

**Thompson Middle School**  
**PFA Meeting**  
**January 11, 2016**

**Call to order:** 9:20 am

**Welcome**

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Principal's report**

- Mr. Kirkpatrick announced the students of the month. He read a very nice biography of the student, presented them with a plaque and photos were taken. The students of the month respectively are:

**December 2015**

6<sup>th</sup> grade – Isabella Marino

7<sup>th</sup> grade – Benjamin Knobloch

8<sup>th</sup> grade – Elias Dimarhos

**January 2016**

6<sup>th</sup> grade – Jake Williamson

7<sup>th</sup> grade – Cree Ossner

8<sup>th</sup> grade – Marina Uliano

- **Heating issues** on January 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> 2016 were caused by a power outage over the winter break. The power outage caused the pumps to shut off. When the pumps were turned back on, sludge had formed in the pipes that needed to be worked through before heat could be delivered through the system. Monday the building wasn't too cold. On Tuesday morning any room that was below 60 degrees was relocated. By Tuesday afternoon the building was comfortable.

-**Traffic Issues** have been addressed by adding the crossing guard and a second lane for drop off. Students being dropped off in the second lane must use the cross walk and get out on the passenger side. Mr. Kirkpatrick has been meeting with police and traffic director on a regular basis to solve traffic issues.

<b>PARCC Dates-</b>	Language Arts	4/20-4/22
	Math	4/25-4/27

Last year's PARCC data will be presented at the February meeting.

Tech working to ensure PARCC will run smoothly with over 1,000 children taking the exam. 8<sup>th</sup> grade science will be administered through NJ ASK.

**Security on weekends-** doors will now be locked at all times. Groups meeting during the weekend will be responsible to man the doors.

## **Security presentation by John McGuire**

Columbine H.S. massacre video

We are surrounded by unprovoked violence, terrorism, radicalism and media covering these atrocities. 1st documented act of violence in a school recorded in 1928. Since 1966 over 1,000 acts of violence in American schools. We need to train children what to do in case of this kind of emergency.

**Types of Threats-** known assailant, domestic violence incidence, lone wolf attack, international and domestic terrorism

Every Middletown school administration works directly with the Middletown Police Department concerning training and drills. Drills have increased in difficulty over the past few years. Drills are unannounced; play like you practice theory. Parents are informed “after” drill. Talk to your children about the drills.

No location is immune. It can happen in Middletown. Eliminate denial, develop a critical event mind set, increase level of preparedness, use practice and peer review, step outside the drill mindset and incorporate other things during the drill. For example, during a lock down drill fire alarm goes off, what do you do?

### **Causes of violence**

Overexposure to violence, desensitized

Mental illness

Terrorism

Political instability

Every student will be trained for every event, small or large

Game plans have been established to decrease panic and increase effectiveness in a crisis.

Program in all of your family member’s phones 911 and the Middletown Police Department number 732.615.2100.

If confronted, fight with anything you have, flee by any means, over power the terrorist (strength in numbers), create sensory overload.

### **Types of emergencies:**

Lockdown

Shelter in Place

Evacuation

Swatting – is a false report of violence or danger used to cause disruption and turmoil. Usually quickly identified.

**Parents** – follow visitor procedures

See something, say something

Be aware

Mentally practice

If you are in the building during a drill or an emergency, assist staff

Talk to your children about a plan in case of emergency

[www.NIXLE.com](http://www.NIXLE.com) – police department emergency text notification system

Discussion concerning the weekend use of the building. Parents VERY concerned that anyone can walk into the building and go anywhere in the building. Procedures need to be implemented to ensure safety of everyone in the building. This concern needs to be addressed again possibly at a Board of Education meeting.

*The meeting was adjourned before the board presented their December and January reports. At the February meeting, December, January and February reports will be presented.*

**Treasurer's report**

**Corresponding Secretary**

**President/Vice President reports**

**Next meeting February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2016 @ 7:00 pm**

**Meeting Adjourned – 11:05 am**

**Dates to remember:**

2/08/16	PFA Meeting 7:00 pm
2/10/16	Early Dismissal
2/15/16	School closed
2/18/16	5 <sup>TH</sup> Grade Open House
2/19/16	School Dance