

# PTO Meeting Minutes

## November 27, 2018

### In Attendance:

PTO Board Members: President - Maria Beilis; Vice President - Vicky Lefelar; Treasurer- Jennie Franklyn; Corresponding Secretary- Deb Califf; Co-Recording Secretaries - Fran Cook & Jill Spodek,  
School Administration: Mr. Palczewski, Principal; Mr. Kubiak, Faculty Rep  
PTO Members: Kimberly Gilchrist, Debbie Williams, Mary LaSala, Tina Sherry, Jennifer Dellerba, Agnes Mrocsker, Anita Facchini-Gleba and Denise Lynch

Meeting was called to order by Maria Beilis at 7:34 PM.

Motion to waive the reading of last meeting's minutes was made by Jill Spodek and seconded by Debbie Williams. Motion passed unanimously. Motion to accept the minutes as written was made by Kim Gilchrist and seconded by Mary LaSala. Motion passed unanimously.

### 2. Officer's Reports

a) Presidents' Report – Maria Beilis. Maria welcomed and thanked everyone for attending the meeting. Said things are quiet for now. The PTO is “GOING GREEN” and minutes will no longer be printed out. Minutes will be posted to the website only.

b) Vice Presidents' Report – Vicky Lefelar – attended the Healthy Heart Committee meeting and Sodexo is going to be making some changes to the food services at the high school level in an effort to keep kids in the building during lunch periods. Sodexo would like to give it more of a college feel and they will be starting by expanding on the deli offerings.

c) Treasurer's Report - Jennie Franklyn presented the current budget. PTO membership is at or better than last year. Friday, November 30<sup>th</sup> is the last day to pay your PTO membership for the 2018-2019 school year. We are a little short in the sale of planners. Fall Spirit wear sales are a little lower but the sale is still running so hoping to make the budget. The Jersey Mike's fundraiser did well, making \$608, considering it was the day of the snow storm. We will be adding another dining out night to cover the budget for dining out. Looking into the options.

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d) Recording Secretary's Report – Fran Cook and Jill Spodek – nothing to report.

e) Corresponding Secretary's Report – Deb Califf – nothing to report.

\*\*Maria Beilis thanked Deb for all of her hard work on the weekly newsletter.

### 3. Principal's Report:

Mr. Palczewski reminded everyone about the upcoming Holiday Concert which will take place on December 13<sup>th</sup>.

Spoke about the changes to Spirit Week. There was no pep rally but the week was capped off with a Home Coming Dance. The dance was a huge success, around 400 students attended and had a great time. There was a King and Queen and other Courts, a DJ, red carpet and photo shoot. Sodexo provided finger foods for the students. Hoping that this will continue every year.

The food drive brought in over 2000 food items and 157 turkeys for needy families. The food drive was a collaboration of the Student Council, NHS, Band and other student groups.

8<sup>th</sup> grade Orientation was held in November. It was moved up to due to the recruiting of our students by other local schools. (Such as PCTI, Parochial schools) We want to show our 8<sup>th</sup> graders all the great things that Wayne Valley has to offer our students. Would also like to invite the 7<sup>th</sup> grades to tour the school in the spring.

Jill Spodek asked for an update on the block scheduling: Mr. Palczewski said that they are moving forward with the plan. Teachers have been receiving professional development so they are prepared for the new scheduling. The BOE has been assessing the cost and compiling a list of things that would be needed, such as additional tables. Mr. Palczewski reviewed a little bit about the block scheduling and mentioned that student scheduling will not be any more difficult. Also stated that the labbing out issues have been resolved.

Maria Beilis asked about the Thought Exchange regarding the start times changing, and how she feels that the results are skewed by allowing the high school students to participate in the survey. Mr. Palczewski reiterated that the block scheduling and the school start times are two different issues. He also stated that the responses were all over the map and that a lot of elementary parents participated in the survey. Sports would not be affected because the times could just be adjusted. Denise Lynch asked if there was a comparison done of students grades during 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> periods versus later periods. Mr. P. was not sure if any such study had been done.

The district is looking into the current language program and what changes can be made in the next couple of years. Possibly adding Mandarin or Chinese.

Denise Lynch asked if the cones can be taken away from the court yard area. There is a bus that blocks one of the lanes during drop off in the morning and backs up traffic. Mr. Palczewski will talk to Officer Zaccone and make sure the bus is dropping off in the proper area. Also parents are parking in the lane closest to the building in the court yard in the afternoon while waiting for the kids to come out after their sport, club or other activity. Parents should be parking in the lot to wait for their student to come out, or stop back far enough that they are not blocking either of the lanes. Mr. Palczewski said he would speak to Mr. Drozjock regarding sending an email to parents reminding them to park only in the parking lot.

Jill Spodek asked about parking when needing to pick up a student early. There are 2 visitor parking spots just past the court yard on the right hand side. If you are going to be only a few minutes you can pull up by the court yard. Mr. P. acknowledges that there is not enough parking. There are a lot more students that drive to school and there is not really any over flow parking. Most spots are now assigned to seniors.

Denise Lynch asked if there could be a sweatshirt option as part of the gym uniform for cold weather days. Mr. Palczewski will talk to Mr. Drozjock about the possibility.

#### **4. Teacher's Report:**

Mr. Kubiak mentioned that the first marking period had ended and the second marking period had begun. He stated that there was one last reminder sent out to staff regarding PTO membership.

#### **5. Committee Chair Reports**

- a) Board of Ed Liaison – Doreen Velardi reported on the Board of Education meeting
  - \*Fallon Elementary School was awarded the National Blue Ribbon of Excellence
  - \*A survey and examination of Wayne Schools was completed so that the polls can be moved from the schools
  - \*PARCC results were reported and they were consistent with an increase in Algebra. An alternate assessment will be given to students in lieu of the PARCC test throughout the state.
  - \*Block Scheduling overview: Longer class periods, take 6 classes drop 2 daily, 58 minutes per class, a 5 credit course will be 270 minutes-7 days of instruction, Science classes-4 days of class, 1 lab class, labs will take up 20 minutes of lunch, passing time will be reduced 16 minutes and there will be a 54 minute lunch for everyone at the same time, 4 day rotation-class meeting different times of the day, Instrumental music classes will not rotate, Miss a course for 2 hours per semester if enrolled in instrumental music. At the halfway point there will be a different course that will be missed. Lunch might be served in the gym. Unit lunch-utilize lunch periods for extra help, clubs. Meet the Wellness Goals for starting the day later; approximately 22 minutes later. Surveys will be available for staff and parents on start time. Staff would

be needed for lunch supervision. Teachers will get paid to give up their lunch. Lunch time will be a duty period for staff. Since food services are going out for bid, companies that are bidding must be able to accommodate the new schedule.

\*Bleacher Replacement: It is recommended by the architect to replace bleachers due to safety. As of now the town will help and assist with monies approximately 27%. More discussion is needed to clarify when to place the cost in the budget either this year or next year. They need to be handicapped accessible.

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- b) Jersey Mike's – Kelly Menzel – we raised \$608 dollars which is good considering it was the same day of the snow storm.
- c) Membership – Maureen Machado – we are at or above last year's numbers. PTO dues must be paid by Friday, November 30<sup>th</sup>.
- d) Project Graduation Overall – Val McGrath – no report, Project Graduation 2019 - Stephanie Fenske – no report, Project Graduation 2020 – Barbara Rigoglioso – kick off parent meeting will be in January. No fundraising this year. They have about \$3,000 in their account. Project Graduation 2021 – Kathy Sigona – The winter craft fair is approaching. Set up will be Saturday December 8<sup>th</sup> and the craft fair is Sunday, December 9<sup>th</sup> from 10 am – 5 pm. Volunteers and donations are appreciated. You can contact Kathy at [katsigona@yahoo.com](mailto:katsigona@yahoo.com). Project Graduation 2022 – Denise Lynch – Nothing going on right now. They will be trying to keep the parent cost down and increase the amount they fundraise. \*The current dues for Project Graduation is \$200 per student (according to the Wayne Council of PTO's Bylaws).
- e) Scholarships – Maria Beilis and Mary LaSala – The Wayne Valley PTO Board had decided to change the criteria for PTO scholarships. There will be scholarships available for students at all GPA levels. Kids that are doing their best should be considered. There is an application process that needs to be completed by all students that want to be considered for a scholarship and PTO dues must still be paid each of the four years of high school.
- f) Spirit Wear – Vicki Lefelar – we are currently under budget, however we are still accepting orders.
- g) Varsity Jackets – Maria Beilis – Accent on Leather handles our Varsity Jackets. Students receive information on how to order their jacket when they receive their varsity letter.

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## 6. Old Business – None

## 7. New Business – None

**8. Adjournment** – Jill Spodek moved to adjourn the meeting and Denise Lynch seconded it. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:36 pm.