

**High School PTA Minutes**  
**Wednesday, April 26, 2017**  
**7:30pm**

**WELCOME**

Welcome to our meeting. Please take a minute to review the minutes that are on the tables. Please sign attendance book that is going around. The Share folder is also being passed around.

**THANK YOU:**

- to Mr. Farrelly and our administrators for joining us tonight
- Debbie Edelstein and Marina Bournias for Membership
- Maureen Cooke for sending out our daily announcements
- Maria Gustafson for Founders Day
- Lori Frucht for the College Award raffles for Founders Day, Frann Rappaport for helping her and Kathy Rea
- Lori Frucht and Kathy Rea and all who helped to read the essays for the PTA college awards
- Maria Gustafson and all who helped her for the College Fair
- The Nominating Committee: Maria Gustafson, Susan Stromberg, Debbie Edelstein, Michelle Keis and Paula Barsky, as well as our two alternates Rakhee Bahtra and Donna Stanziano for being available if needed.
- Anna Nizzari for tonight's hospitality

**Vote on Minutes for March: Minutes Accepted**

**Introduce Budget Presentation:** The presentation is available on the district website and the Frequently Ask Questions Data sheet is in the share folder and was sent home to all families.

**Treasurer's Report:** \$11,736.099 in general operating account. \$ 15201.06 in College Scholarship Account but just received \$2100 for scholarship from Founder's Day baskets but we are giving ½ of Founder's Day baskets proceeds to SEPTA.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

The district is forming a communications committee and is looking to revamp the website.

The district is going to post past report cards on the portal as we requested when our Board met with them in January. Administration will be receiving training to learn how to accomplish this.

Ginger Lieberman and Debbie Bernstein are running unopposed for the BOE, so there will not be a Candidates Night this year.

Please attend the substance abuse forum that will be held on Thursday, May 4<sup>th</sup> at Stratford Rd. (7-8:30pm). Presented by Dr. Stephen L. Dewey, this is a "parents only" event. This is a very important event – learn how drugs can affect your child's mind and body.

The HS has ADA accessible bleachers on the visitor's side made possible by funds secured by Assemblyman Charles Lavine; Groundbreaking and concrete has been poured at Pasadena for their classroom addition; at Stratford Road classrooms are being renovated and there are new lockers on the second floor; there is a new playground at MMS made possible by funds secured by the late Judy Jacobs; at JJP groundbreaking has taken place and at POBMS new windows are being installed as we speak.

The gates on MMS are to allow for snow removal. The gates will be closed for snow removal in the winter before the community comes to sled.

Our High School musical, Sister Act, is taking place this Thursday at 4:30pm and Friday and Saturday at 8pm. Tickets are \$12 in advance and \$15 at the door.

Motion to support the district budget: Passed

Motion to support Proposition 2: Passed

## **Principal's Report:**

**Mr. Farrelly-** Mr. Murray couldn't be here tonight, he is attending the Action Against Opioids at St. Anthony's. This past month we experienced the most challenging month in years with the passing of POBJFK student, Jillian Lambert. What we did that day: When Mr. Murray heard that she had passed away he confirmed with the family and then he notified Dr. Lewis. Then by 7:20am he activated his crisis team including all administrators, department heads and support staff. All of Jillian's teachers were told face to face and then provided class coverage so teachers could process the information. Parents were notified soon after that. Support for students and the staff was provided, and Support staff remains available to all students and their families.

Parent suggestion: Could you have support staff shadow the classes for more than a week after the incident there was a sub that made an inappropriate comment and in another class the students were working in small groups and one student texted her mom that she didn't have a group, it was very raw for everyone. Just to consider as part of a plan if this ever happens again.

13 Reason's Why- Series about a teenager who commits suicide but leaves behind 13 audio cassettes that are distributed to those she identified. It seems to be a phenomenon, people, teenagers are binge watching, Dr. Lewis will be sending out an email with some talking points that families can use and families are encouraged to watch with their children, children shouldn't be watching it alone.

Since last PTA meeting we celebrated Founder's Day, Junior Gala and Prom required meetings, Junior Class college essay night, Senior Citizen Prom, Celebration of Diversity, College Fair, Moot court, SADD blood drive, Art Honor Society induction and DECA students left yesterday for California. Starting tomorrow Sister Act will run: Thursday, Friday, and Saturday.

**Mr. Harathunian-** Title I school designation: For the 16-17 school year POBJFK was designated. This designation is for Federal funding for schools with a high proportion of students getting free and reduced lunch. Its additional funds to support students. Target academically at risk pop. we can provide reading support and AIS support such as Read 180, and meaningful staff development. The parent component is through site based meetings to deal with building issues and bring light issues students are facing. We are posting a letter on our school website including the information that all teachers meet the requirement of NCLB and developing a school parent compact to list ways the school and parents can work together for all students.

## **Committee Reports:**

### **Nominating Committee-**

President - Debbie Baer

First Vice President - Natalie Drebsky

Membership Vice President - Hilary Starr

Membership Vice President – Karina Merseberg

College Awards VP - Kathy Rea

College Awards VP - Susan Stromberg

Curriculum VP – Karen Greiss

Communications VP – Maureen Cooke

Recording Secretary – Elissa Friedman

Asst. Recording Secretary- Paula Barsky

Corresponding Secretary - Jennifer Federmann

Historian – Fern Rothschild

Treasurer – Eileen Chasan

Past President – Eileen Dershowitz

Council Delegates – Missy Bartoletta, Ivy Chasan, Cindy Mertz, Marina Bournias, Frann Rappaport, Lisa Hindi, Fern Rothschild, Sharon Becker, Eileen Chasan, Debbie Edelstein, Janine Wolff, Michelle Kies, Aliza Greenberg, Diane Collins, Jessica Corbett.

Council Alternates - Anna Nizzari, Karen Greiss, Kathy Rea, Jacqueline Altsaedter, Jen Biren, Natalie Drebsky, Gail Soffer, and Cheryl Sanborn

Anyone wishing to be nominated from the floor at the election meeting May 25th must notify Maria Gustafson 2 business days before the election meeting, anyone interested must notify her by May 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**Scholarship-** 12 scholarships for seniors, students will be notified at Awards Night.

There was a lengthy discussion about the dollar amounts of the scholarships and reserves for the scholarships and replacing reserves. Will be followed up over the summer.

**Community Awareness-**

POB-JFK was in the top 100 for high schools in the state - number 46 .

Love Is Love Rally was held on Old Country Road - it was a huge success :)

Stratford Road hosted a fundraising evening for Birthday Wishes, a charity that throws birthday parties for children in homeless shelters.

A Plainview company created a prosthetic leg for a veteran so he could return to swimming:

CPC (Composite Prototyping Center), a commercial-grade advanced composite manufacturing company based in Plainview, joined forces with a Hicksville prosthetic firm and Northwell Health to design the first 3D printed amphibious prosthetic leg in an effort dubbed, "The Return."

Our next Blood Drive is May 9<sup>th</sup> at POBMS

**Memorial Day Parade-** contact Lenny Simmons or Francesca Carlow, the Marching band will perform and all are invited

**Matlin-** School Play is May 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, the students are performing HS musical and we are selling tickets. Staff appreciation is May 17<sup>th</sup>

**Booster club-** The Wall of Fame is being replaced with an Athletic Hall of Fame- Student Athletes (graduated at least 10 years prior), Coaches and Donors, Applications will be available shortly, the winner will be selected in October and announced in Dec ember or January.

Homecoming is Saturday 10/13/17 and this year we are looking to create a more community event including a parade with floats, the marching band, Middle school Fall sports and to get the elementary schools involved too.

**Site based-** we discussed many topics that were already addressed tonight, waiting on the final exam schedule. It looks like the last day of class is 6/13 still waiting on decision about in class finals the week prior,

**Curriculum-** Mid-terms were discussed sessions instead of 2, ongoing discussions to reduce length of each exams and greater con

**Sign and Dine-** Friday June 9<sup>th</sup> we are looking for volunteers

**BAC -** Cancelled

**Our next PTA meeting will be on Thursday, May 25<sup>th</sup>**