



UTS PTA General Meeting Notes
2/28/17 @ 7pm--UTMS Cafeteria

1. Meeting Called to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Meeting notes from January 2017 approved
4. Legal Matters-Sтивен Margolis, attorney representing UTS, was introduced. He provided updates and answered questions regarding the two cases.
 - a. 2015 Case
 - i. The first restitution check for \$9 was received. Need to determine if the other mandated court costs/fines were deducted from this check.
 - ii. Mr. Margolis to call Probation Officer for an update on the case and status of probation.
 - iii. A check was made of the assets/property/ownership--essentially there are no assets at this time
 - iv. UTS can seek to have probation terminated, however the court could redefine the amount obligated to pay.
 - v. Without ability to pay, the court will not step in because this is a case of *'financial inability to pay versus willful intention not to pay'*; if there are no assets (ie no job, no house, no car in her name), there is nothing to garnish from
 - vi. A civil judgement is not worthwhile to recoup funds.
 - vii. Members were reminded that the UTS PTA Board has been advised by Mr. Margolis not to discuss the case specifics (current and past) with anyone, as Board Members are potential witnesses in the case.
 - viii. ****If a PTA Member has a specific question, Mr. Margolis advised them to submit the question to PTA Board who will forward to him for an answer. He will gladly address/answer any and all questions from the UTS community.**
 - b. 2016 Case
 - i. An indictment was handed down by a Grand Jury.
 - ii. PTA Board was not told about Grand Jury session in advance as they were not called as witnesses.
 - iii. Defendant can still get PTI (Pre-Trial Intervention) as first time offender, no prior record and non-violent crime; PTI consists of probationary period of 6-12 months and if probation is violated, PTI is revoked.

- iv. Our attorney will inform Hunterdon County Prosecutor that this was an even bigger violation of trust than the prior case and that punishment is necessary to avoid more repeats of such behavior.
- v. Defendant violated the position of trust she was placed in and was fully aware of the consequences given she was directly involved in bringing the first case to light.
- vi. 100% of the funds will need to be paid before PTI is granted
- vii. The most important thing is to recoup the \$ for our community/school
- viii. Prosecutor has to consider victim response. Any UT resident can submit a letter or attend the hearing in person to outline the effect this has had.
- c. Question and Answer Session with Mr. Margolis
 - i. Q: Would there be a reason for the Defendant not to repay the money?
A: There is no valid reason to avoid paying unless the funds are not available. If we can get upfront payment, we should take it and ask for one year probation. Mr. Margolis will reach out to Prosecutor to find out if there is an ability to pay.
 - ii. Q: Are there tools to garnish wages or put a lien on a property?
A: Assets in the Defendant's name only are able to be considered (not joint assets). The prior defendant from 2015 case does not appear to have any assets. For the second case, solely owned assets are unknown at this time.
 - iii. Q: With PTI, are charges dismissed after probation?
A: Yes. We will be asking for 100% of the funds, upfront, from the current Defendant because she has a job and because this was a more egregious violation of trust.. Defendant has until the trial begins to repay the \$ and still get PTI.
 - iv. Q: Can the UTS PTA Board send meeting notes to Steve and have them turned into a legal document to send to PTA Members?
A: Steve will gladly review all notes from the meeting and can send out a letter if needed.
 - v. Q: Does UTS PTA have insurance?
A: Yes. Bank statements need to be initialed each month and because this was not being done, PTA can not recoup the money from insurance. PTA President and Treasurer plan on meeting with/speaking to the insurance company to find out the specific protocols required to avoid future lapses.

5. Overview of Finances

- a. Financial Code Document was reviewed with NJ PTA Treasurer to ensure there are no major gaps in our procedures
- b. Suggestion made to have a PTA Member review and reconcile the PTA books each month (Lisa Coster and Carrie Minsavage volunteered to do this initially and if agreed, a sign up will be sent out for future months).
- c. Treasurer's Report
 - i. Quicken updated for all of last year - pieced together from bank statements
 - ii. Financial activity for the month was stated. All required documentation was made available for any member in attendance to review.

- iii. Organization is in the black after several months of organizing, many generous donations, and some small fundraising/community events.
- iv. Donations of \$3,823 were made by members of UTS Community--***the PTA can not thank you enough for your support and generosity.***
- v. TD Bank Forgery case is still in progress-typically have 30 days to report forgery cases to the bank, however TD Bank is willing to review based upon circumstances.
- vi. Box Top Contest- a member entered and won a \$25,000 box tops sweepstakes so PTA will receive a \$2,500 check in April from Box Tops.
- vii. Fall Tiger Club vendor was paid \$2,160.
- viii. NJ PTA Dues still on hold; other expenses earmarked include Mrs Shramko art donation, Mission 22, 8th grade graduation and Tiger Clubs
- ix. Recent fundraisers/events include:
 - 1. 31 Party - donated 10% or \$180
 - 2. Lenny's Pizza Discount on Mondays-earned \$60 (\$480 in purchases)
 - 3. Duke's 2nd Grade Moms Night Out-earned \$40

6. Open Board Positions/Miscellaneous Chairs

- a. The NJ PTA suggested the PTA Board Positions be modified for the next school year:
 - 1. VP MS/ES-this person will coordinate/schedule assemblies for both schools (AnnMarie Lodese will remain in this position as she is currently VP ES)
 - 2. VP of Fundraising-this person will be in charge of all fundraising ideas and oversee the implementation
- b. Membership Chair & Wufoo (Online payments) Chair open for 2017-2018 school year
- c. **Co-Chairs** for Tiger Clubs needed **for 2017-2018 school year.**
- d. **Co-Chair for Teacher Appreciation Chair open for 2017-2018 school year.**
- e. Art Fest Helper needed to assist Mrs. Shramko on Friday, May 19th to help on the day of with setting up and tearing down.
- f. Anyone interested should reach out to a Board Member.
- g. Nominating Committee selected to identify potential Board Members for next school year:
 - i. Yay-11 People voted in Casie Fariello, AnnMarie Lodese, Kara Cherney, with Lisa Coster as alternate

7. Spring Events/Fundraising:

- a. Discount Cards are coming this week-purchase a discount card for \$20 to use at various restaurants in the area for a specific discount (flyers will be sent home this week for signups)
- b. Branchburg Kids Fun Night Out on 2/16-32 attendees for a total profit of \$88.81
- c. Grassroots Donations totaling \$1,325 (covered under Financial Overview)
- d. Faculty Student Basketball Game on March 10th (self funded):
 - i. 13 Teachers vs. 13 8th Grade Students
 - ii. Online registration ends 3/9 at midnight

- iii. 54 T-Shirts sold; UTS items in shed from previous events will be sold along with other swag items (ie. cookbook, visors, pencils, pom poms, frisbees, etc)
- iv. Dr. D Entertainment-Motion made to pay a minimum of \$200 to Dr. D (based upon ticket sales)
 - v. Donations from Destination Athlete and Sneakers Plus
 - vi. Concession sales are earmarked for 8th Grade graduation
 - vii. Remaining funds will be used for 8th grade graduation events and other PTA items
 - viii. Graduation Balloons/Signs-being taken over by Suzie Schuyler
- e. Bingo/Raffles-Need to determine if gaming license is still in place as last check was never cashed
- f. Upcoming Events:
 - i. Lenny's will continue donation of a percentage of UTS food orders on Monday nights for remainder of school year
 - ii. Flower Sales at Spring Concert on 3/30
 - iii. Tiger Clubs in place for spring session
 - iv. Adult Painting Party at Color Me Mine in Easton (date TBD-either 4/28 or 4/29)
 - v. Kids painting with Color Me Mine at Finn Park on 5/3-details to follow
 - vi. Run Like A Tiger-Giveaway prizes-Dorney Park tickets, free 8th grade graduation sign/balloons
- 8. Call for Questions
- 9. Motion to end meeting. Meeting adjourned at 8:08 PM.