

Delaware Military Academy PTA Meeting Minutes

Thursday, August 15, 2024

Attendees: See Secretary for the sign in sheet

Call to order 6:30- Jen Avery (President)

Jen Avery introduced herself and the other board members (Sue Cressman, Renee Hafer, and Kristin Hainsworth). Lee Sobocinski was absent.

-It was discussed that all are welcome to give input into the discussions and we welcome new ideas.

Commandant's Report

Dan Newcott discussed how he is excited to be at DMA. Parents play a huge role in the success of a school. He commented that the Boot Camp Picnic during the summer was great.

Dan Newcott reported that DMA has bought the Raptor System to ensure that people that come in are able to volunteer. This takes the place of background checks. With the Raptor System a person's driver's license is scanned in the system and checked through databases. This is in place during the school day. You don't need to do this for after school events.

Secretary

Sue Cressman read the minutes from the previous meeting, May 16, 2024. Minutes were approved by Renee Hafer and seconded by Hilay Raptis.

Treasurer's Report

(To see the full report go to the DMA PTA website. For other additional information contact the Treasurer.)

Renee Hafer went over some of the background information for new members to know.

-Each year the PTA pays an outside auditor to check the books.

-Our main fundraiser is the Friday Lunch. Last year we were at a loss of about \$5,000. We pay for the lunch of students whose families need financial support in this area.

-We didn't spend as much on Boot Camp this year since we had good snacks left over from the end of the year picnic. Next year we will need to budget more.

Motion to approve the budget- Kristin Hainsworth and seconded by Hilary Raptis

VP Presidents Report- No Report by Sue Cressman

VP Communications Report

Kristin Hainsworth reported that the PTA website is updated with the lunch menu and names.

Facebook is also updated. Signups and news will be posted on the Band App as well as Facebook.

Committee Reports:

Activities Committee- Erin Marina (on line) said that Boot Camp was a success and many freshman parents wanted to volunteer. Next up is Dining In Dining Out.

Friday Lunch- Cynthia Mistretta is new so Jen Avery will meet with her later to help transition the information. This is our biggest fundraiser. We are a Title 1 School as well as a Charter School. Deb Certesio will talk about this at 6:00 before the 6:30 PTA meeting on September 19, 2024.

-Renee Hafer reported that PTA covers the free lunches that students need since DMA doesn't get government assistance. Around 197 Cadets were eligible last year. This amounted to 1,450 free lunches with a cost to PTA of \$3,920. It is projected that we may have 200 students needing free lunch this year. Volunteers are always needed to help serve the students.

Hospitality- Hilary Raptis explained that most events no volunteers are needed. She may need help if she has a conflict. Some donations will be needed but most snacks and/or cake are bought using PTA money. The first event will be the Back to School Night on August 28th 5:00-7:00. There will be several events towards the end of September.

Membership- Daniele Wenzel (New and not at the meeting.) We will work on increasing membership during the back to school night.

It was noted that we currently have 25 PTA members as of the meeting. Normally we have 100% of teachers join.

Military Support- Ashley Hitzig and Chris Clawson are new this year. They are a Gold Star Family. Capt Dan Bates is the Senior NSI this year.

Staff Appreciation- Stacey Chakwin was online

The first event is the Back to School Luncheon, Thursday, August 29th.

Old Business- None

New Business- School Board Meeting is Monday, September 23, 2024. All are welcome to attend. Last Friday of the month Cadets are able to wear Spirit Wear. New ideas welcome for fundraising. There used to be a Chair position and this may be brought back.

Motion to Adjourn 7:43PM

Renee Hafer first

Kristin Hainsworth second