

PMES PTA
General Membership Meeting
Minutes
01/18/2018 – 7:00 PM – PMES Media Center



Attendance: Danielle Spigler, Mandi White, Shannon Anoaia, Karen Jankowiak, Marcia Fithian, Jen Hopkins, Nicole Moaddel, Virginia Faulkner, Meredith Colburn, Kristy Bunn, Lisa Rice, Christina Prue, Laura Lenker, Ashley Porter, Erin McCadden, Michelle Davis, Tammy Webber, Erin Nizer, Renee Mann, Jen Rice, Danielle LaMotte, Megan Clark, Kerry Heimerl, Scott Welling, Jim Peterson, Shayna Love, Roger Imhoff, April Lloyd, Creighton Leizear, Alan Clayton, Al Williamson, Tiffany Wheeler, Aliina Sherly, Jarrett Dunston, Rachonne Moore, Jennifer Loper, Rachel Williams, Lynne McMennamin, Jeff Wandenberg, Leigh Kaminsky, Rachel Gauthier, Cornell Brown, Chris Martin, Patty Jo Beard, Brian McNutt, Harry Miller, Cindy Powell, Alpa Buege, Jodi Harclerode, Sariela Bordner, Annette Clayton, Amy Patrick, Christina Prue, Chentell Hony, Ryan Burbey

- Call to order 7:05pm
 - Introductions
 - Established quorum
 - Minutes from November 2, 2017 approved (motion by Lisa Rice & seconded by Ashley Porter)
 - Reminder that all documents from all meetings on PTA website, "Documents" tab.
- Treasurer's Report – Mandi White
 - Applebees Breakfast with Santa, Magerks, and Paint Night at Black Eyed Suzie's all did VERY well. We are planning for a kids Paint Night soon.
 - Holiday Shoppe did well but the numbers are revolving as we are continually buying things for next year
- President's Report – Danielle Spigler
 - There will be a Harford County Council PTA training on Jan 25th at Patterson Mill. If anyone is interested in PTA it is a great resource. Anyone, not just officers, can attend. Another one in May.
 - Holiday Shoppe volunteers did a great job. Everyone enjoyed the event.
 - Paint Night and Magerks were a great success too.
 - We are still looking for candidates to shadow Danielle as we'll need a new PTA President as of 6/30.
 - Rock Garden is done. There is room in the stream for Kindergartners for at least the next 2 years. Our garden was featured on the HCPS website.
 - Lauryn Seufert has been doing a great job at assisting with the PTA website, emails and communications.
- Vice President/Membership Report – Sarah Penney
 - Not present
- Secretary Report – Shannon Anoaia
 - Nothing to report
- Principal's Report – Mrs. Jankowiak
 - Thank you to everyone for commitment, dedication and hard work.
 - The Applebee's Breakfast with Santa and Mrs. Claus was absolutely wonderful. They made the event very special for our families.
 - Teachers in grades K-5 will be participating in two professional development days to support the use of technology in classrooms. Specialists from The Office of Technology will be supporting our teachers during these rotating two-hour sessions.
 - This year, students, in grades 5 and 8, received a new laptop to use during the school day as part of the system-wide "One-to-one Initiative".
 - On February 16th, the next Early Dismissal Day, we will celebrate Friendship Day. Intermediate classes and primary classes will partner together for a teacher-selected activity. This will support community building and will support future initiatives.
 - Report cards will be coming home in February.
- Teacher Report: Mrs. Kerry Heimerl
 - Nothing to report at this time

- Committee Reports
 - Reflections: Nicole Moaddel
 - 19 entries went on to county level, awaiting results
 - There will be a breakfast in the Spring
 - International Night: Daniele LaMotte
 - We have booked a Flamenco dancer
 - Donations are coming in
 - We need volunteers for the event and especially families to represent different countries
 - Sweethearts Dance: Mandi White
 - Dance is Feb 23rd
 - Tickets go on sale on 1/19 and will be available online only, and limited due to room capacity
 - There will be a DJ, snacks and games
 - Donuts with Dudes/Muffins with Misses: Michelle Davis
 - Going on now – Muffins with Misses from Wednesday moved to Friday as schools were closed
 - Donuts with Dudes is next week. Please RSVP on Sign up Genius. Link on PTA website
 - Bingo: Danielle Spigler for Joan Hare
 - We need donation help with grade level baskets and with targeting outside businesses.
 - Bingo will be on March 16th
 - We will also have raffles and 50/50
 - Staff Appreciation: Danielle Spigler for Lauryn Seufert
 - We are holding the luncheon on Feb 16th (this is an early dismissal day).
 - We will need volunteers. Please contact Lauryn Seufert as she is chairing this event.
- Closing remarks: Danielle Spigler
 - All PTA meetings are held in Media Center at 7pm, unless otherwise noted
 - Next Meeting: 3/7/18 and there will be an informational session on the Gifted and Talented program afterwards.

PTA Business Adjourned at 7:30 PM

Building Maintenance Concerns

Mr. Cornell Brown – Assistant Superintendent of Operations

- The 2016 incidents were a direct result of the building construction. HCPS Facilities & Maintenance should have been more vocal to PMES and its families about those incidents. It was simply an oversight on their part and they will strive to increase communication efforts in the future.
 - In 2016 the issues that were occurring were NOT related to any gas lines. There was an issue with a valve not opening on a piece of equipment which in turn caused issues when it was fired up. This led to 3 evacuations.
- In January of 2017 there were an additional 2 evacuations.
- In October of 2017 there was 1 evacuation.
- In Jan 2018 there were issues with the hot water heater, pilot light.
- Also in Jan 2018, the pressure inside the building. (positive pressure vs negative pressure) Negative pressure issues are a RARE occurrence.
- Many of the school's problems stem from the age of the building conflicting with the new equipment that was installed during construction (ie: igniter issues and negative/positive pressure issues)
- There is a Preventative Maintenance Plan in place and techs do come out to check equipment – most of this is done seasonally
- The issues we have experienced are not the type of issues that would have been caught on a PM check

Ms. Patty Jo Beard – Executive Director of Facilities

- When there is an issue in the building, HCPS procedure is to call 911, BGE, and HCPS Facilities & Maintenance. The school and HCPS will then follow the fire department's instructions.

- There were many other schools that experienced facility issues when they returned from winter break and were dealing with the extremely cold temperatures.
- Will provide copies of reports if requested by parents.

Mr. Chris Morton – Supervisor of Facilities

- *Shared diagram of building showing different parts and when construction was done. See pic on PTA website.
- With the new enclosure that was part of the recent construction on the school, the following new equipment was installed: an emergency generator, (for the well, fridges, walk-ins) sprinkler system, and 8 rooftop HVAC units.
- Gym is newer and has its own air handling system
- The company used for the new construction on the school has been used in the past by HCPS and they are still utilizing their services, so please rest assured there are no concerns with them.
- We can confirm that the gas lines are safe at PMES. They were inspected by the county and a third party as well. There is no danger of explosion.
- Many of the new school construction projects have a centralized system in place with a central gas line but PMES is an older school which has separate gas lines for all pieces of equipment, which naturally leaves more opportunity for things to happen.
- PMES is a positive pressure environment meaning all fumes and gasses are automatically pushed out of the building. Many of the recent problems at the school were due to the fact that we had a negative pressure imbalance. That has been addressed and remedied.
- Please know that Facilities and Maintenance are very involved with one another and address all school concerns immediately.

Danielle Spigler – PMES PTA President

- Previous issues (last January) were discussed at length at the 1/18/17 PTA meeting, (odor that occurred from bleeding the lines the previous night, part of construction)
- Mr. Richardson and Mr. Miller shared at several PTA meetings last year what some of the issues were and addressed concerns at that time as well
- If you cannot attend meetings, please check the website for minutes
- We need to trust that the staff in this building is taking care of our children. No one in this room or that works in this building wants children to get hurt
- *Some Staff members shared that they also have children in the building and they would not have been there or brought their own children to a building that they felt was unsafe

Mrs. Karen Jankowiak – PMES Principal

- Prospect Mill's students are treated like her "own children" so she and the entire staff do everything to keep children safe. The temperatures were not ideal and this was why they worked together to make sure students had their coats, hats, etc.
- When odor was detected last week, it was determined that it was from the water heater pilot light. The odor was detected in the front hall only. Odor was not pervasive throughout the building, but evacuation of whole building is necessary. Safety protocols are followed as outlined in the HCPS's Critical Incident Plan.
- Please rest assured that when there is an evacuation, she does her best to notify parents and get any pertinent information to them as soon as possible. Even after children return to the building and are back to learning, there are many other steps that must be taken care of, including notification of the community. There are processes that continue to be implemented such as obtaining information from Facilities and other responders to identify what exactly occurred at the school. It is at the completion of these processes that the information is shared with the staff and PMES families. Please be patient as they work through the processes.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:00PM

Respectfully submitted by Shannon Anoaia