



South Abington Elementary PTA Meeting Minutes June 6, 2018

The June 6, 2018 meeting of the South Abington Elementary PTA was called to order by President Tori Yankow in the South Abington Elementary School gymnasium at 6:35 pm. Secretary Susan Stopper recorded the proceedings. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Board Reports

President

Tori passed around thank-you notes from the teachers for Teacher Appreciation Week, from the nurse for money for supplies, and from students Brayden and Riley McColligan for the Buddy Bench on the playground.

We will have a popcorn day on Friday, June 15. Popping will begin at 9 am. Megan and Casey Dickinson, Gretchen Henderson, and Bonnie Yoder will come in to pop it. Susan Stopper will come in at 9 am to help get it started. A note will be sent home to let parents know about it and to send in an extra snack if their children can't have it.

Tori reported that a \$1,000 scholarship from PTA was presented to senior Anna VanWert at the high school scholarship reception.

The tables, Buddy Bench, and umbrellas have been received and set up outside, though placement may change. We may not be ordering the storage bins due to a space issue outside. Also, the swingset is being purchased and will be set up this summer.

A free Active Shooter Training by the state police on Friday, July 13, from 10 am till noon at the First Presbyterian Church in Clarks Summit. It is open to the public and limited to the first 200 people.

Tori spoke with Dr. Mahon about money for additional safety measures in the school. He said they would never not purchase something needed for safety because of lack of money.

President-Elect

Gretchen Henderson announced there are several committee chair vacancies for next year. She suggested having co-chairs so that a new person can be learning the ropes from the other for seamless transitions from year to year.

Gretchen reported that Teacher Appreciation Week went well and that the chair for that is one of the openings for next year.

Gretchen announced that an end-of-year survey will be going home to see what parents liked and didn't like to help make decisions for the next year.

Treasurer

Lisa Moher gave the Treasurer's report for May and June. The starting balance on April 13, 2018 was \$23,695.61, and the ending balance on June 6, 2018 was \$25,056.43. Lisa noted that teachers did take more advantage of the grants this year and June 1 was their deadline. The bulk of the expenses were Ladies Tea and chaperones for field trips. Lisa noted that some classes were paying for chaperones and some were not, so we need to make it consistent across all classes. Grace Farrell made a motion to approve the budget, and Lisa Edwards seconded it.

Lisa reviewed the 2018-2019 budget. Changes from the previous year's budget included an increase in movie license, miscellaneous, small games license, hospitality, bank fees, postage, family enrichment, fourth grade agendas, student gifts, staff appreciation, field trips, science fair, cranberry day, and Scholastic Book Fair. Most of these were small increases to cover increased fees with the exception of field trips and Scholastic Book Fair. The field trip line item was increased from \$3,000 to \$4,000. There has never been a per-grade field trip budget before and there was inconsistency with what each grade was getting so an \$800 per grade field trip budget was set. Lisa will be posting the budget in the teachers' lounge for their reference.

Also, the Scholastic Book Fair was increased to \$3,000. Natalie explained that the board discussed giving each child a \$10 gift to purchase books at the book fair next year. The board will talk with Dr. Mahon to see if we can bring the book fair back during the day since every child would have money to spend and to ensure that they each get to spend it. This PTA expenditure will ensure that we qualify for the Scholastic BoGo sale and will bring more Scholastic dollars into our school to be used for library and classroom books.

Lisa reviewed the income portion of the 2018-2019 budget. She noted that there was some confusion this year with the 4th grade committee cutting back on fundraising, and the spring apparel sale never happened, leaving us short around \$2,000 from what was budgeted. Going forward, there must be two apparel sales – fall and spring.

Lisa noted the addition of a Parents Night Out fundraiser next year and the addition of the Penguins Hockey Game as a fundraiser which Mrs. Burdett organized this year. Shoparoo has been removed as a fundraiser because no one was doing it and there was uncertainty as to how the information was being used. Lisa announced that the Ladies Tea would continue next year, but under new co-chairs Heather Statsman and Karen Walsh.

Grace Farrell made a motion to approve the 2018-2019 budget, Kathy Snyder seconded it, and the budget was passed with a vote by the present membership.

Fundraising

Jessica Bowers announced that she is moving out of South Abington so the Vice President of Fundraising position is now open for next year. She reported that Art to Remember didn't do as well this year because the projects had to be done at home because of the teacher strike. We may have the same problem next year. Yankee Candle did well, partly due to the timing right before

the holidays so people could order gifts. Gertrude Hawk did about the same as in previous years. Her biggest challenge with fundraising was getting members to pick up their orders. Jessica said she has information she can pass on to whomever takes the job.

Membership and Programs

Natalie Adamsky reported that the two programs this year – the space dome and the play – went well.

Teacher and Administration Reports

Mr. Kennedy and Dr. Mahon could not make the meeting so there were no teacher or administration reports.

Committee Reports

Science Fair

Tori announced that she met with Mrs. Fried and the Science Fair was one of the largest ever. Suggestions from the floor for next year included organizing projects for pick-up by where they were set up rather than by grade, adding a line on the science fair form that if students want their projects back to put their name on the back of their board and bring a bag for their supplies, and reversing the order of the science fair and having it during the day for students first and then at night for parents so families can take them home that night.

Ladies Tea

Lisa Moher reported that the Ladies Tea brought in \$18,500, had \$7,000 in expenses, and had a profit of \$11,500. The Tea has brought in approximately \$30,000 over the last three years.

4th Grade Committee

Tori noted that the 4th grade committee has had difficulty scheduling dates and times with the school for the Celebration Night and Fun Day. Celebration Night is Tuesday, June 12. Fun Day will be June 14. There was a discussion about having third grade parents help with Celebration Night so fourth grade parents can enjoy it more and third grade parents can see how it's done.

Field Day

Megan Dickinson gave the field day update. Online sign-ups for volunteers are available on Sign-Up Genius and a sign-up sheet was passed around. There will be a hot dog lunch for the kids and Italian Ice. Kids will also receive shirts, color coded by grade.

New Business/Questions

Nominations and Voting

Tori announced that elections were held at the last meeting and President-Elect Gretchen Henderson will now be moving into the President position vacated by Tori Yankow, Patty Beck will be moving into the President-Elect position vacated by Gretchen Henderson, Bonnie Yoder will be moving into the Vice President of Membership and Programs position vacated by Natalie Adamsky, Colleen Siegler will be moving into the Secretary position vacated by Susan Stopper.

With the resignation of Vice President of Fundraising Jessica Bowers due to her move outside of South Abington, Tori asked if there were any nominations for the position. Patty Beck nominated Brittany Moran and the nomination was passed with a vote by the present membership.

Gretchen and Lisa then thanked the outgoing board members and presented them with gifts, including a book donation to the library in the outgoing president's honor.

There were no further questions or business. The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 pm.

Submitted by Susan Stopper, Secretary

Approved by
