

SJLES PTA Minutes  
October 10, 2018

Attendees: P. Guha, P. Paramahamsan, K. Kendrick, K. Piggott, D. Choi, A. Baer, J. Guy, S. Alter, A. Redd, V. Sarro, V. Mandadi, N. Damida, A. Muirhead, B. Wachter, T. Scully

Meeting brought to order at 6:30 by Pam Paramahamsan.

**President's Report (Pam Paramahamsan):**

- Reminder for everyone to be respectful of other's time.
- Changes to programs were announced. Pam Paramahamsan is new PTA president. John Nichols has stepped down. Bettina Wachter is new VP of Programs. Diana Choi is new VP of Fundraising. Kristen Piggott is treasurer. Kelly Kendrick, Pallavi Guha, Jeff Kendrick, and Lisa Soto will maintain positions from last year.
- All meetings will begin and end promptly.
- Keep it positive and respect all opinions.
- Suggestions for PTA culture going forward asked for.
- Committee chairs are asked to briefly summarize reports and any additional detail can be sent through email or Facebook.
- Thank you to Pam Schickler for organizing the bus driver breakfast and Walk to School Day.
- Thank you to Kelly Hukmani for organizing the BooHoo Breakfast.
- Thank you to Allyson Jackson for organizing restaurant nights.
- Thank you to Erin Clow for organizing the Back to School Picnic
- Jodi Cosgrove has asked for more representation at Multi-Cultural Night.

**VP of Fundraising Report (Diana Choi):**

- \$9,392 has been made in membership drive and we are still pushing for more donations.
- We are waiting to get total made from Chik-Fil-A Night.

**Treasurer (Kristen Piggott):**

- \$25,000 in PTA checking account balance.
- Teachers are reminded that they \$100 to spend. A lot of teachers are not taking advantage of this.
- Team project money is \$500—amount will be confirmed. Kristen will send an email to Mrs. Sarro to confirm total.

**Communication's Secretary Report (Pallavi Guha):**

- PTA presence has grown exponentially on Facebook. Our newsletter is being opened more.
- Please share event picture on Facebook.
- Scan code on PTA bulletin board to get newsletter.

**Principal's Report (Mrs. Sarro):**

- Thank you for what the PTA has done so far this year.
- Back to School Night went nicely.
- Sometimes changes in leadership happen and we are moving forward showing care and concern.

**Assistant Principal Report (Mrs. Redd):**

- MD State Department School Climate Survey will be given. Teachers, parents and 5<sup>th</sup> grade students will be given survey.
- CoGat will be given the first or second week of December.

**PTACH Report (Lisa Soto):**

- There is a shortage of bus drivers. Please spread the word to help recruit drivers.
- There are 4 cameras with audio on every bus.
- BOE has a proposal to put cameras on exterior of busses but not approved yet.
- Completion of Family File is important to have accurate bus information.
- Random Act of Kindness Award has been announced.

**Additional Information:**

- Family Fit Night will no longer be funded by the county. The cost is \$800. Mrs. Sarro believes this is a valuable program and would like to request PTA fund this program. PTA voted in favor of funding the program.
- Susan Alter asked if PTA takes a position on BOE positions. PTA board cannot make recommendations. Lisa Soto suggested attending candidate forums.
- Diana Choi asked if there is interest in shadowing chair and board positions. Shadowing does not commit someone to a position.
- Sabrina Knickelbein has the list of volunteers.

Meeting adjourned at 6:58.