

# New Monmouth PTA

## General Meeting Minutes

September 15, 2009

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Meeting was called to order by Doris Finn & Kyle Robbins at 7:41 p.m.

### **Recording Secretary (Karen Golembieski)**

I apologize for any names that may have been misspelled in this report. I promise I will get better. The minutes were passed out from June 9, 2009 and accepted for file by Heather Neubacher and Jen Rozzo.

### **Treasurer's Report (Dorothy Pepi)**

Detailed report showing every individual transaction will no longer be handed out. Dorothy will always have these reports with her at PTA meetings if anyone has any questions. The report was read and accepted for file by Jan Henar and Sally Hennessy.

### **President's report (Doris Finn & Kyle Robbins)**

Thank you for such a huge turnout – we hope this will continue throughout the remainder of the year. PTA meetings having this kind of attendance are important for feedback on what is going on in our school as well as for sharing new ideas. Doris spoke about the budget for this year and it was accepted for file by Jan Henar and Kathy Faaland. Back to School Night the PTA will be handing packets to each family which will contain a form for PTA membership, ordering the School Directory, and adding your name to our email list. It will also have the Committee Volunteer sheet, the calendar and information on our fundraising programs. Stop by our PTA table to pick it up. We will be doing a monthly reminder memo each month this year in order to inform families of the following month's upcoming events. All forms necessary for various things going on in the school will now be found on the website in order to support New Monmouth's effort to "go green". There will always be copies of these forms in the office as well for anyone who needs them.

### **1st Vice President (Barbara DePalo)**

Genevieve books went out this week and are due back on the September 29. You can also go on-line to preview the catalog and order. School Sense Monmouth Mall program still ongoing, it ends December 10. A&E Clothing Drive is October 6 – drop off at school garage until 4PM. Pace Butler is an all year fundraiser in which we earn money for any old cell phones we collect. Drop off boxes in front of office. KidStuff Books will be sold October 12 - 20. "Dining to Donate" at TGI Friday's will take place October 13, 14 and 15. Flyer will be posted in website. Stop & Shop A+ Bonus Buck program will run October 9, 2009 – March 25, 2010. Website will have information on how to register or can register with Barbara at PTA meetings. School Spirit Day at Monmouth Mall on October 3, (10am-6pm) – need volunteers to man table at which we will be selling our KidStuff books. Please call or email Barbara if you wish to help out. "Shop to Earn" presentation by Chris Martin - this is an online shopping fundraiser that runs all year. More detailed paperwork will be in Back to School Night PTA packets and Chris will be there that night to answer any questions as well.

### **2nd Vice President (Patty Martinsen)**

Class parent forms went out this week and are due back September 23. There is a separate Class Parent form for the 5<sup>th</sup> grade parents. We still need committee chair people for a few committees such as Library, Celebrity Readers, Six Hour Reading program, and Budget Awareness. Forms will be going out in the PTA packets at Back to School Night. Please volunteer if you can. Class Parent/Committee Chairperson/5<sup>th</sup> Grade Class Parent Tea, originally scheduled for October 6, may be changed to a different date and may be held in the public library. A notice will be sent home to inform anyone involved. Jodi Frunzi volunteered to do Hospitality. Maria Gruspier volunteered to do Bottlecappers. Chris MacKay volunteered to take over The Daily Whale and Colleen Procyk offered to help her.

## **Corresponding Secretary (Maria Gruspier)**

**Sympathy cards to:** Gina Cavanaugh, Mary Falcone and Chris MacKay on their losses.

**Thank You cards sent to:** Super Foodtown for the water donated for Fun Day and Bayshore Middle School for the T-shirts for 5<sup>th</sup> graders who graduated and will go to Bayshore.

**Thank You received** from Mrs. Marzouk for Teacher's Back to School Breakfast.

## **Principal's Report**

Hello and welcome to all of our new parents this year. Thank you to the PTA for helping out in the parking lot. It really made the first week back to school run a little more smoothly.

Back to School night is Thursday, September 24. The nurses will be speaking about the swine flu as well as handing out pamphlets on preventative measures. The school has already taken a more intense approach to cleaning the school.

There have been some big changes in our school this year. Fifteen years worth of lacquer was removed from gym floor and refinished. We now have 535 students. We usually start school with 470-480 students. So space is at a minimum. We now have 3 full day Kindergarten classes in our school and 3 AM and 3 PM preschool 5-day programs. The computer lab is now located in the annex of the library and the Art room is now in Open Space.

There will be an emphasis on "social responsibility" throughout the school year starting with the food drive that was conducted during the month of September. During October the school will be collecting toothbrushes that will be donated to "Holiday Express".

New Monmouth will be "going green". All necessary forms and memos will posted on our school website. Please bookmark our school website for easy access. Extras will always be available in the office for anyone who needs them. The plan is to have a once a week memo that will go out giving everyone a "heads up" to any upcoming events for the following week.

The nurse will be sending out special letters of caution to parents whose children may be in class with any child that has peanut/tree nut allergies in order to better inform them of the severity of the allergy.

Single Accountability Database is a large database that has all information for every student for all their years in school included in it. Acts like an electronic filing system.

Two new technologies in school this year: ASOP – an attendance management system for staff - it automatically assigns substitutes when necessary, and POWER SCHOOL – a student database that tracks their attendance, health information, emergency contact information, etc.

New Monmouth Road situation: construction towards St. Mary's should be done November due to electrical work, flashing light school signs will be replaced in next two weeks with solar powered lights, the Facilities and Business Administration has been contacted regarding the traffic flow changes on New Monmouth Road, and there is a discussion about having the crossing guard at the school being a traffic control trained crossing guard in order to help with the traffic flow. If Mrs. Chadwick has not heard anything by Back to School Night about the crossing guard situation, the PTA will have a petition to be signed in order to get the administration's attention.

Parking Lot: parent volunteers to help with parking lot are welcome, in order to help with the traffic flow please don't get out of cars, don't watch children go into building, pull up at drop off points so more cars can be letting children out at once, let kids walk, carpool, and in the interest of safety do not let children out on New Monmouth Road. If parents enter the campus by 8:40am there should be plenty of time for drop off any earlier is causing problems with staff parking.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **PIC**

The meeting was mostly about the expanded Preschool and Kindergarten program. The number of Kindergarten classrooms in the district has gone from 12 to 37. Five elementary schools have computers on carts now because of this expansion. The district broadcast is now on Ch. 26 on FIOS. Summer Reading Program notices will go out earlier next year.

### **Genevieve's**

Books went out this week and orders are due on September 29. Pick up will be October 27.

### **Market Day**

Information will be handed out at Back to School night. These forms will still come home in children's folders. There is a link on our school website for Market Day if anyone wishes to order online.

**Great Race**

The date this year is Saturday, October 24 at Middletown North High School. Forms will be in the PTA packets at Back to School Night and are due in October 6. Please think about it and join us. Heather Neubacher volunteered to take over for Kyle next year.

**Book Fair**

Preview night on Back to School Night. Sale runs September 24 – 30. We are in need of volunteers.

**School Spirit**

Samples will be out on Back to School Night so you can see the sizes and pick what you want to order. There will be only one sale for the year so make sure you order what you need now!

**Website**

Our website is up to date. Forms are being added as they come in. Chris will create a “Fundraising” page for easy access to all of this information. Joann Giamundo volunteered to help with the website.

**School Directory**

This is an easy way to communicate during the school year. It only costs \$5.00 and is a very helpful tool to have at hand at home! Order forms will be in PTA packets at Back to School Night.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**NEW BUSINESS**

**The meeting was adjourned at 9:30pm.**