

MINUTES FROM THE 12/01/08  
PTA COUNCIL MEETING

The meeting was called to order at 7:40. The following people were in attendance: Kathy Mart, Marybeth Carley, Lucia Caruana, Jean Dennehy, Mary Paul, Christine Brew-Mitchell, Mary Ryker, Michele Balm, Christine Shin, Laura Neuendorf, Liz Lotz and Michelle Jones.

A motion was made to accept the minutes of the 10/06/08 meeting by M. Carley, seconded by M. Balm and approved by all.

Treasurer's Report

SOMS paid dues. SOCES was reimbursed for the Staff Appreciation Sign and the Oaktree printing bill. PTA council paid for the president and principle's dinner.

Council President's Report

Dr. Mitchell is making an assessment of what has been done about/for bullying. He has asked all administrators to let him know what programs have been used in the past and are still being used. He would like to get the parents involved because it can't be done in school alone. Any PTA fliers that are to be put on the district website (not the individual PTA sites) should be emailed to Terry Campanella for approval before going to Pam Krouskoff. Dr. Mitchell is waiting to see what NY state is doing about the budget cuts before sending anything to the public. He did send a letter to the staff. There have been cuts to the number of games played in the spring, which will save money on busing. Lunch trays will be cardboard and more recycling containers will be put in schools. Phil Scala and Anthony Dario will do presentations at the schools on recycling. The NYS PTA Convention was very interesting and informative. There were many workshops to choose from. A very good one was "Parent and Administration: An effective partnership. The pool is on budget and scheduled to open on March 9<sup>th</sup>. The Board/President retreat was on Oct. 30 and some of the topics were: Powerschool and website links that are old and not updated. Why don't teachers have websites? What would make all teachers join the PTA? Could a flier go out asking why they do not join and also inform them of what the PTA supports for the schools?

Unit President's Reports

SOMS

Rachel's Challenge will not be happening at SOMS.

### ECP

The comedy night was November 1, 2008 and was not as successful as in past years. The Carousel Cake fundraiser was done just before Thanksgiving. A letter was sent out to all parents who had not joined the PTA telling them what the PTA does and that they could still join.

### SOCES

The giftwrap fundraiser has completed. The giftwrap for WOS & TZE was not delivered until 11/5 the day after conference day which is when most people pick it up. Entertainment books were home at TZE on 11/4 just after the giftwrap was done, which did not make some parents happy. Bingo went well with only an e-mail blast done and a notice on the website. Gift collection did not do as well this year. A motion was made by M. Jones, seconded by L. Neuendorf that any flier put out for an event should have the name of the group sponsoring it on the flier, which was approved by all. This way every one will know who is sponsoring an event. The CL school had the most teachers join the PTA and they won a breakfast. The next PTA meeting will have a presentation about CARE.

### TZHS

Reality check wants to talk at the next meeting. The Go Dutch committee will be reaching out to businesses and people who want to be in the program. The Project Graduation committee will meet with students and do a survey to find out what they want for entertainment and for a souvenir. Air freshener fundraiser is still going on. Yankee candle fundraiser will be done with the catalogs being mailed directly home.

### New Business

A scholarship fund is being created in the name of Cee Guarino who recently passed away and had been a board member and past Founder's Day recipient. Rosemary Pitruzzella and Michelle Jones are working on this with the help of her family. PTA's should put in their newsletters a reminder that information can be found on the website about school and PTA happenings. Founder's Day is March 23<sup>rd</sup>. A flier will go out in December to TZHS and SOMS parents. In January information will be sent out to SOCES parents.

A motion was made at 9:48 to adjourn the meeting by C. Shin, seconded by M. Paul and approved by all.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Mart