

## **Twin Hickory Elementary PTA General Membership Meeting September 19, 2013**

The September 19, 2013 PTA General Membership Meeting, held in the THE gymnasium, was called to order by president, Laura DeBusk at 7:00 p.m.

- Laura DeBusk asked for a motion to approve the General Membership Meeting minutes from May 16, 2013. The minutes were approved.
- Our fiscal year runs from July 1st to June 30th. At the end of every fiscal year, the PTA is required to have our financial records audited. Due to a change in the Treasurer position at the end of October 2010, an audit was already completed for July 1, 2012 - October 31, 2012. That mid-year audit was approved by the General Membership on February 21, 2013. The end of year audit was completed by an audit committee made up of three PTA members – Kammy Hambrick, Bryan Chalk, and Philippa Morgan. I would like to thank them very much for the countless hours they spent this summer completing the audit. A copy of the audit report is posted at the gym doors and on the PTA website.
- The audit committee completed the audit on July 30, 2013. They found the records of the treasurer of the Twin Hickory Elementary PTA to be correct.
- Laura DeBusk asked for a motion to adopt the audit report. Motion was moved, seconded, and the ‘ayes’ have it.
- The PTA Executive Board has a really fun program calendar planned this year. We decided as a Board to eliminate the Hoe Down and Sock Hop in favor of two events where students and their entire family can attend together rather than it being limited to just grade level students. On October 17th, the PTA will host Books for Bingo. Details about the event will be included in the emailed PTA Pipeline newsletter, but the basic premise is that students and families bring new or gently used books, educational DVDs and CDs and in return receive bingo cards to play. These materials will be donated to area organizations, such as Children’s Hospital and the VA Home for Boys and Girls, as well as each grade level here at THES. The PTA is also sponsoring a family skating night called Skating for Scholars at the Ashland Skateland on Friday, February 7th. In the proposed PTA budget we are offering a PTA Alumni Scholarship for our second year. We have already budget an amount of \$500 for the scholarship. The goal of the skating night is that all profits made from the evening will exclusively go towards increasing the amount of the scholarship the PTA will offer. More details about this event will be in the PTA Pipeline newsletter in the coming months. Lastly, we’ve renamed the Fall Festival, the Spring Fling, and have moved it to April 25th. It will still be a festive night of games and fun, just at a different time of year.
- Laura review proposed budget, approved by the PTA Executive Board, for the current fiscal year of July 1, 2013 – June 30th, 2014. This proposed budget is posted at the gym entrance and on the PTA website. Due to strong fundraising numbers and lower than expected expenses in 2012-2013, we came into this year with a surplus of \$9,418.66.

- Our proposed receipts for 2013-2014, are mainly from the Trailblazer Club Campaign, PTA memberships, Spring Fling in April, and Business Partnerships. This comes to \$50,599.75. The two areas of major expenses fall under Programs (STEM Lab, Arts in Education Programming, and Blazer Blasts) and Equipment Needs (Writing Program and General School Project Fund, which is Staff driven). This leaves us with total proposed expenses for the year of \$57,266.25 and proposed net cash on hand on June 30th of \$2,752.16.
- Laura asked if there are any proposed changes from the budget the PTA Executive Board has presented. There were no proposed changes. A motion was made to adopt the 2013-2014 budget as presented. Motion was moved, seconded, and the 'ayes' have it.
- The Henrico County meals tax referendum that will be a part of the General Election on Tuesday, November 5th. Voters will be asked whether they support giving the County the authority to enact a 4% tax on prepared food and beverages, such as a meal in a restaurant. If voters approve the measure, all revenue generated would go to Henrico County Public Schools. Both the VA PTA and the HCCPTA have voted to support this measure. If you would like to learn more about the meals tax referendum, a meeting at Tucker High School, will be held on Thursday, October 17<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. County officials will give a presentation and the floor will be open for questions. Handouts are available at the desk next to the door of the gym for anyone interested in learning more about the meals tax referendum.
- THES is in desperate need of volunteers for the copy room and the cafeteria for lunch time. In the cafeteria, we especially need help for our K-2 students. If you are able to help in either of these areas, please sign into nList, go to the People tab on any group you are already a member of and send an email to the Twin Hickory Coordinator asking to be added to the copy room or lunchroom volunteers list. This will enable Jen Mosely, our VP of Volunteers, to add you to those lists and allow you to sign up on the calendar via nlist for volunteer slots.
- Elaine McCormick, VP of Ways and Means, was introduced to speak about Trailblazer Club Campaign and PTA membership. Trailblazer Club is our direct donation program; it funds 60% of our budget. To date we have raised \$21,012 with 216 families participating with an average gift of \$95. Every child at THES benefits from the funds raised thru the PTA. We supply what the county budget cannot. Whether it be the 4th grade team receiving a subscription to Time For Kids for each student to enhance their Social Studies lesson, the Empowering Writers Program that every child participates in Language Arts, or purchasing all supplies for the STEM Lab. We also fund some of the fun things, like prizes for the Blazer Blast and school wide assemblies. But Mr. D's long term goal for the school is to furnish each classroom with a Promethean Board. Today 20 classrooms have them, 2/3 of which were purchased by you, the PTA. And I'm thrilled to announce that since the budget was approved Mr. D is placing an order for 5 more boards. So, we have 5 left to go! If you haven't had a chance to contribute to the Trailblazer Campaign, please do. And if you have and you work for Capital One, Dominion Power, Altria, MeadWestvaco, Markel, Verizon or any other company that participates in a matching

gift program, please take a moment to submit the paperwork. Last year we received over \$3600 in matching gifts. I know we can beat that number. If you have any questions I'll be working the table after the first session or please email me.

- The next General Membership meeting will be held Thursday, Nov. 14<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. in the gym followed by the 2<sup>nd</sup> grade performance.
- Laura DeBusk thanked the following Business Partners for their sponsorships:

**Platinum Level**

Master Cho's Tae Kwon Do & Martial Arts  
Class A Landscaping

**Silver Level**

Dominion Dermatology  
Sean Tyll of Edward Jones

The General Membership meeting was adjourned at 7:21 p.m.

Phung Blevins  
Recording Secretary