

OAS PTA General Membership Meeting
OAS Library · Tuesday, October 15, 2013, 7:30 pm

- **Welcome/Pledge of Allegiance/Introductions:** Kerry Rokicki
 - Meeting called to order at 7:35pm
- **Approval of June 2013 GMM minutes:** Iris Love
 - Minutes were reviewed and approved
 - 1st motion: Jodi Klimko, 2nd motion: Kristin Santos
- **Bylaw change:** review and vote
 - Discussion of proposed change to bylaws: Article VI, Section 1: The officers of this Local PTA shall be a president, three (3) vice presidents, recording secretary, corresponding secretary and a treasurer.
 - 1st motion to approve: Kristin Santos, 2nd motion: Meghan Walsh
 - Vote to adopt bylaws as stated.
 - 1st motion: Jodi Klimko, 2nd motion: Tracey Tully
- **Swearing in of new board members:** Allison Lentz, Tracey Tully, Dawn Acocella
 - Jodi will be removed from bank account and Allison will be added.
 - Jodi was presented with a small token of appreciation for her years of service as president of the PTA.
- **President's Report:** Kerri Rokicki
 - OAS PTA Facebook page (Orange Avenue School PTA) was just started this week by Cheryl Beach and Trish Ryan. To be used for general school announcements/events. No kids' photos will be posted. To have an event added, use the website submission form on the OAS PTA website.
 - BAS/OAS 5K: Colette Bendert
 - \$9,000 in sponsorships has been raised (\$3,000 less than last year). Deadline to register and receive t-shirt is 10.21.13. Promote registration via morning announcements and signage around building.
 - Assemblies Update: Meghan Walsh
 - 4 planned assemblies this year: Living Voices for 8th Grade Diversity Day next week, Jill Brown on 10.08 and 10.10 for 3-5th graders on bullying and cyber-bullying. Tom Rich on 10.28 for 6-8th graders during the day and parents that evening, on online responsibility and safety. Evening presentation is open to whole community. Elizabeth Levy, author, will speak to 3-5th graders in March.
- **Treasurer's Report:** Kristin Santos
 - A report highlighting significant expenditures and income was provided, in addition to a complete line-item budget for the year.
 - 2013-2014 beginning bank balance: \$8,335.70
 - Current Bank Balance (as of 10.9.13) \$23,199.45
 - Outstanding Checks Total \$6,849.82
 - Total Balance \$16,349.63
 - Membership: 773 members to date. OAS PTA share is \$3,092 profit.
 - Donations collected: \$2,945
 - School Directories: \$1,716 collected
 - OAS Spirit Wear: \$2,638 for ??? t-shirts and \$215 for 43 car magnets
 - Mum Sale: \$1,389.70 profit to date
 - Colosimo Memorial Garden: Expenditures to date - \$978.41

- Teacher Support: 5 Cash for Class grants were distributed for a total of \$229.99. There is \$1,270.01 remaining for CFC Grants. 3 mini grants were applied for and resolved with alternative solutions resulting in 0 mini grants being funded at this time.
 - Middle School classrooms need tissues! Tissue Drive will be announced soon.
 - Supplemental insurance was added this year to cover off site PTA sponsored events.
 - Motion to approve proposed budget: 1st motion: Jodi Klimko, 2nd motion: Teresa Wilson
 - Special thanks to Kathy Sheridan, Jen Mooney and Michelle Howlett for their assistance with tax forms, reports and membership dues.
 - Hoping to be able to offer online payment option in the future.
- **Committee Updates:** Colleen DiDomenico and Dawn Acocella
 - List of committee chairpersons distributed. 47 committees. 15 do not have a chair person. Decision to scratch chairs for 5th Grade moving up and OAS Talent Show as the teachers will handle these events. Kristin Santos agreed to do the Election Day Bake Sale (8-11am). Kerri Rokicki will assist. 4 (of the 15) do not have chairperson or volunteers. Decision made to scratch 3 of those 4. Kristin Santos will continue to do the digital display in the front lobby.
 - Big events that still need chairpeople: Iron Chef Pizza night (change to cake walk? Or different day/time?), Art Night, Band Night, Field Day (possibly Sean and Kelly Gorman again?)
 - Dawn and Colleen to email volunteers to see if anyone wants to step up to chair person.
 - Recess Runners: 70 kids signed up (3-5th graders). Cranford Cougar will attend Friday to promote 5K.
- **Correspondence:** Meghan Walsh
 - Lunch was given to custodial staff at the beginning of the year. Staples GC were given to new teachers. Thank you notes were sent to chairs of completed events. Thank you notes were received from many teachers for beginning of the year breakfast.
 - Colosimo family sent a fruit basket to PTA as a thank you for the memorial garden and service.
 - Pastry Tray will be given to staff for Halloween and Holidays
 - Discussion to recognize Mary Rizkhala for 46 years of service to the OAS cafeteria.
- **Principal's Report:** Mrs. Vella
 - Illusion Makers assembly for 3-5th graders on 11.26.13. Not funded by PTA
 - Mr. Bigsby to host 2 workshops about PARK and Common Core
 - Mike Seaman was Union County teacher of the year and also one of the top 7 finalists for the State of NJ Teacher of the Year.
 - Thank you PTA for your work on the dedication ceremony for Mrs. Colosimo.
 - Open Houses were a success. A few changes in store for next year. Having the specials teachers in the gym worked well.

- Hunter Pinho, OAS 8th grader, is the only kid from NJ to make the US soccer national team.
- OAS Students Change Hunger. Collecting food donations this year.
- OAS music dept has a new iPad cart. Using it to compose music and for Garage Band
- Diversity Day for 8th graders next week. Living Voices Assembly.
- Week of Respect, Elem. book of the month: Naked Mole Rat Gets Dressed.
- Experience the Arts day for 7th graders is 11.15.13.
- Girls Leadership Seminar was well attended and well received.
- **Board of Education Report: Kerri Rokicki**
 - In September the Board approved a new five year plan. It covers all areas of the district's operations. While it is not yet available for distribution, as some of the action items still need to be fully defined, it will be shortly.
 - The Board held its annual goal setting meeting on September 21st. The Board decided to continue the goal to personalize the education of our students. The goal is one that the Board chose to pursue a number of years ago and feels that it is worthwhile to continue especially given all of the state mandates.
 - The Board was pleased to recognize Mr. McCaffery as the New Jersey Coach of the Year in the sport of baseball for 2012-2013.
 - The district is continuing its focus on developing the reading skills of our students. This year there will be a concentration on providing the professional development through in-classroom coaching and practical workshops focused on developing strategies in concert with the Teacher's College Reading Workshops. Five days of the program will be offered to grade K-5 teachers.
 - Mary Catherine Sudiak will retire from the board in December after 14.5 years. Meghan to send a thank you note for her volunteering to attend our meetings over the years.
- **Closing:**
 - Lisa Wolfe: Wants to investigate adding AC to buildings. Mrs. Vella suggested starting with the District Office, going to a Board of Ed. Meeting.
 - Katie Marchesi suggested taking advantage of more passive fundraisers (earning percentages of funds back on money we are already spending). Feels there are too many things being sold across the community by various groups.
 - Meeting Adjourned 9:30 pm