

PTA Minutes September 21, 2022

The general meeting of the Accomsett Middle School PTA, was called to order at 7:04pm.

In attendance: Danielle Chisari, Gina Kandrach, Kristen Seely, Suzanne Arbia, Michelle Laurino, Mr. McNeil, Mrs. Ortiz

Principal's Report: Mr. McNeil

- Introduction/ welcome "off to a good start".
- We are adjusting back to normal.
- Students are no longer permitted to carry backpacks, but there is a lot of flexibility.
- During back to school night, bring a printed out copy of your students schedule for an A day.
- Student population; 169 6th graders (500 students overall).
- Students are encouraged to participate in clubs. A new physical education club is awaiting board approval.
- Looking forward to bringing back school dances and battle of the classes.
- Upcoming 6th grade dance scheduled to take place on 10/28 7-9pm.
- Join the AMS social media such as the parent bulletin via email. Join through the parent portal.
- The state requires 12 total evacuation drills (some of these to include lock down drills.)

Teacher Representative: Ms. Ortiz

- On behalf of the teachers of AMS, we would like to thank the PTA for supplying coffee and donuts in the beginning of the school year.
- Science teacher, Mrs. Olander is seeking volunteers to maintain the pollinator garden. Anyone interested in joining the garden committee is asked to reach out via email at aolander@smithtown.k12.ny.us

Executive Committee Update

President's Report: Danielle Chisari

- Beginning October 1, the yearbook will be available to start working on. The intention is to get the yearbook completed earlier this year to be able to start selling it sooner.
- Looking into coordinating a fun run in November.
- Working with Mr. Davis to iron out all the details for the upcoming 6th grade dance.

Vice President's Report: Suzanne Arbia

- Suzanne wants to see if Mike from 1st Class Spiritwear can get some spiritwear to have available for upcoming events (ex: school concerts/popcorn Friday's).

Treasurer's Report: Gina Kandrach

- The beginning balance for the 2022 school year is \$22,400.00
- Teacher for a day was a successful fundraiser in the past; plan on doing that again this year.
- You can link your Amazon App to select AMS as your charity to support when making purchases. AmazonSmile will donate 0.5% of your eligible purchases to the charitable organization of your choice.
- Lawn signs will be available again at the end of the year for purchase.
- "Caught Being Kind" is currently running. Teachers, Administration and staff are on the lookout for students who perform random acts of kindness. Those students who are "caught" will be given a ticket to go down to the main office to enter into a monthly raffle to win a Philly Pretzel gift card.
- AMS is seeking people to fill the fundraising chair spot.
- Gail, the membership chair is looking for incentives to drive up membership.

- The PTA is seeking sponsors for the upcoming color run, to donate their services. The price to register for the fun run will be \$25/person and \$75/family.
- A new fundraiser is being established where the PTA will offer an online defensive driving class and in return, receive a small kickback.

Attendee Recommendations

- A parent suggested a low cost fundraiser option is to host a car wash. An idea presented was to presale tickets. Mr. McNeil stated he would be able to inquire if the car wash could be hosted in the Middle School circle.

Other Misc. Notes

- The license for "Screenagers"- a documentary about growing up in a digital age, was purchased by AMS and will be shown this year. There will be a community screening showed to any interested parents. AMS is partnering with Great Hollow Middle School.

Arts in Education: Liz

- Looking to book historical society for a field trip. Going to speak to them to come up with new program ideas for other parts of the curriculum geared toward middle school students.
- 6th graders attend a field trip at Sunken Meadow State Park (science related).
- 7th graders field trip, is geared toward social studies.
- 8th graders attend a field trip at Adventure Park in Wheatley Heights.

Accompsett Middle School 2022-2023 PTA Executive Board

Danielle Chisari-President

Veronica Herzfeld-1st Vice President

Suzanne Arbia-2nd Vice President

Kristin Seely- Corresponding Secretary

Michelle Laurino- Recording Secretary

Gina Kandrach- Treasurer

Jennifer Luikart- Council Delegate

Please sign up at the link below to receive periodic emails from the PTA as a means of communication. We will post events, volunteering and fundraising opportunities, and important news from our school and district.

<https://amspta.ch2v.com/secure/content.asp?Redirect=True&RedirectPage=/admin/register.asp>

Meeting Adjourned at 7:50pm