

## September 18, 2018 - Stratford Road PTA Minutes

Meeting was called to order by SR co-president Sara Bodeker at 9:34am. 39 members were in attendance.

The new Stratford Road PTA board was introduced.

### **PRINCIPAL'S REPORT (Dr. Clark):**

- Welcome. We've had a lot of new families coming into the community this year. We currently have 540 children at Stratford Road.
- Thank you for the Welcome Back breakfast and gifts (squeeze ball and mints).
- Some renovation projects were put off due to Camp Apollo being at Stratford Road this summer. The auditorium was completed (except for air conditioning, which is expected spring 2020). We also received camera upgrades. We are in the process of getting a new elevator. Stratford Road's windows will be replaced. (It was determined that Stratford Road is not officially considered an historical building.)
- On the second day of school, we had a "Welcome Back" assembly, lasting 15 minutes. We reviewed our school-wide signal for paying attention, and we sang the Stratford Road song.
- The following day, Mrs. Winters held a "SOARing to Success" assembly to address the Code of Conduct and reviewing expectations and responsibilities.
- We hope you enjoyed our Back-to-School Night meetings. As always, if you have questions, please direct them to your teacher first. A Chain of Communication protocol is listed in our district calendar if you're unsure of where to go first.

### **GUIDANCE (Laurie Lynn/Director of Guidance & Stephanie Zeidner/Elementary School Guidance Counselor):**

- Ms. Zeidner is shared between all four district elementary schools and will be at Stratford Road Mondays and Fridays. She is focused on growing social emotional learning.
- Her first program will be "Start with Hello" September 24<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup>. We'll explore tools to identify children who are alone. There will be an activity each day. A letter will be coming home this week.

### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT (Sara Bodeker):**

PTA is an adjunct at Stratford Road. The money earned by PTA fundraisers, such as book fairs and holiday boutique, goes toward cultural arts assemblies that are brought into school, such as 4<sup>th</sup> grade Native American experience, anti-bullying assembly and grade nights out.

### **Motions:**

- A Vote of Confidence was voted on and approved to allow Sara Bodeker and Melody Sherman to ask questions and address issues not previously discussed at PTA meetings on behalf of the SR PTA. (First and second motions made by Julie Shishko and Marisa Pammer.)
- A vote was taken and approved to allow expenditures of up to \$100 without member approval. (First and second motions made by Cheryl Stern and Aliza Greenberg.)
- June minutes were voted on and approved. (First and second motions were made by Marisa Pammer and Jaime Landes.)
- The 2018-2019 budget was voted on and approved. (First and second motions were made by Julie Shishko and Marisa Pammer.) Note that there was a change to the cultural arts budget versus last year to include a larger PTA expenditure (versus BOCES). It is unclear yet whether we will need the additional funds.

### **Social Media:**

- We will be posting pictures of our children on our official Facebook page. You will need to opt out if you do not want your child's photo used.
- Please be respectful on social media.

## Calendar

- Due to district scheduling conflicts we were unable to book half our meetings in the evenings. We did our best to include as many evening meetings as possible.
- There will be a POB Community Forum on October 16 to discuss possible rezoning at the JFK High School cafeteria. Mr. Donarummo has created a presentation on the topic which you can find on the district website under Board of Directors. Please don't believe what you hear on social media. Nothing has been decided. Please voice your opinions at the community forum and at the October 1<sup>st</sup> BOE meeting.
- K-1 Night Out was moved to October 12<sup>th</sup>.
- The Human Games 4<sup>th</sup> grade breakfast will be moved to the Monday or Friday the week before school ends since many children will be going away to camp before school ends.

## EXECUTIVE BOARD REPORTS:

**Membership** (Sara Bodeker) –Membership can now be purchased online on MemberHub, which charges a 76-cent fee. Each membership supplies \$4 to the PTA towards cultural arts events. Multiple family members may join.

**Treasurer** (Alyssa Keslowitz) – Please contact the treasurer in person for reimbursements or to obtain cash for events. (No electronic requests. Board members receive spam requests for money.) Forms are in the main office and will be added to the member Hub. When chairing committees, please be mindful of the budget.

**Fundraising** (Pia Miller) –FunBooks need to be paid for or returned. We will be having our annual Holiday Sale later this month. We have a new fundraiser coming in January, the Foodie Card.

**Ways and Means** (Brianne Sulibhavi) –Ways and Means is any committee that makes money in school:

- The pretzel sale has grossed \$4,000 so far. Second graders will receive their pretzels at lunch this year, along with third and fourth grades. (Third grade is split between the second and fourth grade lunch periods.) Kindergarten and first grade will continue to receive pretzels at morning snack time.
- We need volunteers for Picture Day. Please sign up on MemberHub.
- We will have a new spirit wear web store this year. Items will be shipped to Stratford Road for free or you may pay extra to have them shipped to your home. The items will be here for the holidays. One item has personalization available. The kids like to wear their spirit wear on Grade Game Days (where the teachers compete against the students).

**Cultural Arts** (Jaime Landes) –We will be having a Power of One Assembly the beginning of October. We will also have Grade Nights Out in October and November. All Nights Out have an educational tie-in. The K/1 flyer will go out next week.

**Hospitality** (Brooke Horn) –We will be having our Back to School Social on Friday, September 28<sup>th</sup>. We will be making a banner for homecoming using all the childrens' handprints. We have 206 children coming so far. It will be one hour. Children may also color a face to be hung up at school and play Get to Know You BINGO.

**Community Service** (Sara Bodeker for Elisa Torres) –We will be having a JDRF coin drive, as well as a UNICEF drive at Halloween.

**Executive VP** (Marisa Pammer) –Class representatives need to be current Stratford Road PTA members and need to volunteer on a committee or as a district committee rep. If you are selected as a class parent, please attend one of two meetings on September 25<sup>th</sup>.

## DISTRICT COMMITTEES:

We need volunteers for Elementary Curriculum, Health, Nutrition, Transportation, SEPTA, other district school PTAs, MAPOB, BOE and PTA Council. Marisa Pammer volunteered for PTA Council.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:34 am. The next SR PTA meeting will be on Thursday, October 18<sup>th</sup> at 9:30am.