

PTSA Meeting
Proposed Minutes
November 9, 2011

Pledge of Allegiance

Meeting called to order 7:06 PM.

October PTSA Meeting Minutes were reviewed and approved.

Treasurer's Report was given and approved. October membership was discussed, and dues reviewed (\$6 adult, \$4 student and \$10 family). We are having a banner year of members!

The Board of Education Appreciation Breakfast was held at the Grand Dutchess on November 2nd, and we heard it was enjoyed by all. Thank you to Beth Pagano, proprietor.

At our last meeting, the movie Race To Nowhere as discussed. This movie will be shown on Friday, January 20, 2012, and a snow date will be planned. The venue for this presentation will be the Rhinebeck High School Auditorium, and will be a cooperative venture between the Red Hook PTSA and the Community Coalition for Rhinebeck Youth. More info will be posted closer to the date.

Mr. Andrew Makebish, Special Ed teacher from the high school, was present and discussed a visit he took to Cortland and the playground equipment he and his daughter observed there. Options/suggestions for equipment for the LAMS playground for use during recess includes swings and a zip-line. It was discussed that LAMS Class Officers could work on this in order to proceed further. Also, polling 6th graders was an alternative. Parental feedback is of interest where LAMS parents could be asked about LAMS playground. Mr. Makebish is willing to set up a committee to pursue funds and put fundraisers into place. The plan is to move forward, and a program called "KABOOM," was suggested in order to look into securing a Playground Grant.

April will bring the Career Fair. Tara Sullivan discussed the Fair, and support has been secured from teachers and Mr. Finch. The fair will have exclusive use of the school from 2:45 PM – 6:00 PM on Friday, April 27, 2012. A commitment has been made and teachers will be encouraged to provide incentives to those students who attend and

participate. It is the hope of Emily Houpt that there are 25-30 schools and 50-100 careers/trades present at the event available to provide information to students. Refreshments will be provided; a set designer will be assigned to the event, and also a DJ. Underwriters are being sought, as well as volunteers to make up a Core Team who can brainstorm the list of careers to be represented and individuals to present them. A combined fair between LAMS and Red Hook High School is a possibility. Also, in order to make it easier for students to get home, late buses are proposed to provide transportation. If your business wants to be there, email sullivan@frontiernet.net.

A program called **"Make Every Monday Count"** has begun. The program includes charity collections, personal care collection, and a Grace Smith House book collection. November will include a shoe collecting day, and also a collection day for the SPCA. Allix Coon, our Student Rep, announced that Student Council received the Gold Council of Excellence, plans a survey to see what students like and what they do not like.

Allix Coon told us about baskets of "Red Hook Pride" being raffled off at Home Basketball games. These baskets will include products/services from Red Hook organizations, businesses, including our graphic Red Hook decal. Let us know if you have an item to add.

A new idea was brought to the table which consisted of teachers attending PTSA meetings and then informing parents of current happenings via students in the classrooms.

Comments were raised regarding communication and the district website updates. The district continues to send e-mails to students/families providing updates and to inform them of upcoming events. This email system was put into place as part of the cooperative effort for paperless as part of the 10% Challenge.

A Reminder: Friday, December 2, 2011 is Culinary Night at the Elmendorph Inn. It features the Ultimate Chocolate Chip Cookie Contest. Winners of the contest will be awarded fabulous prizes along with fame. The event is from 6:30 PM-8:00 PM. Attached you will find the information.

Our next meeting will be January 31, 2012 at 7 PM. This will include the State of the Schools Address. The meeting will take place in the 3-5 Library at Mill Road School.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 PM.