

SSMS PTA MINUTES APRIL 12, 2016

Call To Order: (Kathleen Murray) 7:36pm Welcome.

Presentation and Acceptance of Minutes: Motion to Accept by Donna Scala. Seconded by MaryAnn Pederson.

Treasurer's Report: (T. Garrett.) See report. Balance is \$31,495.

Committee Reports:

Staff Appreciation: (T. Garrett) Need desserts and side salads which can be delivered 8:30-10:00am to front lobby. Contact Donna Scala.

Grants, AIM, Nutrition, Curriculum, Drug & Alcohol: No update.

SEP: (MaryAnn Pederson) May 26th, 7:00pm Coffee & Share with 7:30 presenter on applications for special needs children. SEP needs SSMS representatives and a corresponding secretary.

Nominating Committee: (T. Garrett) Currently Eileen McHugh, Karl Garrett, Donna Scala, Donna O'Leary. Need one more volunteer.

Presidents' Report: Forming an audit committee. Jenn Barry will volunteer; need two more volunteers.

Principal's Report: (S. McGinn) 60% of building didn't take tests, but calm for those who did. Math assessment begins tomorrow. 8th graders don't take math assessment. BOCES outdoor program will be one day, one day is NWEA testing & one day is Earth Science/Algebra review., then regular class schedule. Grade will be divided into thirds.

(R. Cammarata) Children were well behaved during the "History of Magic" presentation even though they didn't like it. Upcoming shows include Brent Daniels, composer, and a juggling show.

6th grade trip is to the aquarium. 7th grade trip is to the Bronx Zoo.

Workers are fixing fire escapes and beginning point work after school to get a head start on the project. Will begin to pack up library and music rooms for summer construction.

(J. Pascarella) Report cards are out tomorrow or day after on Powerschools. Thinks it's possible to go back and check prior report cards.

Completed the visiting of all incoming 5th graders. The 6th grade parent orientation is May 6th.

(S.MCGinn) The Robotics Club its taking a bus to Kentucky April 21st to Vex Worlds Robotic Competition. They won the regionals in Glen Cove a couple of weeks ago. The robot has to pick up balls and drop them into a bucket. Club is run by Mr. Bachelman (PH) and Mr. Sliwa.

New 8th grade courses will be offered next year: Tech 8 and Food Science 8 to accommodate IB requirement. Able to do so by moving Health back to 7th grade. Classes will be explained at a lunch/study assembly. Will also email blast parents.

(J. Pascarella) FYI 8th grade will turn in iPads at the end of the year. Looking at a company, Roslyn's Cell Mechanic, to come to SSMS to do repairs, but parents must handle the financials. Thinking go doing a full grade offer. Call Ms. Pascarella will any questions. School's not collecting 6th and 7th grade iPads. Incoming 6th grade will receive iPads at the August 30th orientation. Students must backup EBackpack by downloading. Staff will help students backup.

Lightsail is now optional use. May read from iPad during state exams. Opt out kids were reading and doing other work on iPads. Many 8th graders studied Earth Science.

Gail Getty asked what was the genesis of the community service project. There is too much

with the Honor Society & Religious Education community service. (J. Pascarella & S. McGinn) IB project began in October and some kids were done in October. Kids were assigned mentors. School was overwhelmed by bake sales. Students were reminded of the project in lunch assemblies. Point of this community service is sustainability. Changing due dates. Process is similar to what kids have done in social studies. Many kids waited. Ok to have one idea that didn't go to fruition.

Liz Mullen said the 8th grade MYP is too much with Regents and for those that need tutors &/or have difficulty getting partners. Possible ideas are assigning groups, maybe by Advisory. Projects aren't compatible. Parents spend lots of money on the projects. Posting projects that help special needs kids are seen by those same kids, emphasizes their differences and doesn't add to inclusion.

Maryann Pederson said the project is lots of work for special needs students. MYP is beyond some special needs kids. Parents need to be involved for special needs kids to succeed. Mentors should tell kids when to start and what to do. Need to work with staff to rework MYP for special needs kids. Parents are writing up the entries. (R. Cammarata) Many kids worked independently. Need 10 journal entries if worked alone. (S. McGinn) did her child's current events. MYP project is to help kids with the process of large tasks. MYP is graded based on a rubric and is a requirement of the SSMS. MYP have different grading procedures which will have to be reconciled. The project is not included in the Social Studies grade.

New Business:

(John O'Shea) Newsday on line had Department of Health rating SSMS as an eatery. Had 3 infractions last December. The door gasket on the walk in refrigerator was torn and the door handle was broken. Both are fixed. Mildew on the fan guard of the walk in refrigerator is cleaned. A new delivery of apples was on the floor during the storage process. All is corrected.

May 2nd is the Board of Ed road show at SSMS.

(J. Giaconne) Please order yearbooks and place congratulatory ad.

Motion to Close Meeting: MaryAnn Pederson. Seconded by Jackie Giaconne