

**Middlebrook PTA Meeting  
October 15, 2015 – Minutes**

**I. Call to Order – 9:07 a.m. in Ms. Rotundo’s Room (7 Yellow Hall)**

- a. **Attendance:** Jacqueline Jackson, Kim Lynn, Maria Wilcox, Pam Hickey, Jessica Garcia, Nancy Hasenauer, Kim Rogg, Laura Rowley, Vanessa Elias, Johnna Reuter, Donna Savage, Alison Rubin, Lori Ellis

**II. Approvals**

- September 17, 2015 Minutes approved – motion by Pam Hickey, second by Maria Wilcox. All in favor.
- New Secretary approved – details in President’s report.
- Money approved for new playground small equipment – details in Vice President’s report.
- Reallocation of funds approved for Author Visit – details in New Business report.

**III. Principal’s Report – by Nancy Hasenauer**

- a. School climate expert, Bill Preble, came last week. Kids excited about safe, positive environment.
- b. Acts of Kindness-new program where everyone puts a wish in an envelope. Deans review and grant 2-5 a week. Needs to be attainable.
- c. Teen Read Week begins 10/19. Debbie Johnson spoke about theme and special events planned. Events include pajama day, read aloud in media center, book crafts at lunch, and book trivia.
- d. Birds of Prey assembly is 10/20 for 7th graders. Will be in athletic field.
- e. Annual book drive is next week to tie into Teen Read Week. Program supports Bridgeport school volunteers in their efforts to put books in the hands of students and classroom libraries.
- f. Red Ribbon Week-begins next week as well. Kids wear red. This is anti-drug and alcohol campaign. Students commit to being drug free.

**IV. Teacher Representative – Jessica Garcia**

**6 Yellow**

- Students have chosen the “Yellow Jackets” as their team name for the year with the motto being “We fly into learning.”
- Raffle tickets can be earned on team by modeling good citizenship- These “Golden Tickets” can be used in a raffle for prizes at the end of each month.
- Team Celebration is October 30<sup>th</sup>.

**6 Red**

- Students have chosen the “6 Red Tigers” as their team name for the year.
- In world language, students are starting to learn Go Animate! to make cartoons and are writing raps in French to “rap up the first chapter”.

**6 Green**

- Students who take Spanish are finishing up their poster project on the months of the year which will culminate in class presentations.
- In Writing Workshop, students have just wrapped up sharing their personal narratives and will begin writing fictional short stories.

**For all**

- Bronx Zoo- Oct 22nd

**7 Yellow**

- Working to overlap skills within a few classes.

- In RWW, English and SS- working on skills that will prepare them for giving a speech (topic is whether a country is developing or developed).
- In Science and Math- the topic of ecosystems is being reinforced through lessons in IXL.

### **7 Red**

- Students are making connections among their families and the characters in “Cheaper by the Dozen”. They are also speaking about their families in Spanish class.
- In SS- learning the basics of Socratic Seminars.

### **7 Green**

- Focus on writing evidence based claims and argumentative writing.
- SSR continues daily on team- students are encouraged to visit Mrs. Ellis in the Library and Media Center for some great recommendations!

### **For all**

- Birds of Prey Assembly next Tuesday on the ballfield (students can bring blankets or towels to sit on)

### **8<sup>th</sup> Grade**

- In Science- we have completed our unit on the musculoskeletal system, and are looking at advances made in prosthetics, and how current technology is helping in the development of prosthetic limbs. This culminates in students working to design their own mechanical arms to be tested in front of the class!
- Philadelphia trips are quickly approaching: 8 Red - 10/29, 8 Yellow - 11/3, 8 Green - 11/5
- Poet Reggie Gibson will visit our English classes in late October to work with 8th Grade students on their poetry writing.
- SS classes working to prepare for a debate on the topic of dropping the Atomic Bomb in WWII. This will help prepare them for the Great Debates which will take place later

### **V. President’s Report – Laura Rowley**

- Thank you to all who helped stuff envelopes last week. Fundraising letter has been sent.
- Voted in Jacqueline Jackson as Secretary – motion by Pam Hickey, second by Kim Lynn. All in favor.
- Still in need of Fundraising chair. We each need to send Laurie Maggio 1-2 names of possible candidates.

### **VI. Officer Reports:**

#### **Vice President – Pam Hickey**

- Membership is at 415 versus budget of 460.
- Donations from membership drive are \$1100 compared to \$545 last year.
- Playground Equipment bought two years ago all gone. Spent \$800 at that time.
- Approved allocation of \$750 to replace playground balls, etc. – motion by Laura Rowley, second by Vanessa Elias. All in favor.

#### **Treasurer – Maria Wilcox**

- Insurance paid to AIM.
- Membership dues for 414 members paid to CT State PTA.
- Town lost check for custodian charge for 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Dinner Dance. Had to stop payment and reissue a new check. Bank fee was \$34

- Team leaders were sent letter notifying them of \$300 team grant
- Open points of documents needed to go to State PTA – copy of Form 990; names of members and financial review report.
- Outreach check of \$1,000 given to MB School – was included in previously approved budget.
- Science & Engineering Fair participation fee paid.
- Cash box was given to 6<sup>th</sup> Grade fun night committee.

**Parent-At-Large – Kim Lynn**

- Nancy Hasenauer retiring at end of year.
- BOE focus was on K9 search at High School last week.

**VII. Committee Reports:**

- Nominating – Open positions – Fund Raising
- Fundraising – Letter sent to parents. A few checks have come in. Donna Savage to lead a task group that will meet with students to come up with fundraising ideas for next year that involve them. Laura will send email out after each PTA sponsored assembly to stress the importance of contributing to letter campaign.
- Box Tops – We are WAY behind last year. Will remind everyone again in Messenger.
- School Photos -- retake day is Nov. 18<sup>th</sup>
- Hospitality – Picked up some extra hands. Events coming up-Veteran’s Day, Bus Driver Breakfast.
- WYC -- Red Ribbon week next week. Speaker for all grades, will stay for Y2Y meeting. Class Project 2020 movie event 10/20.
- 6th & 7th Grade Activity Nights – All set. Sixth grade is this week and all set. 7<sup>th</sup> needs volunteers.

**VIII. New Business**

- Visiting Author opportunity -- Mrs. Rubin has a connection and is able to get us a “friends and family” discount for Jordan Sonnenblick, a major YA author. Potentially a March event. He would speak to all three grades separately. Looking to fund primarily through reallocation of Media Center funds and a portion of team grants, with the balance coming from the PTA.
- Total cost of the event, including mileage and hotel is estimated at \$2,500 - \$1,000 from Media Center reallocation, ~\$900 from team grant reallocations, and the balance of \$600 from PTA.
- Approved reallocation of \$1,000 from Media Center to Visiting Author – motion by Maria Wilcox, second by Kim Rogg. All in favor.

**IX. Adjournment 10:15**

Respectfully submitted,  
 Kim Lynn  
 Parent At Large, MB PTA