

October 15, 2019 Minutes

MTP Board in Attendance: 1st Vice President: Cari Sacks 2nd Vice President: Michelle Krikau **Treasurer:** Renee Postel **Recording Secretary:** Lisa DelBorrello **Corresponding Secretary:** Kristi Bellissimo **Minutes:** Minutes from September 17, 2019 were approved. **Correspondence:** Thank you letter was read from 5th Grade students and teachers for the delicious bagel breakfast. **Treasurer's Report:** Opening Balance (9/17/19): \$26,406.62 Closing Balance 10/15/19: \$34,372.68

Board Reports: Mrs. Sacks reported that the Fall Plant sale was a big success and thanked all. She said class pictures took place and all went well. Retakes are 11/1. Family University is scheduled for 10/21 from 6:30 to 8:30 pm at HSE. The Fun Run pledging begins 10/25/19. Info will be coming home soon. Flyers are coming home for Safe Halloweens at the high schools. Mrs. DelBorrello reported from the PTA Presidents and Superintendent's meeting that interim superintendent Russell Stewart is strategizing on dealing with new computer hack schemes which include "ransomware". He is pushing for program growth including FLES (Foreign Language at the Elementary School Level) as well as offering American Sign Language and Mandarin in the secondary schools. With this year's district enrollment down by 350, he explained that his advisory housing committee is up and running to study resulting issues like school closures and rezoning. He also said we are complying with state immunization mandates while trying to be sympathetic to all. Mrs. Sacks introduced Mr. Chris Collins who will be our district Housing Committee representative. This committee will ultimately make its recommendations to the BOE. Mr. Collins will also give reports on committee activity at future MTP PTA meetings.

Principal's Report: Bus seating assignments are continuing. This helps things run in a more efficient manner. Call the office if a seat change is needed. Halloween parade and procedures were reviewed. Costumes should be elementary school appropriate, including no hand held accessories, bloody, gory, or suggestive costumes. No "Scream" masks are permitted.

Committee Reports: Membership: Committee members and the treasurer efficiently logged in 259 members to date earning us the State Early Bird Award Badge for obtaining and registering 60% of our membership goal by 9/30/19. Thank you to Jennifer O'Brien of State Farm Insurance in Smithtown for donating tonight's door prize of a tote bag and water bottle won by Lara Pirone. Our **Fall Book Fair** was one of our biggest ever selling \$13,950 worth of books and merchandise! As always, all proceeds go directly to the children's programs at school. Thanks to the team of volunteers and school personnel. Funds were raised for All for Books too which provides books to those who do not otherwise have access to them, as well as books for our classrooms, library and special areas. **Arts in Education:** The 4th Grade Circus performance is this Friday, October 18th at 7 p.m. at Great Hollow Middle School. Fifth grade should note a date change in the Goldilocks trial – Now April 6th and 7th. **Fundraising:** Gingerbread House flyers are coming home soon. The **Reflections National Arts Program** 2019-20 theme is "Look Within". Entries can be submitted in the areas of Visual Arts, Literature, Photography, Music, Film Video Production or Dance Choreography. The deadline is Nov. 1. **SIT** (School Improvement Team) is still looking for some chairs. **SEPTA:** Please consider becoming a member for \$10 because they need your support. **Spirit Wear:** Spirit Day is every Friday. The order was placed and should be in within a few weeks. **Fifth Grade Committee:** Please submit your t-shirt sizes if you haven't already done so. The October 11th Bagel Breakfast was a big hit. Thank you to all the volunteers. T-shirts will be handed out on Nov. 1st for the 5th grade picture. **Red Ribbon Week:** Held this year Oct. 23-31, this year's theme is "Send a Message...Stay Drug and Bullying Free". Please help your children participate in the fun theme days. More is coming home. **Beautification:** Services will be donated by local landscapers Charles Giuliano and Michael Floria to help rip up beds, weed, service the outdoor learning lab pond, repair planter boxes and ensure the grounds are kid safe. Older kids can help and earn community service hours for doing so.

Teachers' Report: All grades have settled in and are adjusting nicely to the new school year. Information was detailed of the many exciting projects, books, technology and other educational subject matter students have been learning about in each of their respective grades. MTP Librarian Erica Lutz gave an informative presentation on the many valuable resources available to the children using the school and public libraries including an enormous database on our district website. Support services are up and running.

Next PTA meeting is on November 12, 2019 at 7 pm.

Closing Time 8:06 pm