

## **DELAWARE MILITARY ACADEMY PTA MINUTES**

**October 18, 2018**

*For a list of meeting attendees, see sign-in sheet on file with PTA secretary*

### **Call-to-Order and Opening Remarks**

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Tatiana Rice, PTA president, brought the meeting to order at 6:31 PM.

### **Commandant Pullella's Comments**

Open House is scheduled for October 27<sup>th</sup>. It will be the same set up as last year. DMA cadets and families are encouraged to share the date on social media.

Veteran's Breakfast is scheduled for November 9<sup>th</sup>.

Construction on the stadium will begin on April 1, 2019. Targeted completion is August 2019.

The DMA Admissions Policy is being discussed with Red Clay, as district administration has questioned our interview process.

Open Enrollment begins November 5<sup>th</sup>.

College Application Week starts next Monday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>, and is being organized by Mrs. Certesio.

Red Clay board members visited DMA last week and enjoyed touring the school and meeting cadets.

DMA Board meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>. Commandant Pullella encourages all who are interested to attend. Meetings are held the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of every month.

Chief Craig is the first nominee for the "Spotlight on Staff."

Spirit Week went well. Thank you to all those who helped to organize the week's events.

Parent-Teacher Conferences were held in early October.

PSATs for 9<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> graders were administered on October 10<sup>th</sup>.

DMA 5K scheduled for October 20<sup>th</sup> is looking for more participation.

Open discussion topics included SNAP fundraisers and DMA's Code of Conduct.

## **Debra Certesio, Dean of Cadets     Title 1 Report**

Title 1 is a school-wide, federally- funded program to help cadets who are struggling with academics, unstable homes, poverty, etc.

Approximately \$16,000 is spent on math and science tutoring, small-group instruction, updating equipment in labs, "TurnItIn.com", online SAT prep courses and the NY Times online newspaper.

Additionally, \$1200 is earmarked to pay for homecoming and prom tickets, miscellaneous uniform items, sports fees and transportation for DMA cadets who do not have stable homes.

Parents and cadets are strongly encouraged to speak with Mrs. Certesio or a teacher or staff member if they are aware of a cadet in need. Discussion will be confidential.

## **PTA Officer and Committee Reports**

Tatiana Rice presented September's meeting minutes for review. Motion was passed and minutes were approved.

**Erin Battista, PTA treasurer, presented the Treasurer's report.**

**Cindy Ferry, PTA executive vice president, had no report.**

**Stacy Broomall, PTA vice president of communication, is familiarizing herself with the PTA website.**

**Activities Committee:** Kathy Bleacher had no report.

**Fundraising Committee:** Amy Kalafut, committee co-chair, shared details of the Designer Bag Bingo event scheduled for March 23, 2019. The event will be held at DMA and we will need donations of snacks and drinks.

Friday lunches are going well, though pizza sales are fluctuating. Dom's has been very responsive.

**Hospitality:** Anne Keunnen reported that we are set for Open House with plenty of volunteers and donations of snacks and drinks. Anne will chair the Veteran's Breakfast next year, so she is looking for someone to take on the hospitality committee.

**Membership:** Michele Kipp reported that PTA membership is at 225. You can print your membership card from the PTA Membership Hub.

**Military Support:** co-chair Jenn Probanz shared details of the upcoming Turkey Drive and Veteran's Day Breakfast.

A Sign-Up Genius will be sent out for Turkey Drive. Monetary donations can be pledged through Cheddar Up.

November 7<sup>th</sup> is the cadet dress down fundraiser. Donation is \$5.00. Looking for parent volunteers to sell tickets at lunches on November 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> and on the morning of November 7<sup>th</sup>. Erin Battista will be there all three days.

Bacchetti Brothers will be catering the Veteran's Breakfast. The contract has been signed. Dominic Papa has generously donated \$3000 to fund the event.

After the PTA meeting on November 15<sup>th</sup>, we will sort and pack meals.

**Reflections:** Marylee Dichiara has met with Christina Welch to discuss ways to increase participation in the Reflections contest. This year's theme is "Heroes Around Me" and the deadline is December 31<sup>st</sup>. Amy Kalafut will check to see if we can use the Red Clay print shop to print promotional posters and flyers.

**Staff Appreciation** is in need of a chairperson.

### **New Business**

Kelsi Lussier, student body president, discussed the success of Spirit Week and Homecoming.

Tatiana Rice let everyone know that the state PTA has open positions and asked those interested to check out the state PTA website.

PTA meeting minutes will be emailed to attendees.

Next month's PTA meeting is scheduled for Thursday, November 15, 2018 at 6:30 PM.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:42 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Maryellen Charno