

McMurray Elementary PTA Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, December 11, 2012



I. Welcome and Call to Order

Melanie called the meeting to order at 9:20 a.m.

II. President's Remarks – *Melanie Hutnik, Suzanne MacKay*

Melanie welcomed everyone and started the meeting by first introducing the guest speakers.

III. Principal's Remarks – *Blair Stoehr*

Mr. Stoehr welcomed everyone and thanked the PTA for Spirit Day and Teacher Appreciation.

- The kickball games with the Door Contest Winners for Red Ribbon Week were very successful. Everyone enjoyed themselves.
- McMurray Relay for Life has raised \$1,600 to date.
- The Caring Tree provided 105 gifts to children and adults.
- Mr. Stoehr announced that No Tune Left Behind would be performing at the Library for an Anti-Bullying Campaign that is being promoted by the Police Department.
- Mrs. Miller has come up with a PTA Liaison job description. This person will be the coordinator between the PTA and the Leadership Committee.

IV. Reading and Approval of Minutes – *Amy Pugliano*

Minutes approved as written.

V. Treasurers Reading and Approval of Budget – *Lisa Argent, Krissy Rackley*

No news to report.

VI. Guest Speakers

Mr. McGough and Mr. DeFilippo – McMurray Music Teachers

- Mr. McGough and Mr. DeFilippo teach general music, chorus and instrumental.
- Today's presentation is on the General Music component. McMurray is on the cutting edge with the tools they are using to teach music. It is a challenge to teach the students when you have a variety of interest and varying degrees of musical knowledge. There are some students who are very into music and there is not enough in the curriculum. On the other side, you have students who are not as interested and a little behind in music. The use of the iPads in the music classroom gives success to both sets of students.
- Mr. McGough did a demonstration explaining how the iPads and the Garage Band App are used in class. The three areas they concentrate on are: finding centers – pulse & pitch, opposite poles – meter & scale, and balance – structure & form.
- All parents in attendance at the meeting had an iPad and headsets and were able to demo the Garage Band App as their children do in class. There were also student works which parents were able to listen.

VII. First Vice President's Report – *Christine Belfiore*

- **Holiday Parties**– In the process of planning the Holiday party agendas.
- **Yearbook** –The Yearbook committee is looking for help. If you are interested please let Christine know.
- **Membership**–Currently has 796 members.
- **Directories**– The Directories are all delivered. Thank you to all the volunteers who helped.

VIII. Second Vice President's Report – *Michele Szewczyk*

- **Easy Cash** – Please continue to send in your Box Tops. To earn extra rewards please go through the website when ordering online.
- **After School Classes** – Serena King is almost done with the planning for the Winter- Spring session. Thursday, January 24th is registration. Volunteers are needed.

IX. Third Vice President's Report –Jennifer Lopus

- **Spirit Committee** – Last month Peters H.S. Trivia was the activity. Spirit Day is the last Friday of the month. The December Spirit Day will feature a slide show from the Door Contest winners' kickball games.
- **Character Counts** – The next meeting is January 15 at the High School.

X. Fourth Vice President's Report – Peggy Daniels

- **Spelling Bee** – The first round for the 6th graders has been completed. Thank you to all the volunteers. The final round will be at the Middle School this year.

XI. Old Business

There was no old business.

XII. New Business

- There will be no January PTA meeting. We are looking into having an evening meeting in February. The guest speakers would be high school students from the Leadership Committee discussing the challenge of technology and keeping up with our kids.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:39 a.m.