

SJLES PTA Minutes  
10/11/17

Attendance: Jodi Cosgrove, Pallavi Guha, John Nichols, Pam Paramahamsan, Megan Fichter, Kelly Kendrick, Alexcia Redd, Vicky Sarro, Lisa Soto, Pamela Piegols, Swetha Emaganti, Joanne Gales, Elizabeth Van Patten, Justin Adger

John Nichols called the meeting to order at 7:04.

President's Report

- Review of PTACHC report submitted by Jeff Kendrick
  - Last 3 days of school are now ½ days
  - Board of Education is advocating for APFO
- Lisa Soto shared CAC information
  - There is concern that not enough information is going home in different languages. PTAs in the county struggle to come up with funds for translators.
  - Flyer regarding redistricting is being prepared by CAC.
  - Mrs. Sarro stated there is a need to confirm that translators are giving out appropriate information. Translators must be approved.
  - School start times decision will be made in December 2017 or January 2018 and is contingent upon redistricting.
  - A homework committee suggests that homework should be 10 minutes per subject at the elementary level.
  - HCPSS has a grant/writer job opening. This is a new position.
  - There is a need for more school counselors at the elementary level.
- Pam Paramahamsan will run the Turkey Trot. New volunteers are needed to help with the event and to shadow responsibilities for future leadership roles. There is a need to educate parents about what the Turkey Trot is.
- Families are encouraged to write Facebook reviews of our SJLES PTA Facebook page to bump up our page.

Vice President's Report

- The coat drive will run from now until October 25. A bin will be placed in the hallway to collect new and gently used coats and winter gear. The collection is geared toward children and adults.
- The Food Drive runs from October 16-25. A flyer and email blast will be sent out.
- A coordinator for the Staff Fitness Challenge is needed. This event is in April.
- Spring Walk to School Day needs a chair.
- Walking Wednesday needs more volunteers. A Sign Up Genius will be posted on Facebook.
- Dates and times of upcoming PTA meetings are:
  - 11/8 at 7:00
  - 1/10 at 3:30
  - 2/14 at 3:30
  - 4/11 at 7:00
  - 5/9 at 3:30

- May Day dates were discussed but not confirmed.

#### Treasurer's Report

- Membership drive goal was \$8,000 which was met. The membership drive is still ongoing.
- Restaurant Night at Chick-Fil-A was very successful.
- The budget is tight. Money to be spent and overages must be approved first.
- Silent Auction has a new chair. Diana Choi will be running this.

#### VP/Fundraising Report

- PTA and Mrs. Sarro are investigating the possibility of a Read-a-Thon fundraiser. The goal is to purchase color printers for each team, to purchase a laptop cart, and to give teachers grants for technology.

#### Principal's Report

- We had a nice opening to the school year.
- A frame is needed for President Trump's photograph in the Hall of Presidents. Mrs. Peddicord offered to do a picture frame.

#### Additional news

- Joanne Gales and Mrs. Kimack are taking over as Yearbook Chairs.
- Joanne would like to investigate the possibility of taking an aerial photo of 5<sup>th</sup> graders. Mrs. Sarro will ask Mrs. Newberry if we can access the roof.
- October 28 is Drug Take Back Day. Medications can be dispensed properly. "Not my Child" Seminar is available for parents. Mrs. Sarro encourages this presentation as it is never too early to begin this discussion. Marriotts Ridge High School is hosting a presentation on 10/19.
- Lisa Soto shared APFO information. BOE is asking for amendment to limit open/closed school status. Currently schools are closed at 115%. BOE would like schools to be closed at 100%.
- Parents requested more notice of PTA meetings. The possibility of flyers or email blasts was discussed.

Submitted by Kelly Kendrick