6/9, 7-9pm)
 - Flag Day (Wednesday, 6/14, 9:15-10:15am)
 - 6th Grade Moving Up Ceremony (Thursday, 6/15, 9:30-10:30am)
 - Last Day of School (Friday, 6/23)
- Announcements
 - Remind App for grade levels to increase communication and also reduce use of paper.
 - Teacher Grants – (Danielle Butler) – PTA has made a series of small grants to support teacher efforts. Will post specifics on PTA page.
 - PTA has decided as part of school improvement budget category to donate a new refrigerator and ice maker to the teacher lounge.
- PTA Board Elections, 2023-2024 – Cristen Fitzgerald is the head of the Nominating Committee. All positions were unopposed. Slate for presentation as follows:
 - President: OPEN
Interested Candidates: Kelly Javidi
 - Vice President: OPEN
Interested: Samantha Lodato
 - Vice President, Membership: OPEN
Interested Candidates: Christine Kanakaris
 - Vice President, Finance: OPEN
Interested Candidates: Christy Barry
 - Vice President, Technology: (Year 2 of 2) Sophie Jones
 - Treasurer: OPEN
Interested Candidates: Nina Baker
 - Recording Secretary: OPEN
Interested Candidates: Corinne Bubolo
 - Corresponding Secretary: OPEN
Interested Candidates: Elizabeth Simon
 - Council Delegate/Historian: (Year 2 of 2) Danielle Butler
 - Motion to accept proposed slate: 1st Leslie Dahl, 2nd Michelle Capobianco, all in favor, no opposed, motion carries.
 - Danielle Butler thanked board members transitioning off – Leslie Dahl, Christy Barry as Treasurer.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- PTA Reception for Class Contacts & Committee Chairs on Monday, June 12th from 7-9pm – location TBD.

*Motion to accept April 17, 2023 Minutes: 1st Leslie Dahl, 2nd Danielle Butler, motion carries.

*Motion to adjourn: 1st Christine Kanakaris, 2nd Danielle Butler, motion carries.

Meeting adjourned at 8:01pm.