

Harris Hill PTA Meeting – March 9, 2005

Approved Meeting Notes

Number present: 16
Officers present: Mary Reynolds, Allison Nunez, Barb Baumer, Maggie Angeline and Eva Simizon
Meeting called to order: 7:05 PM

“A quorum was established to conduct business”

Welcome and introduction of attendees and PTA Board members.

Secretary’s Report (Eva Simizon)

- Motion to approve minutes from February 9, 2005 meeting – Approved

Arts in Education (Mary Reynolds for Pam Hess)

- 20th Annual Arts in Education Festival
- The committee sponsors performances from Theater works, Freeman Brown, Tiny Glover & many others
- Also makes possible for teaching artists to co-teach with classroom teachers
- April 3rd is the 2nd annual Silent Auction
- Local artists have made generous donations
- Artwork to be posted on the district Website
- Prior to the festival bids will be taken by AIE secretary, Pam Hess 249-6719
- Bidding takes place up until 4:30 April 3rd
- Winners will be announced in Auditorium at 4:30

Corresponding Secretary (Maggie Angeline)

- Thank you from Kevin Hauer for the SNAP Program funds

Treasurer’s Report (Barb Baumer)

- Presented Treasurer’s Monthly Report
- Net worth as of 03/09/05 is \$29084
- Ahead \$498.16 due to yearbook deposit before paying out
- Pencil Sharpeners very appreciated by front office staff

Kids Care Club (Lisa Sykes)

- Club has been around for 3 years – starting with making hats for Strong Hospital
- Most recent project was for Lollypop Farm- giving toys and blankets to newly adopted cats
- 49 children participated – most ever
- Showed video from weekend news
 - Video showed kids learning about animals brought by Lollypop Farm workers to H.H.
 - Also kids making blankets and toys
 - Showed the kids at Eastview Mall at Lollypop Farm Fundraiser
- Making bird houses for Habitat for Humanity next
 - March 31, April 7 and April 14 - in the evenings
 - Wood was donated this time
 - Stu Keech will be helping out to earn his Eagle Scout award
- Need someone to chair Kids Care Club for next year

5th Grade Committee (Lisa Sykes)

- Survivor Party Wednesday, June 15th – 6:30-8:30
- Passed around an estimated budget – need \$200 more for t-shirts
- Motion to amend the budget to include \$200.00 for t-shirts – approved

Night of 1000 Stars (Patti Marks)

- Would like \$100 more dollars for Night of 1000 Stars
- Motion to amend the budget to include \$100.00 for Night of 1000 Stars - approved

Principal's Report (Marc Nelson)

- Thanks to Lisa Sykes for all the great work she's done with Kids Care Club
- Thanks for the support on the gym floor
- Harris Hill Odyssey of the minds placed first
 - Problem solving approach with a group of students
 - Our 3rd grade group won, competing with other 3th-5th grades
- Conferencing going on this week
- Automatic External Defibrillator (AED) person needed during PTA academic events
 - One of the night time custodian will be trained
 - Need to train others
 - Find out who is trained already
 - Make sure for every event someone trained is there
- Placement letters are in the mail
- Budgets are in conversation now
- Report cards regarding school performances should be out in local newspapers soon
 - We looked very strong

Teacher's Report (Beth Tugwell)

- Good job to Lisa Stykes on Lollypop Farm project
- Volunteer Tea is May 26, 3:45-4:45 – Luau theme

Board of Education (Ginny Supranowitz)

- Meeting was March 8
- Facilities
 - Went through questions from Community Forums
 - Agreed to have traffic studies done by High School and Bay Trail for Access Roads
 - Agreed to have land accessed that is unusable to our district
 - SEQRA- environmental study takes time
- Budget
 - BOCES Budget – reduced 1.9% from last year- reason network computers
 - Program 2 (general education) – increased 2.8% from last year – reason retirement & health benefits
 - More 3rd sessions for Harris Hill was asked for – aware of need - may help to voice concern more with letters and go to meetings
- Heard some new polices – mostly laws but wrote into policy format
- Two seats are open on the BOE
 - Applications are available in the district office
- Important Dates
 - April 5 Budget Adoption
 - May 3 Budget Hearing at 7:00 in High School gym
 - Petitions available March 23 and due April 18 at BOE office
 - April 27 Meet the candidate night
 - March 29 next board meeting

SEPTA / GVPTA (Anne Cole)

SEPTA

- Thank you for the \$100.00 support for SEPTA
- In honor of National Inclusive Schools week donated a book to Harris Hill Library

Genesee Valley Board (GVPTA)

- Healthy Schools Workshop April 27 7pm Bausch Auditorium – contact Judy Wadsworth if you are interested at 328-1972
- Shared a copy of State Education Department Questionnaire – geared to improve partnerships throughout the State of New York
- Improving Education Reform Forums
 - March 3, 7-9pm Defending Public Education
 - March 14, 7-9pm Creative Education Reform in a Climate of Standardization
 - March 24, 7-9 How the NCLB & Regents Exams are Damaging our Schools& our Students
 - April 14 8-10 Political Strategies for Changing the NCLB & Regents Exam Policies
 - Free and open to the public for more information 585-546-6732, Ext 0 or 585-275-3947

- New York State PTA 2005 Convention Nov 11-13, 2005 looking for workshop suggestions. Ann has the form if we have any suggestions
- Gazzola Teacher Fellowship for Graduate Study– Leaders who have a Masters – passing on information to Marc Nelson
- Genesee Valley PTA is having a Spring Conference May 9

Presidents Report (Mary Reynolds)

- Movie Night is March 10
- Roller Skating Party – March 18 – not a PTA sponsored event
- Bingo night is April 1
- Night of 1000 Stars April 12
- Coffee Hour Wednesday March 16
 - Will have room parents call to get more people to attend
- Senior Reading Program has had a great response & is getting started as early as Friday
- Hearst Award application has been completed
- Need to have Hotline articles to let people know of open positions for next year
- Lifetime Membership awards – looking for letters , sponsoring candidates
- Likes critical thinking signs throughout the building
- Allison’s report on Legislative breakfast
 - Took Taylor – her 3rd grader
 - Penfield not very well represented
 - Legislator David Coons sat with them
 - Kids questions read by adults instead of letting kids read questions themselves as they did last year – did not feel kids felt as engaged as last year
 - Need more notice next time to get more people to go
 - Wanted to know if HAS can come or can we sponsor a student
- Comment period:
 - SDM – Signs are a part of Wilds and Wonders
 - How critical thought is used in writing
 - Presented in April meeting to Faculty
- Access road – have not heard any new information
 - No one has read about closing in the newspaper on the two houses Summit is purchasing
 - Rumor has it that Parkside Commons doesn’t want to let Summit use its entrance/exit road
 - George Weidemer response from BOE letter was positive – shared our concerns
- June 2005 District will have Parent Involvement Policy in place
- Passed out Guiding the Gifted Child flyer
 - Speaker Dr. James T. Webb, Clinical Psychologist, Educator & Author
 - April 6, 2005 – Twelve Corners Middle School Auditorium 7 – 8:30pm

Meeting adjourned at 8:30PM