

December 3, 2007  
Council Minutes

The meeting opened at 7:35. The following people were in attendance: Kathy Mart, Allison DeRosa, Michele Balm, Janet Armetto, Lucia Carauana, Jeanne Dennehy, Denise Jensen, Marian Gryzlo, Theresa Costello, Michelle Jones, Laura Neuendorf.

The minutes for November's meeting will be approved in January.

The treasurer could not attend due to work and will send out the invoices for dues to the individual units.

### **Council President's Report**

Merle Payne on the NY Central Hudson Valley Regional PTA will come to our Jan 7<sup>th</sup> meeting to discuss nomination procedures and protocol.

Powerschool will be discussed at the Feb. meeting rather than January's.

The portal is up and running, but all grades are not on for each child. For one student the report card and powerschool did not agree. Can anyone hack into the system and change grades? Each unit should gather questions that can be asked at the President's meeting.

The teacher's contract has been signed. They will be available one more night in addition to meet the teacher and conference night. Cost of benefits went up 1% for the next three years.

In November 8 candidates were interviewed for the superintendent position. South Orangetown was one of the first districts to start the interviewing process. Three candidates were selected and it will be narrowed down to two. December 11 and 13<sup>th</sup> the PTA presidents and vice president's will get to meet the candidates at 10AM for 45 minutes. The public will meet them from 8 to 9 PM on the same days.

The PTA directory is done.

On Dec. 11<sup>th</sup> interviews for the Director of Technology will take place from 4-8PM.

Each unit should send a representative to the wellness committee meeting on December 5<sup>th</sup> at 10:15 at SOMS. At some of the meetings each unit has not been represented.

### **Unit President Reports**

TZHS

We have over 200 members and would like to achieve 100% staff membership.

PTSA funds both Scholarship awards (\$300 each in 2007) and guidance awards (\$75 each in 2007). PTSA met with Guidance to understand their process for distributing the Guidance awards. PTSA made some suggestions for these recognition awards.

SAT review classes have been sponsored by the PTSA and have been taught by Lentz & Lentz in the past. These have been held at night and compete with the Adult Ed SAT courses. L & L offers make up classes and one on one time before or after class.

The Go Dutch fundraiser will be held again this year.

Project graduation has gotten underway. A survey will go out to the seniors to find out what they would like to do/have at project graduation.

Opting out is still a hot topic at the BLT meetings. The BOE will make a decision about opting out in January.

December 12<sup>th</sup> is the next PTSA meeting.

### SOCES

We have 506 members of the PTA.

At the last meeting door prizes of 5 gift cards were given out to try and attract new members to attend meetings.

One topic of conversation at the PTA meeting was how could the special's teachers get a gift in December like all the classroom teachers.

Bingo night was a success.

The gift wrap sale raised \$12,500 and the bookfair raised \$3,300.

Two hundred toys were given to St. Dominick's home.

Several teachers have expressed interest in doing something in the classroom for earth day.

### SOMS

Some topics for PTA meetings may include presentations on Myspace, 6<sup>th</sup> grade health curriculum, and sleep deprivation.

Dr. Lee is looking into changing the name of SOMS to Tappan Zee Middle School.

The last dance was sold out and the administration at SOMS and the PTA are looking at a better way to sell the tickets. Possibly starting to sell tickets one day earlier.

### ECP

The comedy night was successful and raised \$14,000 for the music program. A Valentine's Day event will be held involving the music program.

SEPTA and ECP had a joint meeting with Dr. Jane Healy as the guest speaker and it was well attended.

Northvale bookstore fundraiser was extended until December 2<sup>nd</sup>.

The organizer's/workers of the Family Day event for ECP would like to have more student involvement so that they would be able to spend some time with their children at the event.

### **Old Business**

Every unit should have updated their website.

No one from any of our PTA units attended the NYS PTA Conference.

Founder's Day will be on March 27<sup>th</sup> at the Casa Mia Manor House.

Nominating forms will go home after the winter break. Could it go on the website as a PDF file? Can an information type letter and/or e-mail blast be sent so people know why or what people should be nominated for the founder's day award?

### **New Business**

Sleep deprivation can cause problems including obesity. Could a K-12 forum be held on lack of sleep and how it affects our children? Bring it back to the individual units to see if they would be interested in splitting the cost of a guest speaker.

Motion to adjourn was made by Theresa Costello and seconded by Michele Balm. The meeting was adjourned at 9:25.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Mart