

Minutes TEMS PTO Meeting: February 4, 2009

Submitted by Gigi Miller

Attendance: Mark Cataldi, Karen Consalo, Gretchen Guttman, Johanne LaMarche, Mary Beth Panaro, Gail McCarthy, Gigi Miller, Nicole Roy, Ayuko Siegel

Gretchen Guttman opened the meeting and the following was covered:

Speaker – Nicole Roy, Special Education Supervisor – gave a presentation on some basic facts and figures related to the field of Special Education (Chapter 14 of PA Code). This included some historical information on the development of special education, types of support, as well as, some statistics on the growth in number of students requiring services in the TE District.

Mark Cataldi, Principal TEMS, reported on several items.

- The adjusted school calendar reflecting the snow day is posted on the district website. The last day will now be June 22<sup>nd</sup>, this includes 8<sup>th</sup> grade graduation.
- The student/faculty basketball game fund raiser will be held February 27<sup>th</sup>. As this is a popular event, ticket preference first goes to 8<sup>th</sup> graders, then to 7<sup>th</sup> and then the rest of the students.
- The world language program K -12 is being reviewed by consultants. A query was raised on whether the mid-year assessment should be graded and reported to students and parents.
- As part of the district goals, the Middle School program is being reviewed this year and likely into next.
- Spring Sports practice begins on March 16<sup>th</sup>, paperwork due same day.
- 5<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade PSSAs writing portion will occur the week of February 9<sup>th</sup>.
- The National Assessment of Educational Progress has selected TEMS 8<sup>th</sup> graders to be evaluated on progress in Math, Reading and Science. 90 students were randomly selected to participate and parents have been notified.
- TEMS has a new school sign, a gift from last year's graduating 8<sup>th</sup> graders.
- Parent Conferences this spring will be held March 5<sup>th</sup>.

Ayuko Siegel provided the Treasurer's Report and Audit Results. There is a negative cash flow for January, year to date were are above budget with a profit of over \$4,000. An audit was conducted resulting in a few recommendations which will be followed. If you would like the full results, contact Ayuko.

**School/Community Related Topics.** Gail McCarthy reported on Cultural Arts: Ropeworks will be coming for a 1 ½ day in house program including, two assemblies and smaller workshops on May 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup>. There is a possibility to partner with the

American Heart Association on their program "Jump for Heart". Tony Vacca will return for a 1 day program on 11/6/2009 with assemblies and working with the Jazz Bands.

The Valentine's Day Dance is Friday 2/20 7 – 9:30. All chaperones have been obtained.

Main Line Camp Fair snow date was 2/4 at Conestoga.

The Martin Luther King Jr. Day Casserole Project was a success with 201 casseroles provided (vs. 190 last year).

Fundraising activities.

- Johanne Lamarche and Karen Consalo reported on the Parent Social to be held Saturday, 2/7 @ Waynesborough Country Club. There are 94 attendees so far and over \$1,200 in donations. A new and once in a Lifetime item was donated: A 4 person tour of Washington DC including dining in the Senators only dining room.
- Spirit Wear: One more order this Spring
- Bowling Party: March 6<sup>th</sup> 12:00 – 2:00 pm

Rep Reports:

- BUILD: Currently being revamped.
- TE Board of School Directors: Full details are available on the TE District Website. Some key information for TEMS include: The changes in the economy has caused some changes in the revenue streams for the district. As a result some projects were evaluated, including the TEMS parking lot addition. At this point some or part of that project is on hold. Delvin Dinkins provided a proposal for electronic learning which involved partnering with Virtual High School and Apex Learning.
- ARCH – next meeting 2/25 with Speaker Julie Faude on "The Price of Privilege"
- ISC-Meeting tonight 2/4 at Conestoga High School-World Language Focus group.

General PTO Business:

- There is an effort to go more Green with the Bulldog Barks, with a goal of getting everyone with a computer to get the newsletter online only.
- There are open positions on the PTO for the 2009/2010 school year. If interested in positions, contact Karen Consalo.