

Howe PTA

January Meeting Minutes

1/09/19 @ 7:15 PM

Call to Order: 7:12 PM

November meeting minutes were approved

PTA Officers Reports

Treasurer's Report – Denis Skorskiy

- Ending balance is as follows:
 - FNB
 - As of 11/30/18 is \$10,503.35
 - As of 12/31/18 is \$7,574.31
 - Paypal
 - As of 11/30/18 is \$24.15
 - As of 12/31/18 is \$0
- He foresees a deficit coming as the budget is written. He will review the budget to see what can be suspended and/or reduced to make the budget. Normal fundraisers are completed for the year but we can have one if needed.
- Chris Cersi suggested to rent a vending machine as a fund raiser for PTA.

Vice President – Dr. Murray

- ABA classroom request for funding. They would like to open a school store with snacks that the ABA children could run. They are requesting \$550.00 for mobile cart, cash register, and supplies.
 - Motioned, second, and approved.
- Made a profit of over \$4000 scholastic dollars with the book fair and read-a-thon. This will be divided up between the classrooms to use for grade level libraries and other grade level supplies.
- Dr. Murray was at the HS today interviewing guest substitutes for a new program within the school to be teacher substitutes. The district is often short trained substitute teachers when needed. Allegheny Intermediate Unit has a program to “train” the guest substitute teachers – guest substitute teachers currently have bachelor degrees or higher in various areas but do not have teaching certificates. She was happy with the interviews and found the candidates to be great.
- 5th grade student council will do a coin drive for UNICEF. More information will be coming in an E-blast.
- January 21/22 will be a professional development for the teachers. There will be key note speakers will be coming into Howe to teach the teachers. The speakers also are using the stipend and spending it on 3D printers for all the elementary schools.
- Dr. Murray has been working with a few professors at Point Park on partnering with placing their interns in the maker spaces. There also interns partnered with a teacher in Howe to develop a teaching tool to be developed and used in that classroom.
- Next PTA meeting Feb 6th will have a Parent Volunteer Safety training after the PTA meeting. This will be around a 45-minute session that will instruct the volunteers what they need to do in different situations.
- School board approved \$1M upgrade for safety features within the buildings. These include:
 - Reflective numbers will be placed in each of the classroom windows to assist with quickly identify the rooms.
 - Films will be placed on windows to prevent shattering of a window.
 - New two radios were distributed to the schools.

- Placing bollards (the red ball things in front of Target) and barriers in front of the key areas that were identified.
 - Along with other safety features that were recommended by the Mt Lebanon police dept.
- Would like to offer a coding club after school. Will need to have volunteers to help with the staffing and instruction. Let Dr. Murray know if anyone is interested. Suggestion to contact the HS for assisting and teaching coding for service hours.

President – Wendy Liberty

- Council meeting notes
 - New app for reporting will be coming out – Safe 2 Say. This is a state regulated app that is being mandated by the state. The current app will be seen, but not functioning. You will need to download the new app and log in.
 - 2019 – 2020 school calendar was passed with just one snow day.
 - Mellon was recently announced a school to watch in the nation.
 - The Nature Conservation in Bird Park is looking for volunteers for their 3rd grade field trips. Training is in March and field trips are in April.
- Howe’s Got Talent will be forming a committee to run the event. Volunteers are needed for the evening of to control the crowds. Please contact Wendy or Nikki if you would like to volunteer or even chair for next year.
- Suggestion to post the meeting minutes (marked as unapproved) on Facebook, along with the meeting agenda prior to the meeting.

Chair Reports/Recent Activities

- Heather – PTA nominating committee. Looking for volunteers for PTA board.
- Questioning if the time for newsletter distribution is ok. Only 60% seem to open and read it. Overall feedback was the timing it good. Had a suggestion to add PTA agenda & minutes to newsletter.

Old Business

- Sales online for the yearbook at online now. Link is in the last newsletter. \$15 for soft cover, \$20 for hard cover. There will be only a few extras at the end of the year for sale. Once they sell out, they are gone.

Announcements

- Next meeting 2/6/19

Meeting Adjourned: 7:54 PM