

9/26/2016 Peekskill CSD PTO Executive Committee

Meeting Minutes

Present: Denise Lopez, Margery Rossi, Ha Wallace, Robert Brownell, Isabel Pipolo, Indiana Davis, Trish O'Sullivan, Mia Shervington, Vernita Mosley, Nancy Flaherty (*SEPTO*), Jen Carbaugh, Marisa O'Leary, Colleen Bravato (*Uriah Hill*), Colleen Hardiman (*Woodside*), Staci Woodley (*Oakside*), Jackie Liburd (*Hillcrest*), Jamal Lewis (*PKMS*), Jenna Ferris (*PHS*), Rodney Arthur (*PHS*)

President's Report:

- Thank you everyone for all of your hard work last year, let's keep the momentum going
- Remarkable to watch the group evolve into a professional/transparent organization

Treasurer's Report:

Please see attached reports

- During 2015-2016 we raised over \$100,000 (gross)
- 2016-2017 budget has been developed based on last year's expenditures and collected income- largest allocation is \$25,000 to support district-wide cultural enrichment & field trips
- Each school has been allocated \$500 to use for refreshments/materials for celebrations, after-school & end-of-year activities as well as for dances that are not PTO-sponsored. Ha will give each principal \$500 cash, but they are still required to submit the financial assistance form 2 weeks prior to using the funds to purchase items, and then submit receipts once the purchases have been made. Ha is currently trying to obtain tax-exempt cards for stores most often used for purchases.

SEPTO:

- Putting together a team to participate in the 5K
- Currently running their district calendar fundraiser
- Will be hosting Breakfast with Santa later in the year
- Funds raised will be used to provide grants to special educators to purchase equipment for their students
- Hoping to expand upon last year's modified basketball clinic
- Currently working with Liz Barbaretti, PT, to put together a yoga club
- Will be hosting a guest speaker at their November meeting that will present on Guardianship
- Nancy/Ro will send Isabel the SEPTO meeting dates so they can be included on the PTO calendar/website

Building Reports:

Uriah Hill- *please see attached*

Woodside- *please see attached*, thank you for parent support at Attendance Matters Event- will be continuing the rally every last Friday of the month (it was suggested that all schools participate); First grade students will be going to Barton Orchard on 10/14 & 10/22

Oakside- *please see attached*, would like 2-3 parent volunteers to help at the Summer Reading Celebration (will need to arrive by 6:00 pm to be briefed on format/event flow); thank you for picture day support

Hillcrest- *please see attached*, Hillcrest is serving as the 3rd Food Bank Mobile pantry site on Thursdays at 3:00 pm- volunteers needed to help with distribution; may need volunteers to help with BBQ/Fall Fest on October 7th 4-6 pm

PKMS- *please see attached*, now implementing a character education program, celebrates International Day of Peace on 9/21- 8th graders created a physical formation of a peace sign; pick up in the loop in front of the building has been suspended from 2:25 – 3:00 pm to ensure the safety of all

High School- *please see attached*, Mr. Arthur working on changing the culture of the building- each parent was mailed the building code of conduct, each student mailed information on Naviance; hosted first Ecuadorian Federal Judge to speak with students; building security has been extended until 6:00 pm

Superintendent's Report:

- Campaign for Fiscal Equity Walk participants will be arriving at the Peekskill Middle School on October 4th- please come out & support
- 2nd Annual Superintendent's 5K taking place on October 15th- please come out & support
- 175 more fathers/father figures participated in Fathers Take Your Child To School event this year than last
- Great start to school year- buildings look great
- High School students have already taken a field trip to the UN
- Middle School students will soon be taking a field trip to the Hudson River Museum in Yonkers
- Fall drama production at the high school in the works
- Tac-D work going well- leadership team of 30- 2nd meeting is tomorrow, 9/27

Committee Reports:

Advocacy- *please see attached*, Alliance for Quality Education is organizing an advocacy walk to highlight the 10-year anniversary since the state's highest court ruled on the Campaign for Fiscal Equity lawsuit (brought by NY parents that felt their children were not being provided with an opportunity to an adequate education)- walkers will leave Ossining High School at 9:00 am on Oct. 4th and arrive at PKMS at approximately 2:15-2:30 pm-

walkers are needed (Dr. Fine will be walking), as well as greeters at middle school (Senator Murphy, Assemblywoman Galef, County Executive Astorino & Mayor Catalina have been invited to attend)- lunch for walkers will be provided by the PTO

Communications- *please see attached*, Isabel will bring PTO General Meeting reminder flyers to Executive Committee Meetings to give to principals/building reps to distribute at their respective schools; seeking input on how best to engage parents of high school students- post on parent portal (Janice Reid); suggested that flyers be printed on blue, yellow or orange paper; flyers will now be back-packed to middle schoolers as well

Cultural Enrichment & Field Trips- *please see attached*

Finance- *please see attached*

Fundraising- *please see attached*, Indiana and Vernita will be at the middle & high school back-to-school nights handing out PTO information to parents; Ha will work on securing paypal for the website so we can accept online donations

Special Events- *please see attached*, unanimously approved to expend up to \$469 for movie license (will only be purchased if an event is planned), Go To Meeting fee (\$186) decision tabled until next meeting- Isabel will research/send out parameters of freeconferencecall.com; would like to host a welcome event- possibly dinner & a movie since offsite events are not covered by PTO's general liability policy- Mia will research cost of catering & availability of middle school; needs a co-chair; would like a special events budget

New Business:

- **Class Parent Program-** Pilot program at Woodside & Oakside- parent recruitment done through letters mailed home as well as sign ups at Back-to-School nights, goal is to facilitate communication between PTO & schools and expand our reach with parent volunteers, orientation sessions will take place at both schools (go over district's volunteer policy & form, identify monthly PTO and/or school-based activities that parents can assist with (Isabel will provide Jen her compiled list of events/activities), based on feedback from principals program may now also be implemented this year at Uriah Hill and Hillcrest
- **Passive Fundraising-** All schools agreed to provide PTO with funds raised from box tops (Exception Oakside b/c teachers coordinate) and Stop & Shop A+ Rewards. Marisa will draft a MOU that principals and PTO can sign off on & then submit to Robin Zimmerman in business office so it is clear that even though the district will be receiving the money, it should be funneled to the PTO
- **5K-** Marisa, Jen, Indiana & Ha will staff PTO table, Isabel will iron on new PTO logo to table cloth, will sell chocolate bars, tridents, buttons (50) and possibly car decals & have PTO informational sheet & information on passive fundraisers (should include dollar figure of support PTO provides district with- include on website also & ask Dr. Fine to share in his e-news distributions); PTO taking a \$150 sponsorship & supplying \$100 worth of non-perishable food items (i.e. granola bars, bottled water)

Adjournment:

Meeting adjourned at 8:43 pm. Next meeting will take place on Monday, November 7th at 6:30 pm at the school administration building.

Respectfully Submitted,

Marisa O'Leary, Secretary