

HANOVER TOWNSHIP PUBLIC SCHOOLS

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

PTA Advisory Meeting Minutes

December 2, 2015

Attendance: V. Wolsky, A. Graepel, A. Wasserman, S. Azzarello, D. Brennan, C. Tognetti, M. Blanchfield, L. McCormick, K. Mullooly, V. Conforti, T. Ditore, R. Camean, C. Bellino, G. Margolis, D. Stark, M. Wasko, R. Mooney

1. Superintendent's Report (Robert Mooney)
 - a. Excellence in Our Schools Fall Edition – Pre-Copy handed out
 - b. District Goals
 - i. Academics
 - ii. Full Day Kindergarten
 - iii. Communications
 - c. Unannounced Security/Lockdown Drill Inspection
 - i. Went to MJS/MTV
 - ii. Faculty members pulled out to observe and debrief
 - iii. Feedback was positive overall with areas of improvement
 - iv. Feedback being reviewed now
 - v. Much of the feedback stays private so 'bad guys' can't get the info
 - vi. Review of 4 types of drills
 1. Lockdown
 2. Shelter in Place
 3. Bomb Threat
 4. Non-Fire Evacuation
2. School Updates
 - a. Bee Meadow School (Darrin Stark)
 - i. 3M donations support
 1. 3D printer
 2. Stuff for Schools (3M products)
 3. Sponsored writing with Legos starting shortly
 - ii. Caring and Sharing Holiday Giving
 - iii. Morris Museum Programs funded by PTA through March
 - iv. Holidays at My House – 4th Grade
 - v. Tricky Tray – Raffle tickets going on sale this week – April 1st
 - b. Mountview Road School (Carmen Bellino)
 - i. Holiday Bazaar – Thursday and Friday of this week
 - ii. Holiday Concerts next Thursday and Friday

- iii. Student Council –food drive with BMS donated 630 pounds of food to the Interfaith Food Pantry
 - iv. Team Walker Holiday Drive
 - v. 6 after school classes for fall wrapping up – more than 50% of students participated
 - vi. 1 hour of code next week
 - vii. Creativity Fair Kickoff (February) includes creativity in dance, art and science
 - viii. 3M Grant – 3 D printer
 - ix. The Signature Project
 - 1. Sponsored by PTA
 - 2. Series of Canvases made up of signatures
 - 3. Staff got to sign names
- c. Salem Drive School (Roberto Camean)
- i. Character Ed Fair Assembly kickoff on 12/2 – Fair will be held in April
 - ii. 3M Grant – 3D printer
 - iii. US China Environment Grant
 - 1. \$500 toward purchase of humanoid robot
 - 2. Mr. Cashen is looking for 3 more
 - iv. Salem Drive School Facebook Page pilot to begin in January
 - v. PTA Book Fair completed and fundraiser of school books for needy
 - vi. Bayer visited all 3 schools – 4th grade for Alca Rockets projects
 - vii. Winter concerts on the 17th and 18th
 - viii. Student Council Toy Drive
 - 1. Benefits the Valerie Fund
 - 2. Deliver toys at field trip
 - ix. Four after school Enrichment programs
 - 1. Spanish
 - 2. Just Play
 - 3. Arts and Crafts
 - 4. Technology
 - x. Looking at Signature Project
 - xi. 5th Grade visits Care One and Arden Courts for Caroling
- d. Memorial Junior School (Michael Wasko)
- i. Spring musical is Annie
 - 1. Auditions started on 12/1
 - 2. Changing to 2 Saturday Performances on 4/2 due to BMS Tricky Tray
 - ii. 3M Grants
 - 1. 3D printer
 - 2. Maker Space – Lego wall being constructed
 - 3. Technology Club – Advisors and Solar Event in spring
 - 4. Supplies for Schools
 - iii. Parent Portal – rolled out to all grades ahead of schedule

- iv. Alert Solutions
 - 1. E-mails with flyers very positive
 - a. BMS PTA still wants paper
 - b. SDS PTA recommends distinguishing between rec, school, PTA
 - c. SDS recommends that information be via e-mail and forms to fill out via paper
 - 2. Weather related go in text, phone and e-mail
- v. Caring and Sharing benefitted Collinsville Day Care Center and Toys for Tots
- vi. Display in Commons regarding Picatinny Arsenal History
- vii. Website has monthly calendar through January/February
- e. Special Education (Greg Margolis)
 - i. Nothing specific to report
- 3. Curriculum Updates (Aaron Wasserman)
 - a. Bayer – Making Science Make Sense – 4th Grade
 - b. Next Generation Science Standards
 - i. Grades 6-8 next year
 - ii. Very STEM focused
 - iii. Elementary will roll out following year
 - c. Power School will be rolled out to Elementary Schools for report cards
 - i. Will expand focus group in 2016
- 4. Recreation (Denise Brennan)
 - a. Masquerade at Malapardis – over 700 children
 - b. Escape from Zombieville – 96 middle schoolers
 - c. Santa Claus Comes to Town – Saturday 2-4
 - d. Healthy in Hanover – Kickoff on January 2nd 1-3 pm
 - e. Facebook Page being rolled out by January 1st
 - f. Girl's Lacrosse starting up next
- 5. BOE Updates (Salvatore Azzarello)
 - a. New member of board – Doug Petty
 - b. Retiring member of board – Nick Duva
 - c. Superintendant Search
 - i. BOE Executive Session on 12/2
 - 1. 38 completed applications
 - 2. 51 started the application process
 - 3. Will select about 10 to interview
 - 4. On track with plan for July 1st if not sooner to have new Superintendent in place

Next meeting is on 2/24 at 10:00 am in MJS Computer Lab.

Prepared by: Michelle Blanchfield, MJS PTA President