

Middlebrook  
**PTA**  
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## February 16, 2012 Minutes of Board Meeting

- I. **Call to order, Media Center, Middlebrook School at 9:10 am.**
- II. **Minutes from the January 19, 2012 meeting approved.**
- III. **Principal's Report-**(Julia Harris) Good morning everyone. Thank you to science co-chairs Victoria Madden, Anne McCann, and Adrienne Cunningham for their diligent efforts with the Middlebrook Science Fair on January 31, 2012. Forty-seven students participated this year and we were quite excited about their projects. The Mad Scientist presented a fun-filled show in the new gym and everyone had a memorable evening. We are pleased that several students will represent Middlebrook at the State Fair on March 13-17. Six Middlebrook students participated in the Southwest Chapter Math Counts competition on Saturday, February 4, 2012 at Fairfield University. The Middlebrook team ranked 8<sup>th</sup> in the competition. Brandon Zheng, with an individual rank of 12, will compete in the Connecticut State Meet in March at the University of Hartford. The students pictured are from left to right: Brandon Zheng, Ravi Siripuram, Rithwik Shivram, Dave Jha, Timothy Foley, and Isabelle Koh. This weekend brought a rare opportunity for 80 Middlebrook chorus students to perform in a fundraising event for A Better Chance of Wilton. The annual "I Dream a World Concert" took place on Sunday, February 12 at 4:00 p.m. in the David F. Clune Center for the Performing Arts at Wilton High School. Our students performed five pieces with professional musicians and a chorus of students from the Brooklyn Performing Arts High School. Four of the five pieces were composed by and was conducted by highly acclaimed musician Rollo A. Dilworth. Adrienne Reedy, a renowned gospel singer and Middlebrook parent also performed. The Middlebrook chorus sang in the backup choir for one of her pieces. Student artwork was on display. It was Middlebrook art displayed. There were 6 students, two from each grade level, whose art was chosen for the cover designs. I announced the winners in the announcements last week. We should be receiving the brochures with the different covers in the next day or two from Mrs. Greenshields. (I just emailed her this morning requesting them.) About 150 students had their art work displayed and I spent two days helping her judge them. The Language Arts Department and the Media Center are pleased to announce the following winners in the art contest to design the covers for this year's summer reading list: 6<sup>th</sup> grade: Victoria Soule, 7<sup>th</sup> grade: Eve Edgerton, and 8<sup>th</sup> grade: Michele Assef.

**IV.** President's Report-(Beth Johnson) Approved Bylaws need to be resubmitted. PTSA needs to make change and then changes will be re- voted on. Received check from Turnover shop. Currently our volunteer coordinator, Sally Healy has no volunteers from Middlebrook for the Turnover Shop. The Shop has sent out a plea so if anyone is interested they can contact Maureen Bare directly at [moeb@sbcgobal.net](mailto:moeb@sbcgobal.net) as well as copying Sally Healy at [sthealy@optonline.net](mailto:sthealy@optonline.net) so we can keep track of our volunteer efforts. The Board of Education has approved a 2.39% increase to the budget for 2012-2013. There is a meeting at the Public Library on February 28, 2012 for the BOE to respond to the Board of Finance. There is a BOF meeting February 21, 2012 at Town Hall. The Drop-off area and Pick-up area car line needs to move a little faster. Please have students exit or enter before the canopy. Handbook discussion still at Council level. Fundraising for next year reported on by Bev Hermann. Next year fundraising efforts will include both direct plea letter as well as the gift wrap. The time frame will be the same, mid-October to mid- December. Will include incentives for class teams.

**V. Teacher Representative-(Rob Foley) Team news is as following:**

6 Green: The students are in the middle of their King Tut Exhibit. Students are also presenting their author expedition projects in English class by answering the question: How does an author's life affect his or her writing?

6 Yellow: Reports that their Poetry Night last Monday was a tremendous success. They are also involved in studying the mysteries of Egypt.

6 Red: Just completed their Egyptian Mythology Masks. They are up in the 6 Red hallway-please come and take a look.

7 Green: Just completed a project on earthquake preparedness.

7 Yellow: Students are performing skits in World Languages and are involves in group interactive presentations about China.

7 Red: Their team service project, "The Penny War" raised close to \$2,000 for St. Jude Children's Hospital.

8 Green: We are collecting books as part of Read Across America Week. Students are reviewing for CMT's and just completed a creative writing piece on the fictional sister of Sherlock Holmes.

8 Yellow: Just finished reading *Hiroshima* and are going to Philadelphia at the end of March.

8 Red: Has their MOCK Congress up and running where they debate issues such as the Super 7, a flat income tax, and issuing I Pads to high school freshman.

Finally, today is the school wide Three on Three Basketball Tournament.

## **VI. Officer Reports**

- a. **Vice President**- (Stacy Crameri) A final plea to parents for membership will be put in the Middlebrook Messenger after the February break. A plea will also be distributed to the staff. Still missing memberships from a few board members.
- b. **Treasurer**-(Lisa Benison/ read by Beth Johnson) Financials sent out. A check for \$4,934.42 was deposited from Coffee Pond. Science Fair receipts have not all been received. Still waiting for receipts from 7<sup>th</sup> Grade activity Night. 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Activity Night has been paid. Request made by Sibylle Kinley for \$250 for partial payment toward food provided for all the presenters at the Tec Expo on March 29, 2012. Request was approved. Motion was approved to add a budget line item of \$250 for the Tech Expo shared PTA food expenditure for the following year.

## **VII. Committee Reports:**

- a. **Wilton Youth Council**(Nancy Gany/ read by Beth Johnson) Nothing to report.
- b. **Nominating** (Michelle Doggett) Positions still open. Key positions still open are Treasurer, Secretary and Parent-at-Large. Patti Sylvia will chair Sportswear. Aileen Senneff accepted the Secretary position.
- c. **8<sup>th</sup> Grade Dinner Dance**-Meet with Julia Harris. Have a theme. Contact Jayne Sullivan if you want to help. Date is June 8<sup>th</sup>.
- d. **Science Fair**- (Victoria Madden) All receipts have been submitted. Set date with Kendra and Julia for next year. Felt the move to gym simplified the event. Request that the budget line item not be changed for next year. Printing was donated this year.
- e. **Hospitality**- (Bev Hermann) Next event is Teacher Appreciation Week. Will be the first week of May. Have events which will include breakfast, lunch, and desserts planned for Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday.
- f. **Activity Nights**- 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Fun Night ran like clockwork. Top Inclusion Model high school volunteers were fantastic and they were positive role models for all students at the event.

## **VIII. New Business- None**

## **IX. Adjournment at 10:15 am**

Respectfully submitted, Stacy Crameri, VP Membership