

Delaware Military Academy PTA Minutes

October 26, 2017

Attendees: See sign in sheet.

Call to Order and Opening Remarks:

- Tatiana Rice brought the meeting to order at 6:30pm with pledge of allegiance and a moment of silence.
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Title 1 Review:

- Debra Certesio, Dean of Cadets presented the Title 1 Review. Title 1 is a national program, we have been awarded a \$17,000 grant. Those monies are used to assist at-risk students with supplies, tutoring, sports fees (first time ever), uniforms, calculators, etc. At-risk students are designated as those at poverty level or homeless. Homelessness has a broad definition - students that are living in a shelter, with a relative, in foster care, on the couch of a friend or relative, etc. We have about 4 students this year that qualify as homeless. Because of the demographics of DMA we have been given a waiver and those funds can be used across the school to provide certain things (i.e. Tutoring for Math, English and Science, Turn-It-In software, and an SAT Prep course). All parents have a right to input and to be involved.

Secretary:

- Denise Carr, Secretary, was absent. Tatiana Rice provided the September 2017 meeting minutes. Kathy Bleacher with the 1st motion and Debbie Geist with the 2nd motion approved the minutes with no edits.

Treasurer's Report:

- David Rice, Outgoing-Treasurer, presented the financial activity report for Fiscal Year to date. He also presented a budget proposal for the 2017-2018 Fiscal Year.
- Discussion ensued regarding a request from Facilities Maintenance for a snow removal machine in the amount of \$3000. Line item amounts were reviewed and it was suggested that funds that had been allotted to the Veterans Breakfast (\$2800) be re-allocated to Administrative Fees: Miscellaneous to cover this request as the Breakfast has been sponsored by Dominic Pappa who will pick up the tab.
- Kathy Bleacher with the 1st motion and Maryellen Charno with the 2nd to approve the proposed 2017-2018 budget with the aforementioned adjustment. Motion carried, and budget was approved.

Committee Activity Updates:

☐ Activities Committee - Committee Chair Kathy Bleacher reported:

- Next event for the Activities Committee is the Dining-In. The PTA provides the cake and the volunteers needed. Anyone interested in helping let Kathy know.

☐ Fundraising Committee - Friday Lunch - Cami Pisklak reported for Committee Chair Maria Gedney:

- Friday Lunch is going well. Students has resigned themselves to reality of pizza every Friday.

☐ Hospitality Committee - Committee Chair Debbie Riley Geist reported:

- Hospitality Committee has provided refreshments for three events already this year (Back to School Night, 1st PTA Meeting, and Service Academy night).
- Debbie is ready for the Open House this coming Saturday morning. We have plenty of volunteers and the SignUp genius is almost completely full. Debbie has purchased the items not claimed.

☐ Membership Committee - Committee Chair Tina Duffy reported:

- Membership drive went very well in September with 185 memberships recorded. We have only had 5 additional memberships in October. The sophomore class has had a tremendous turnout. Tina is waiting on an electronic version of the student roster to use to make targeted fliers. Tatiana said she would follow-up with Admin to see if she can get the roster sent.
- Tina is considering re-wording the form for these targeted families that they will be included in a drawing for a gift card to shop at either the Sports Boosters or the Music Associations Spirit Wear Sales to generate more participation. This was also done last year.

- We have 28 staff memberships which is roughly half of the staff members - Tina will be sending out reminders to those staff members who have not signed up.
 - Other ideas as to how to get memberships were discussed - many of which require Admin approval. Tatiana will discuss ideas with Commandant.
- Military Support Committee - Brad Bacci, Veteran's Breakfast Committee Chair and Jenn Pobanz, Turkey Drive Committee Chair reported, Brad Bacci and for Turkey Drive Committee Chair, Jenn Pobanz:
- Veteran's Breakfast - Brad was absent - Cami Pisklak reported that everything is set. The date of the Breakfast is Thursday, November 10th. The SignUp genius for volunteers needed for setup on the Wednesday evening before the Breakfast and for the Breakfast (November 9th) will go out Friday, October 28.
 - Turkey Drive - the date is Friday, November 17th. Tickets for the school-wide dress down day will be sold November 6th to November 10th at lunch - there is no school on the 10th. The cost of the dress-down day is \$5. We raised the bulk of our money last year from this effort. The dress down day will be held on Monday, November 13th - hoping to get a remind notice out on the Sunday before to remind the cadets of the dress-down. Announcements will be read during the week of ticket sales. The SignUp genius for volunteers and turkey donations as well as the link to the CheddarUp for monetary donations will go out in the emailed newsletter tomorrow. Special thanks to the NSI's for pushing the students to participate last year - we look forward to their help again this year.
- Prom Support Committee - Committee Chair Dawn Riley:
- Dawn was absent - No report at this time
- Reflections Committee:
- This committee is vacant. Anyone wishing to Chair this committee please see Tatiana Rice. Reflections is a National PTA contest promoting the arts. It is a very easy committee to run - almost everything can be done at home.
- Staff Appreciation Committee - Committee Chair Debbie Brown:
- Debbie was absent. Tatiana Rice reported that Debbie provided a Trail-Mix Bar for the staff last week as a morale booster - it was well received. Cami Pisklak reported that the Thanksgiving luncheon has been planned. It will be held on Friday, November 17th with Chick-fil-A. The SignUp genius for donations and a volunteer helper will go out tomorrow in the newsletter.

Old Business:

- None

New Business:

- Maintenance Request: - discussed during Treasurer's report
- Winter Dance Date Change - Student Government has asked to switch the date of the Winter Dance from January to February 16. It was pointed out that this is a 4-day weekend with no school on that Friday or Monday. Tatiana will follow-up with Commandant to determine if this is ok and, if not, will work with Student Government to come up with an alternate date.

Announcements/Reminders:

- Ribbon cutting ceremony for Dome will be Thursday, October 26th at 12pm. It was a lovely ceremony - thanks to all who could be there.
- Next meeting will be held on Thursday, November 16 at 6:30 in the Mess Hall - no meeting in December

Tatiana Rice closed the meeting at 7:200 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Delaware Military Academy PTA Secretary