

PTSA Meeting
Proposed Minutes
October 5, 2011

Pledge of Allegiance

Welcomed the 2011-2012 school year and visitors to the meeting.

An introduction of PTSA Board and our Student Rep, Allix Coon.
Our new PTSA logo was introduced. It depicts a tree with our acronym in the tree trunk. The artist is Karen Berelowitz of Karmabee Designs.

A warm welcome was given to Mrs. Amanda Greene and Mr. Paul Finch. Mrs. Greene gave a "G Note" indicating that LAMS had a smooth and good opening. The transition for the incoming sixth graders went well. She spoke of a slow upcoming transition to automated attendance calls; ie. calls home due to absences. The 8th grade trips to the Bard Labs were great. The students enjoyed the projects and the lunch.

June Meeting Proposed minutes were approved.

Angela May gave the Treasurer's Report and Audit Report. Both were approved.
Don O'Shea from the Red Hook Library spoke briefly on the library and the future voting on the Chapter 414 Funding Proposal. There will be an \$80,000 proposed increase on the November Ballot. Information supporting his brief talk was passed out.

An event called the Trevor Project was spoken about. Matthew Morris from Bard College contacted the PTSA regarding this suicide prevention event. It will take place, Saturday, November 5, 2011 at 7:30PM at Red Hook High School. The high school and middle schools choruses are participating.

Fundraising Updates

Village Pizza Night was successful, and funds were received from Ben.

The RH Bumper Sticker fundraiser is ongoing. We will be at the last home football game at the ticket table 10/22. Get one for yourself!

A new upcoming event is December 2nd at the Elmendorph Inn. There will be a Chocolate Chip Cookie contest, and all are invited to enter.

Plan to make 100 cookies for sampling. The best cookie wins a special raffle prize.

A guest chef from CIA will demonstrate knives. PTSA is selling Rada Knives as a fundraiser.

See Betty Hannan.

New Business

The Board of Education Appreciation Breakfast will be held on Wed, Nov. 2, 2011 at The Grand Dutchess.

We would like to especially acknowledge Frank Knobloch for his service on this Board.

Red Hook's Bicentennial is coming up and being led by the friends of Red Hook Library. A writing contest based on the history of Red Hook has been proposed. There will be an event every month starting January to celebrate this occasion.

Tara Sullivan will help out with the Career Fair in April. Also taking place in the spring will be the Book Fair at Barnes and Noble, where we've been fortunate to feature the Linden Avenue and High School Jazz Bands and the High School Jazz Vocal Ensemble.

The Volunteer Fair took place in September, and went well at the High School. These events are a wonderful way to foster community relationships!!

RE: LAMS recess, it appears there are limited options, according to students, and we are exploring what we can do to provide more for them. Suggestions are to fund something like ping pong, gaming tables, etc. Mrs. Greene spoke of basketball, ping pong and knock-hockey being available in the cafeteria, and assorted balls, frisbees, basketball, kickball and the track field are available when allowed outside. Seventh and eighth graders have suggested more swings. Christine Houlihan, from the LAMS BLT, spoke of doing a survey, and gathering information which we could work with. The 6th, 7th, and 8th grade officers are invited to lead the survey effort.

Movie Date

Race to Nowhere is a ground-breaking film that we'd like to show with a follow-up panel. We are setting up a location to screen it and panelists for the post-show discussion. Save the date of Friday, Nov. 18th.

BLT/DLT concerns revolve around improving communication. Many thoughts exist on each side of the table on how to resolve concerns, i.e., teachers attending PTSA meetings, forming committees, etc. Each teacher and parent wants nothing more than for our children to be successful. Possibilities are there to ensure this happens for one and all.

We appreciate all of our BLT and DLT representatives. A new appointment is of Mary Ann Mullen to the LAMS BLT.

Mr. Finch spoke on several topics. The Administrative Offices have officially moved to Mill Road, and all are settling in nicely. Perry Sheldon, Director of School Facilities & Operations, works with Mr. Finch on the priority of safety of the students at all of the schools, and are pursuing ways to improve areas of drop-off. Science Lab renovations will be completed next summer. There will be 9 new labs ready by September 2012.

He also spoke of his trip to a seminar where other superintendents indicated Red Hook Central is their benchmark. What a great position to be in!!

Meeting Adjourned 8:21PM. Next meeting is November 9th, 2011 at our new location, HS Cafeteria.