

Albert E. Grice PTA  
Executive Board Meeting Minutes  
November 17, 2011

**Call to Order:**

Meeting was called to order at 7:09pm by President Nancy Schmaus (NS)

**Vice President's Report**

Kirk Corless stated he is now the Special Ed liaison for the PTA. The website has been updated, as well as Facebook and Twitter

**Recording Secretary**

Minutes of the last E-board meeting held on October 20, 2011 were distributed by George Geiger (GG) prior to the meeting and were approved for audit as given

**Corresponding Secretary's Report**

Sue Shipp stated there was no recent correspondence. Also reported on was the recent meeting held at the BOE (a focus group discussion on improving communication, more teacher-use of the website, posting grades on the website, etc). Barely touched upon at this meeting was the proposed custodial backcharges to users of the schools off-hours

**Treasurer's report**

The Treasurer's report was provided by Treasurer Andrea Sensi and was approved for audit as given

**Principal's Report**

- Principal David R. Innocenzi (DRI) welcomed everyone present, and introduced teachers Mrs. Eichhorn, Mrs. Arruzzo, Ms Harkins and Mrs. O'Malley
- A verbal description of past, present and upcoming events was presented (American Education Week, Turn-A-Round Day, Problem Solving Week (won by Pride House), Spirit Week, etc
- Ms. Foley is now running "Microsoft Mondays" (held on 2nd, 3<sup>rd</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays of the month) – this is tutoring of MSOffice program
- The GMS Newsletter will be coming out soon
- "Fire Is..." (6) 20 min videos will be presented by the local fire dept
- More anti-bullying programs are coming up. The new tee-shirts were shown in multiple colors...over (225) have been sold so far. A group photo will be taken of the students wearing them this week
- Anti-bullying poster contest was held last month, with the winners getting \$50 gift cards for 1<sup>st</sup> place, \$25 for 2<sup>nd</sup> place, and \$10 for 3<sup>rd</sup> place
- DRI requested feedback on the new 8 period Schedule. Feedback as follows:
  1. Renee Sullivan: 30 minute lunch is too short. Her son doesn't purchase lunch frequently due to the distance from C hall to D hall where his locker is coupled with the long wait in the lunch line results in only a couple of minutes to eat. Also feels they need an opportunity to chat, let loose, run around outside when weather allows. Also, the popular lunch menu items

sometimes “run out” and her son has to sit down and wait for Chartwells to make more of that particular item

2. Mrs Saltenburg: doesn't have a problem with it
  3. An unidentified mother, as well as Mrs Sensi: their children will not purchase lunch in the cafeteria because the lines for 7<sup>th</sup> grade lunch are too long and the leftover available time to actually eat is too short
  4. Mrs Geiger and several others are glad that Study Hall was eliminated, especially dual periods of it
- The floor was opened by DRI for Q&A.

### **Teacher's Report**

Mrs. Eichhorn and Mrs. Arruzzo reviewed several upcoming Student Council events/dates, such as the Turkey Shoot, the Can-Can Race, school spirit wear, “Mis-Matched Day”, Reflections contest, etc

### **Vice Principal's Report**

- Upcoming calendar items were discussed in detail by VP Cheryl Piotrowski

### **President's Report/PTA Business/Committee Reports**

- Mrs Sullivan suggested having GMS students (Student Council, Red Cross, etc) supporting the Special Olympics of NJ ‘Plunge’ event in February in Seaside, NJ
- The parental program held during the Halloween Dance was discussed
- Fundraising: Chairperson Jane Hoffman discussed the Fall fundraiser (Surrey Brook Farms). Jane also states that DRI “parent link calls” are more helpful than paper flyers. Bag o’ Bones and Thanksgiving pies fundraisers were also discussed
- Spirit Wear: Chairperson Beth Geiger will be selling orange/black plaid pajama pants with GRICE on one leg and hoodies at both Winter concerts with a printed note attached that they CANNOT be worn to school.
- Membership: NS stated that we currently have 366 paid members, and reminded all that you have to be a PTA member in order to speak at a meeting
- Family Fun Events: Chairperson GG confirmed that Hamilton Lanes *does not* require parental supervision during the 2/12/12 bowling event. On Sunday, May 6<sup>th</sup>, the Trenton Thunder event will occur. Need to get answer if possible to combine with McGalliard Elementary School in order for us to sell 50/50 tickets at the Thunder game, etc
- The Holiday Dinner is scheduled for Dec 1st to be held at Villa Mannino's

### **Next Meeting**

The next Eboard meeting is scheduled for January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2012

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35pm