

**Patterson PTA  
General Meeting  
Minutes  
January 14, 2014**

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m.

Meeting participants included: Becky Swartz, Danielle Minnerick, Elaine Stecklein, Maura Finnerty, Liz Lawrence, Michele Frost, Julie Mitchell, Mindy Everett, Jennifer Thompson, Julie Heitman, Rita Malloy, Karen Young, Laura Remack, Holly Morlock, Gira Rajan, Loreedana Yamada, Jyoti Limaye, Priyanka Kabra, Holly Duck, M. LaBroche-Murphy, Sheri Klaich, and Vicky Ehrlicher.

II. Guest Speakers – PATHS Program

Mindy Everett, the school's social worker, and Jennifer Thompson, one of the school's third grade teachers, provided an overview of the PATHS program. This social and emotional learning program has been implemented in kindergarten through 4<sup>th</sup> grade and 5<sup>th</sup> grade does something similar though their town hall meetings. The program is designed to help children learn critical social skills. It was noted that it has been successfully implemented and that the PTA helped fund the purchase of the PATHS kits.

III. Approval of November 19, 2013 Meeting Minutes

With a motion from Rita Malloy and a second from Liz Lawrence, the November minutes were approved with the noted correction regarding the spelling of Holly Morlock's name.

IV. Principal's Report

Michele Frost reported on the following items:

- The parent/child book study program's first meeting will be on February 19<sup>th</sup>. The book study will read Wonder, and discussion will focus on the importance of seeing and accepting peoples' differences.
- Signs prohibiting concealed weapons on school property will be posted on campus in compliance with the state's recently implemented concealed weapons law.
- Assessment testing which evaluates students' mid-year progress is underway.

V. President's Report

Elaine Stecklein, substituting for Michelle Bassi, reported on the following items:

- The District is forming a committee to evaluate the District's grading scale, particularly as it relates to college applications. It was noted that the current grading scale is considered to be tougher than other school districts.
- Mr. Davenport, principal of Crone Middle School has been invited to discuss 5<sup>th</sup> grade transition to middle school. A date has not yet been set.

VI. Treasurer's Report

Becky Swartz reported on the following:

- Naperville Gift Cards sales made \$213 which is a little lower than budgeted \$250.
- Carnival made \$15,000 which is \$2,000 more than budgeted.
- Membership is down \$398 which equates to about 26 memberships.

- Classroom enrichment was successful: 26 out of 36 teachers got reimbursed.
- Assignment notebooks came in under budget of \$132.
- The balance for the Science Alliance assembly of \$900 was paid.
- Volunteer Appreciation brunch came in under budget by \$100.

Overall the budget is healthy, but when looking to next year, the PTA will not have \$5,000 to rollover from this year's budget to work with. Becky noted that a Survey Monkey to get parents' feedback about fundraisers will be sent out in the coming weeks.

#### VII. Vice Presidents Reports

- Finance/Fund Raising – Danielle Minnerick reported on the following:
  1. The Chipolte restaurant night raised \$364. Another event at Chipolte is being scheduled for March.
  2. The 4Square Art fundraiser is underway. Mrs. Fisher is working with her students to develop the art that will be used for this project.
  3. Discussion has started on what type of major fundraisers should be done next year. A Survey Monkey will be developed and distributed to gather member input on this.
- Administrative/Service – Elaine Stecklein reported on the following:
  1. The winter classroom parties went well. Planning is underway for the Valentine parties. The party theme will be the power of a friend.
  2. Planning is also underway for the 5<sup>th</sup> grade Sock Hop. 50 volunteers have signed up to help.
  3. The Yearbook Committee is looking for candid photographs. Order forms will be going home soon.
- Enrichment/Social – Liz Lawrence reported on the following:
  1. Registration forms for the Science Fair went out last week. It was noted that volunteers are needed to help with set-up and clean-up.
  2. It was noted that the variety show is still in need of a chairman. If one is not found, the show will need to be cancelled.

#### VIII. New Business

Maura Finnerty provided an overview of the PTA Bylaws requirements for conducting PTA elections. She explained that a nominating committee consisting of 5 members will need to be elected in February. The nominating committee report recommending a slate of officers will be presented at the March PTA meeting and the elections will be held in April. Anyone interested in serving on the nominating committee or being elected to the 2014-15 PTA executive board was asked to contact Maura.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:36 a.m.