

JAMES W. ALEXANDER PTA, INC.
EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
January 5, 2010

CALL TO ORDER:

President Tori McMahon called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m. and led the flag salute. She welcomed teachers Mrs. LaDolcetta and Mrs. K. Nami as well as any visitors and introduced Sally Fowler, Mercer County PTA Liaison for Alexander. Sally welcomed everyone to the meeting and reminded everyone of upcoming events such as the Founder's Day dinner which Reynolds will host and the 6th and 7th grade jazz band will perform; the Reflections awards may also be announced at the dinner as well. She also stated that April 22, 2010 is the Mercer County Council dinner which Kuser will host. She thanked us for our support with our ad in the Mercer County Founder's Day booklet and congratulated us on our awards. She also reminded everyone to visit the National PTA website and thanked us for remaining in good standing.

ESTABLISHING QUORUM: (Executive Committee)

Excused from tonight's meeting and those present; see attached list.

OFFICER'S REPORTS:

Secretary's Report: The minutes were distributed and will be filed as approved.

Treasurer's Report: Julie McGuiness reported from the Statement of Accounts for December 2, 2009 through January 5, 2010. A beginning balance of \$13,759.64, receipts of \$18,518.79, disbursements of \$19,899.28, and an ending balance of \$12,379.15. The report was filed for audit. (See copy of attached report.).

Correspondence:

Jen Haley read correspondence from Mrs. Karla Nami thanking us for the \$100 gift.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Budget & Finance – Ellen Iorio reported that combining Barnes & Noble Day, Gift Card Sales, KidsStuff Books and the Holiday Shop, we made over \$5,100 and that our fundraising year-to-date total is \$14,803, which puts us in great shape to meet our budget goal of \$19,000. Ellen thanked all who participated and helped with these fundraisers.

Ellen further reported that TGI Fridays Restaurant Night is Wednesday, January 13, 2010 and that twenty percent goes back to our school; look for a flyer coming home soon.

Ellen further reported that Bingo Night is Friday, February 5, 2010 and basket set-up is the night before on Thursday at 6:00 p.m.; a sign-up sheet was distributed for anyone who would like to help and she will also be contacting the Three for Me people for Bingo Night volunteers first and if she still needs volunteers, she will send an e-mail out.

Ellen further reported that other upcoming fundraisers are Pump-It Up in February, BJs Membership in March, and Super 50/50 in April.

Family Activities – Cindy Mimmo was not in attendance to report but Tori McMahon reminded everyone that the Trenton Thunder event will be held on May 14, 2010.

Fifth Grade Activities – Debbie Hamm thanked all who helped assemble and distribute candy canes; 900 pens were sold and a profit of just over \$400 was obtained. Debbie also stated that regarding the wreath sale, 32 wreaths were sold for a profit of \$186 and to date a total of approximately \$1,300 has been raised. Further, Debbie stated that a hoagie coupon sale is in the works with Jersey Mike's Sub Shop for late January or early February; the coupons sold can be redeemed anytime such as Superbowl Sunday, Field Day or just a family dinner night. Debbie also reported that her committee will be selling refreshments during Family Bingo night and are looking for volunteers to help work the snack stand. Lastly, Debbie reported that a Fifth Grade Fundraising Committee meeting is scheduled at Debbie's house for Thursday, January 21, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. and all are welcome to attend. Tammy Rodriguez stated that she wanted to thank those teachers who purchased candy cane pens for all students in their class.

Yearbook – Debbie Hamm reported on behalf of Bev Braddock that the Yearbook Committee is hard at work on the 2009-2010 yearbook and has requested that Executive Board members, room parents and teachers submit any photos to be included in the yearbook; the deadline for photos is Tuesday, January 19, 2010 and the committee needs photos from parties and special classroom activities, class trips, school events, etc. Debbie stated that the best photos are clear, of good quality, and contain two or more students. Debbie further stated that photos can be placed in the "Yearbook Information" collection box in the Main Office or sent via email to Bev Braddock at bbraddock@rider.edu.

Founder's Day – Jodi Morgan reported that invitations are being mailed this week.

Kindergarten Registration – Michelle Leszcynski reported on Kalyn Vizzoni's behalf that today was day one of Kindergarten registration and it went well; all incoming students received their new key chains and seemed to like them; tomorrow will be the second day of registration and will hopefully be another successful day. Michelle also stated that orientation is scheduled for April 23, 2010 and the committee will probably be in need of snacks and a sign-up sheet will be distributed if necessary.

Educational Programs – Jamie Rosica reported that Friday, January 15, 2010 Encore Performing Arts will bring to our school, Juggling for Success which is a school wide, all day program with an evening family component that will be free to all families; students will go down to the gym by grade level all day and learn how to juggle and the day will end with an all school assembly followed by an assembly for families to see what their children have been doing in school all day; the evening part starts at 7:00 p.m. and a flyer

was sent home today. Jamie stated that she does not anticipate having to do a lottery but if we get a large response, we may have to do one.

Jamie further reported that Monday, February 8, 2010 Prismatic Magic will bring a spectacular Laser Light Show celebrating Black History month and this assembly will be for all students.

Jamie also reported that she is looking into an assembly on teamwork with the Philadelphia Flyers for grades 2 through 5 and will look into something different from grades Kindergarten through First.

Health Environment and Safety - Julie McGuinness reported that the Healthy Heart dance will be held on February 11, 2010, doors open at 6:30 p.m. and will close at 7:30 p.m. and Chris Barlow will DJ from 7:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m.; ticket presale is next week and due January 22, 2010. If there are remaining tickets, they will be available at the door the night of the dance; cost is \$5.00 per person and under age 5 is free. Julie stated that she will need volunteers to help sell snacks, temporary tattoos and 50/50 sales.

OLD BUSINESS: Tori McMahon reminded everyone that Mrs. Truelove's last day will be January 28, 2010 and that a collection for a Wildflower's gift card is being collected.

NEW BUSINESS: Tori stated that she wanted to discuss different options for the School Fair since this is a big event that takes a lot of hard work and it is not very profitable. She mentioned ideas such as movie night, Science Palooza or a pancake breakfast. Tori also stated that Cindy Mimmo will not be chairing this committee next year and we would need someone to take on this task as well. Tori stated that she wanted to bring up the discussion and start thinking about this as a committee would need to be formed before the end of the school year.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Tori stated that regarding the Nominating Committee, she just wanted to put out another reminder that we will be forming a nominating committee at the next executive board meeting. If you are interested, please see Tori or any of the other officers after the meeting or via an e-mail and that the positions are President, Vice President, VP of Budget and Finance and Treasurer. Tori also stated that it was suggested that if anyone had interest in any of those positions personally, that person may want to reach out to Tori, Jodi, Ellen or Julie to get more details about what is expected of the role.

Tori further stated that regarding the Founders Day dinner for those that signed up at the December meeting, the Founder Day dinner is Thursday, January 21, 2010. If someone cannot make the dinner, please find someone to go in your place if at all possible and that she will send an email to those attending to letting them know how much to give Julie for this dinner.

Tori further stated that with regard to the Newsletter going green, there have been some concerns about it not being read on the website. It was suggested that there be a contest to have people search the newsletter for information and submit it by a deadline and get a

prize, possibly a gift card to WaWa or Dunkin Donuts for a nominal cost and since we are not using a lot of paper these days, the money is there to give prizes.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT: Mrs. Stevenson stated that the teachers now have websites on the Hamilton Township School District website where teachers are listing things such as homework assignments, tests, etc. The websites are currently under construction and she would like feedback on them. Mrs. LaDolcetta stated that she lists things such as homework, calendar items, her mission and has a slideshow and photos. Mrs. K. Nami stated that she is working on her website but has also listed calendar items and will be putting website link resources for parents as well.

Mrs. Stevenson stated that other than Kindergarten registration, the calendar for January also includes the end of the Second Marking Period as well as Martin Luther King Day as a school holiday on January 18, 2010. Mrs. Stevenson stated that Kindergarten registration went smoothly and they had about twenty-five registrants and are expecting fifteen to twenty more tomorrow as she received many calls today from parents regarding this. Mrs. Stevenson stated that she is considering changing the registration dates in the future since we are the first school in the District for Kindergarten registration and she feels that a child's development can change tremendously in just a few months and that having Kindergarten registration at a later date may be better. Mrs. Stevenson stated that she is receiving many inquiries for Mrs. Truelove's position and that she is looking for a veteran in our District to fill the position. She will have a long term sub for February and March in the meantime and that the staff will be having a farewell party as well for Mrs. Truelove.

Certificates of Recognition – Tori presented Certificates of Recognition to Jamie Rosica and Michelle Leszcynski for their hard work and efforts with the Holiday Shop.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:34 p.m.

Tricia E. Bannister

Recording Secretary