

PTA Meeting Minutes – January 3, 2017

9 parents were in attendance with Dr. Varlack.

President's Report - Student Directories went home the Thursday before break. Print Shop was very kind and made the copies for us and delivered it too! Only PTA members were given copies.

December Minutes were approved.

Treasurer - We earned \$1,300 more than we budgeted from a Very Merry fundraiser and we got \$450 more from the Holiday Shop – by getting a \$250 refund and selling things from past years. We are on target with the budget.

Principal's Report - We had over 20% of the students out on the Monday after the winter break.

IEQ – in December, we worked as a team to get rid of stuffed animals, cushions, area rugs, cleaners not county approved, and extra appliances. We are going to have a walk through from the county any day now. Look on the website for the report from IEQ.

Parent Skills Survey – Parents at the meeting shared how they would be willing to help in an emergency, but couldn't fill out the survey. Dr. Varlack is looking into making sure it is fixed. It will be sent back out again.

Green Committee - Dr. Varlack gave the go ahead for the Green Fest on April 1. Hammond High will run the event, but will use our facility. Tangie will reserve the rooms for us.

County PTA Delegate – There was a discussion about the proposed models for the change of start times. They had a vote and the Howard County PTA's stand was 40 to keep the current model and 8 to change it. While they agree with the reasoning to change the times, the current models are not acceptable to change to.

APFO – Brett Loveless went to speak to the County PTA, but they would not let him. Policy 6010 is being reviewed this month. This has to do with redistricting and the capacities of schools. They consider a school okay if it is at 110%. The meeting is January 12th at 6PM. Speak now or know that it will not change for another 6 years. Basically, builders and developers are in charge of the planning committees for adding more homes to Howard County. PTAs need to step up to support the students and keep our schools from overcrowding.

There was a discussion about the bills to change the way the Board of Ed members are elected.

Membership – We have about 319 people. Membership cards went out with the directories. We ran out of cards, but will get more.

Playground – They tried to deliver the overhang, but now the Howard County Grounds people had to come to get it off the truck and store it. It is very big.

Fundraising – we are done in the fall. We need to do something for this in the spring. Perhaps we could do a Silent Auction during the Carnival. We don't have enough to cover the carnival as well as teacher reimbursements.

After School Activities – Chess wrapped up on Monday. Starting back in February.

3- 5th grade class – Talking Heads. – 8 week class

School House Theater – In talks to have them return.

Science class for Little Scholars. – Wiz Kids

Mad Science didn't show up for their make up. We wrote a letter to them and they are sending checks to all the parents involved.

Are parents interested in doing Spanish?

Box Tops – The check has been sent for \$1,379.10. Not sure how the school will use the money. We will check into seeing where the money from last year went and where this money is going.

Dad's Club – People who went to the Wizard's game had a great time! We had 78 people go. We will try to do this again next year. Maryland tickets are \$5.00 if we have 15 people.. We decided on January 29th. Ed will make the flyer for Jen to run and hand out by Thursday. We will hear from the Orioles in March.

By-laws Renewed - We have to be aware of this.

Carnival Date – May 6 – We will be starting up the planning meetings soon. We need to figure out how to get the volunteers set up. We should set up the Sign Up Genius way in advance. We need to make sure we have the volunteers set up before we pay for the activities. It was suggested that we get a "Save the Date" out there! Remember that we will need to get people to sign waivers for this event.

Variety Show Date - We need to start working on this and coming up with a date.

Next meeting February 7, 7:00 PM.

