



Shamona Creek Home and School Association

Meeting Minutes

September 8, 2015

(to be approved at the next General Meeting)

Meeting started at 7:00 pm.

There were 19 people in attendance: Norma Jean Welsh, Kathryn Gute, Susan Cozad, Lena Elguindi, Gina Thelander, Megan Suhoskey, Kathleen Nine-Scott, Maria Dennin, Patty Frank, Megan Murray, Beth Fincke, Liz Dodds, Ann Durkan, Julie Batenburg, Tara Haarlander, Lisa Huffman, Kikhal Ahmed, Meredith Roddy, and Sumi Jamal.

President's Report: *Kathryn Gute (kathryn.gute@gmail.com)*

- Welcome to a new year and welcome to new attendees.
- What is Shamona Creek Home and School all about?
 1. We teach, provide a sense of community, work with Mrs. Welsh and the teachers.
 2. We fundraise to provide assemblies, grants, field trips, and family fun to name a few.
 3. We are always looking for help.

Secretary's Report: *Gina Thelander (gthelander@comcast.net)*

- Moved to approve the minutes from the May 19, 2015 General Meeting. Maria Dennin approved them, and Kathryn Gute second.
- The Committee Guide, which outlines each committee's responsibilities, needs to be updated for the next school year. A file will be sent within the next week or two to committee heads to complete after the first of the year.

Principal's Report: *Mrs. Welsh (njwelsh@dasd.org)*

- The school year is off to a great start.
- The school grounds look awesome.
- Survival kits made by the Staff Appreciation Committee were wonderful.
- There was a teachers' in-service before school began where lock down and severe weather drills were practiced in depth. (we are very proactive.)
- All staff are reading the book, Habits of Mind, which discusses the 14 habits of mind to be successful in life. We will be incorporating a lot of these habits throughout the school year.
- Back to School Nights were great.
- On the first day of school, all buses were gone by 3:55PM.
- Had a welcome assembly on the first day.
- 5th Grade just started broadcasting the morning announcements. They now tape them the day before.
- Mrs. Welsh usually sends email blasts every 1-1 ½ weeks.
- PSSA scores dipped because there were new tests and the state did not provide examples.
 1. Shamona Creek was 2nd in the district in writing.
 2. Shamona Creek was 4th in the district in math.
 3. Shamona Creek was 2nd in the district in science.
- Staff is doing a great job.
- Parents have access to all that the staff does.

Vice President's Report: *Susan Cozad* (cozad444@gmail.com)

- Attended the Joint Home and School meeting today which focused on the requirements to be a volunteer:
 1. Child Abuse Clearance (now free and good for 5 years)
 2. PA Criminal Background (now free and good for 5 years)
 3. Proof of TB test
 4. 916 Volunteer Disclosure Form (due annually)
 5. Federal Criminal Background check (for those who have lived in PA less than 10 years)
- All Committee Heads need to refer to Committee Guide to plan events.
- Homeroom Parents need to refer to guide for the school policies, food policies, and teacher information sheet.
- By laws are in the guide, too.

Treasurer's Report: *Lena Elguindi* (lenguindi@gmail.com)

- Review of the 2014-2015 year end.
- Our budgeted income was \$27,208 and the actual was \$37,464.
- Family donations, Pizza Bingo, Target rewards, and the Spring Fair were all big drivers in increasing the income.
- We spent \$23,607 but budgeted to spend \$27,987.
- For the 2015-2016 school year, we have a bit of a cushion so we can increase a few things.
- Boosterthon and Pizza Bingo are conservatively budgeted.
- Spring Fair is budgeted for less because we don't want to focus so much on ticket sales but rather increase food sales by having better selections.
- Beautification needs to power wash the patio and plant perennials in the patio area.
- Increase the field trip expense to help more with the cost of them.
- Increase the grants back to the level it's been in years past.
- Grant Requests:
 1. Savastio and Harris: carpeting and a mat for \$100
 2. Czap: document camera for \$700
 3. Moore: mailboxes for \$150
 4. Czap: rug for \$200
- Homeroom money will be brought back up to where it was and also offer encore and other teachers the same amount.
- Increase scholarships to \$500 for each high school.
- Budget approval meeting in October.

Committee Reports:

- **Family Fun:**
 1. Food Truck Social – *Megan Suhoskey* (megansuhoskey@verizon.net)
 - Rescheduled for September 16 due to impending weather.
 - Need tables for H&S to register people for the directory, Target, and Giant.
- **EZ Money:** *Lena Elguindi* (lenguindi@gmail.com)
 1. Need to register people for Amazon and Giant.
- **Beautification:** *Patty Frank* (wildricepatty@gmail.com)
 1. Need more help with the weeding and the planting.
- **Safe Homes:** *Tara Haarlander* (tmmhaarlander@gmail.com)
 1. Building a bigger team.
 2. This year will focus on mental health, anxiety, bullying, and getting enough sleep.
 3. October 13 is a parent discussion night on How to Moderate Stress with Kids.
- **Wednesday Folders:** *Kathleen Nine-Scott* (kathleenm9@hotmail.com)
 1. Need help on Tuesdays to stuff the folders for probably only a few weeks.

Old/New Business:

- October 1st is picture day.
- Working on dates for the Barnes and Noble Book Fair and Science Fair.