

**DELANCO PTO  
MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 9, 2015 MEETING**

7:20 p.m. meeting was called to order by President Ruth Esposito. There were 13 members in attendance.

**Introductions:** by Ruth Esposito

**Secretary's Report:** Secretary Jaime Nucifora presented the January Secretary's Report for circulation to the members.

**Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Tracey Hamlin presented the Treasurer's report for circulation to the members. The balance as of today is \$13,475.70.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Yearbook:** Suzanne Iwanicki. Go to [www.community.lifetouch.com](http://www.community.lifetouch.com), code IEYRPD to upload pictures for the yearbook. You can upload 5 photos at a time. Yearbooks will be \$17 each. Deadline to upload photos to be included in this year's yearbook is March 30th. Camera photos are better than smartphone shots. Ruth has loaded photos from Science Night and the Pep Rally

**Spiritwear:** All items are still available for purchase, sizes Youth Medium to Adult XXL. T-shirts, sweatshirts, pants, shorts, hats and umbrellas are available in our shed. Flyers are online.

**Reading for Education:** We earned \$294 for completed booklets and the \$200 bonus. Sophie Nucifora won the inflatable robot. This was our first time winning the bonus.

**Magic of Science Night:** with Steve Woyce, was rescheduled from Tuesday, 1/27 for snow, to Tuesday, 2/3 at the Delanco Library. Tickets were \$2 per person. 71 people attended. The 6:00pm session sold out. He will also be returning this summer for the Library's Heroes program.

**Chick-fil-a Spirit Night:** was 1/14 and we raised \$436. 4-McGovern won the munchkins party. We have 2 more this year coming up in February and April.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Box Tops:** Kristin Atkinson/Nika Corbett. New contest is running and due by February 20<sup>th</sup>. Reminders will be sent out next Monday. Ruth and Kristin have been entering our school in more contests. Anyone can go to [Boxtops.com](http://Boxtops.com) to enter.

**Spring Fundraiser:** Liz Rottinger. Our Mix Bags fundraiser will run from 2/12 through 2/27. Liz brought samples for everyone to see. There are bags for car, kitchen, travel, etc. The fundraiser will be coming home on Thursday. Return the confirmation receipt to school for students to be entered in the daily prize

drawings. There will also be a Target giftcard raffled for anyone who sells 2 or more items. If our sales total 2,800 or more, we will get 50% of all sales, and under 2,800 we will get 45%. Corbis only gave us 30% of sales. There will be a website for anyone out of the area to order. Liz and Ruth will be submitting the order online, which is why we earn a larger percentage of sales, because we do more of the work.

**Bingo:** Scheduled for Friday, 3/13, 7:00pm, Pearson All-Purpose Room. A sign-up sheet was circulated. Middle schoolers or anyone else in need of volunteer hours are also needed to help.

**Skating Party:** Sunday, 3/22, 5:15-7:15pm, Holiday Skating. We need parent volunteers or older teens needing volunteer hours to keep an eye on all the rooms.

**Trenton Thunder:** Tuesday, 4/21, \$11 tickets, kids eat free and sing "Take Me Out to the Ballgame" during 7<sup>th</sup> inning stretch.

**A Small World Gift Shop:** We received good feedback on our Little Shoppers' Shop, so we will sign a contract for next year. We need more volunteers to assist with the younger students, and we will be adding an age column on the envelopes.

**Other New Business:** Ruth was happy we had a good turnout for the PARCC Parents' Night. Also, thank you to Jennifer Mack for inviting PTO/room reps to the Pep Rally last week, and the sing-a-long in December. The students really seemed to enjoy the pep rally and the dance party at the end.

Liz Rottinger had a friend advise her that a fourth grade student was going door to door soliciting for Jump Rope for Heart donations, and was willing to come inside the house. Ms. Mack will be sure to remind all students not to go door to door for donations/fundraisers.

Someone advised the Jump Rope for Heart deadline is 2/23.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

**Mr. Mersinger:** There was a civil war trunk presentation at the Walnut Street School today for all Social Studies classes, with civil war trustee Ron Nailor. There were weapons, uniforms, and great information.

The Drama Club will be having play practice every day after school from 3:00pm to 5:30pm until the end of March.

The schools had the QSAC state monitoring for a full day last week. The schools are scored, and this monitoring is done every 3 years. The schools

score themselves first, and then the County verifies those scores. The DPR will be available on the BOE's website. Mr. Mersinger discussed PARCC refusals with the monitor, and his suggestions will be discussed with the BOE. The staff will be going through PARCC team prepping for March. There will be a letter coming home. Liz Rottinger interjected that the PARCC Parents' Night cleared up much mis-information, *e.g.*, that the students will be testing for 1-2 hours a day for 5 days, rather than all day for several weeks. The parents seemed to ask intelligent and important questions. Ruth confirmed with Mr. Mersinger that the March testing is more intensive, whereas the May testing will be fewer sessions. Mr. Mersinger advised that the test length is similar to that of the NJASK, but it is broken down into shorter, more frequent sessions. There is information on the PARCC website. The computer implementation of the testing is what is the most different compared to the NJASK, and a more convenient schedule and make-up schedule designed to work for everyone. Students will still have classes before or after testing; the teachers may go easier on the students, but the testing weeks will not be thrown away curriculum-wise.

Some band members will be attending the Rowan Jazz Fest on 2/11, and the BOE meeting will be held on 2/11, along with presentation of Students of the Month. There is an early dismissal for students on Friday, 2/13 for a teacher in-service. Also on Friday are the National Honor Society inductions at Riverside High School. Mr. Mersinger, Ms. Harper and Mr. Stockton will be attending. School is closed on 2/16 for Presidents Day. The 8<sup>th</sup> Graders will be going to RHS on 2/17. There is a WSS Dance on 2/20. And WSS will have their Fun Friday on 2/27 with crab soccer. Student Government will have their first meeting tomorrow and will vote for officers, and vote on posters to be bought to put up around the school.

**Ms. Mack:** Thank you to the PTO for everything, and the PTO is being invited to things like the Pep Rally so the students can see those parents that help out with PTO and school events. Thank you for all the help with Principals for the Day, for making it special for Sophie Nucifora and Stephen Snow to see their names on the sign out front and for having special signs and balloons at the entrance. They were greeted at the door, then stopped at the late desk to let Mrs. Teel know to let everyone through without tardies because of the ice. They watched the 5<sup>th</sup> graders do announcements, observed in every class and were introduced. They had pizza and Sprite for lunch and were each allowed to ask a friend. They had an extra period of gym after lunch, toured the boiler room, supply room, roof hatch, and ended with a meeting. Sophie rated her day as a 10.5 and Stephen rated his day a 1 billion, on a scale of 1 to 10. They loved the spiritwear donated by the PTO. Stephen made a rule that everyone should get 5 extra minutes of free time whenever someone is Principal for a Day,

and Sophie's rule was to use more computers, iPads, and technology in the classrooms.

Ms. Mack thanked everyone who attended PARCC Parent Night and reminded everyone to complete the survey. She thanked all the PTO parents who were able to attend the pep rally. And she will definitely follow up about not going door to door for Jump Rope for Heart Donations.

**Delanco Library:** Katrina wrote a thank you note for all PTO support. The Library will be holding a fundraiser Ducks on the Delaware on 3/6 at 6:00pm. There will also be a Women's Civic Club Trivia Night on 3/28.

Someone asked Mr. Mersinger if the BOE Agenda and Minutes could be added to the website, and he advised that a new website is almost ready to launch and those items will be included on the new website.

It was again brought up that Pearson pick-up, drop-off, and parking remains an issue, even though things have improved greatly from prior years.

**Upcoming Events:**

- 2/12-27 Spring Fundraiser – Mixed Bags
- 2/20 Box Tops Deadline
- 2/25 Chick-fil-a Spirit Night, 5-8pm, Delran
- 3/13 Bingo, 7pm, Pearson All-Purpose Room
- 3/22 Skating Party, 5:15-7:15pm, Holiday Skating
- 4/21 Trenton Thunder Game

The next PTO Meeting is Monday, March 9, 2015 at 7:30 pm in the Pearson Conference Room.

A motion to approve the Treasurer's report was made by Laura Vanard and second by Cherie Astraski.

A motion to approve the Secretary's report was made by Kristin Atkinson and second by Sherry Layman.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Tracy Easton and second by Cherie Astraski.

**\*Thank you Delanco Township Education Association: Your Children's Teachers and Educational Support Professionals for your continued support\***