

# Hillside Elementary School

## PTO BOARD MEETING

### Minutes

February 8, 2017

9:15 am

HES Teacher's Lounge

<b>Meeting called by</b>	Tracy Johnson
<b>Type of meeting</b>	PTO Board Meeting
<b>Facilitator</b>	Tracy Johnson
<b>Meeting Minutes by</b>	Kathleen Gribb/ Andrew Snyder
<b>Attendees</b>	Mrs. Diane Cohle, Kathleen Gribb, Tracy Johnson, Kate Kilgarriff, Sandi Gorman, Laura Mills, Andrew Snyder, Nicole Scherer

### Agenda Topics

#### Call to Order/Welcome

**Tracy Johnson**

<b>Discussion</b>	Tracy Johnson called the meeting to order at 9:15 am and called for a vote to approve the January 2017 meeting minutes. The board approved.
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#### Principal's Report

**Mrs. Diane Cohle**

<b>Discussion</b>	Mrs. Cohle presented the Principal's Report.
<b>Upcoming Events:</b> Parent/Teacher online conferences scheduling opens on Friday, February 10 running through Friday, February 17. Parents can still call the office to schedule conferences as well. Can be with math or core teacher. Valentine's Day parties scheduled for the 14 <sup>th</sup> , at various times to ease parking problems. Kindergarten Math Night for all district Elementary Schools will be held on February 16 <sup>th</sup> at Devon Elementary. No school Feb 20 <sup>th</sup> for President's day. Cultural arts presentation on the 27 <sup>th</sup> . Half days March 1-3 for Parent/Teacher Conferences. Fourth Grade PAL Fair Thursday, March 9. First Grade Performance Friday, March 10.	

#### President's Report

**Tracy Johnson**

<b>Discussion</b>	Tracy Johnson presented the President's Report.
Tracy said progress was being made on the lobby renovation. Tracy said that the January 29 <sup>th</sup> father/daughter dance was a success, and a profit was made. A new Chair will be needed if this event will continue next year. Since the Girl Scouts held a similar event in the past, perhaps the two can combine in the future. The Villanova basketball game fundraiser was a success. Flyers were sent home to inform parents of open board positions on the PTO for the 2017-18 school year.	

#### Vice President of Cultural Arts

**Nicole Scherer**

<b>Discussion</b>	Nicole Scherer presented the Cultural Arts Report
Nicole informed that 4 <sup>th</sup> graders would be making and sending Valentine's cards to exchange with students at Edward Gideon Elementary school in the Strawberry Mansion section of Philadelphia. Also, pencils and fun erasers are being collected by the fourth grade to send to the school as a gift. Chinese cultural day for 2 <sup>nd</sup> grade upcoming. A parent will be demonstrating calligraphy. February 27 <sup>th</sup> will be the Almanac Dance Theater Circus. DELTA will sponsor another performance at Valley Forge Middle School on March 24 at 7pm. Theme Week will be held the week of May 8 featuring "Painting with a Twist" on the evening of Friday, May 12.	

**Treasurer****Maura Harley**

<b>Discussion</b>	Maura Harley presented the Treasurer's Report
Ms. Harley was not present at the meeting. Her financial report will be sent out shortly.	

**Vice President of Fundraising****Kate Kilgarriff**

<b>Discussion</b>	Kate Kilgarriff presented the Fundraising Report.
Parent Social scheduled for March at the Berwyn Tavern. For the first time, the PTO has an app for parents to bid on the items donated. The auction will be open for two weeks prior to the event. An email will be sent to all families with instructions on how to register for the app. A handful of items may only be available for bidding at the event. Raffle basket donations total \$1,800.00 so far. Baskets will be on display in the school lobby and on the bidding app. Raffle tickets will be sold via backpack flyers and at the PAL Fair and Book Fair.	

**Vice President of Social Functions****Jessica Littleton**

<b>Discussion</b>	Jessica Littleton presented the Social Functions Report.
No update, Ms. Littleton was not present at the meeting.	

**Vice President of Membership & Services****Laura Mills**

<b>Discussion</b>	Laura Mills presented the Membership & Services Report.
Staff breakfast Friday the 10 <sup>th</sup> at 7:30 A.M. Purchasing a hat for the crossing guard. Photo requests made for the yearbook, especially 4 <sup>th</sup> grade. Send all photos to Carolyn Noll. The district has a new policy that staff cannot tutor students outside of school for extra pay. Open positions are mostly clubs because parents aren't sure what events they will be signing children up for next year.	

**T+E Care presentation**

<b>Discussion</b>	Sandi Gorman from T+E Care presented a summary and pamphlet of the services provided by T+E Care. Have provided approximately \$215k in assistance in prior year. College assistance, school supplies and guidance. Clothing drive is their annual fundraiser. March 15-24 collecting donations at Hillside and both the Tredyffrin and Easttown Libraries. They don't sell the clothes, only accept donation in whatever amount people can give. Suggested donation is \$10/bag. Everyone is encouraged to shop for a good cause. Hosted at St Matthews Church on Walker Rd. on March 31-April 1. They are looking for a chairperson for their annual fundraiser, Fall Fest Dinner Gala. The committees are already in place and ready to go.
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**Old Business**

<b>Discussion</b>	PAL boards were sold at the school store last year. Laura Mills will ask Jenn Bachman if they are planning to sell them this year. Nicole Scherer will follow up with Michelle Barton to see who she ordered from last year and what the turnaround time is.  At the last PTO meeting, Tracy Johnson was concerned about meeting the budget if we discontinued the Fun Run. Kathy Gribb informed that the following fundraisers were eliminated this year: 5K Walk (\$2,355.25), Target Card (\$2,482.77), Library Card (\$42.00) and Whole Foods (\$1,119.81) totaling \$6,000.
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## New Business

<b>Discussion</b>	<p>Laura Mills commented that there never seems to be enough spots in the parking lot. She felt bad for the staff on days when parents are visiting. Mrs. Cohle stated that the district is aware of the issue and is sending someone to look into the problem and measure the parking lot.</p> <p>Tracy Johnson asked the Boards opinion on what community events should be included in the weekly emails. Currently only not for profit items have been included. Some of the elementary schools don't include any community information. Mrs. Cohle stated that the district used to be stricter on including community items, however, now it is up to the individual PTOs discretion. Tracy will ask the Communications team for their thoughts and will bring it up again at the next PTO meeting.</p> <p>Nicole Scherer informed the Board that the possibility of the Township abolishing the Property Tax was a serious issue and could very likely pass when they vote. If this happens, there would be a straight 7% tax on all sales. The Township is stating the schools will still receive the same amount of funding as they currently do. Anyone concerned is encouraged to contact our local representative, Warren Kampf to express their thoughts.</p>
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## Adjournment

**Tracy Johnson**

<b>Discussion</b>	The meeting was adjourned at 11:30am.
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