



UTS PTA General Membership Meeting Notes
9/26/17--7 PM (UTES Cafeteria)

1. Meeting Called to Order at 7:12 PM
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Welcome to Members by Outgoing President, Julie Korson
4. May 2017 Meeting Minutes Approved
5. Financial Matters
 - a. Report by Outgoing Treasurer, Anna Shustack:
 - i. Expenses paid over the summer were related to 8th Grade Graduation, Run Like A Tiger, Agenga books for grades 3-8, PTA insurance, and PTA email/website
 - ii. Unity Checking account balance was outlined and copies of statements were available for review
 - iii. PTA dues will be owed to NJ PTA as people sign up (\$4/membership goes to NJ PTA); last year's membership expires as of 9-30-17
 - iv. Monies are available to fund mini-grants and assemblies
6. New PTA Board Members for 2017-2018
 - a. Julie thanked PTA membership for their support last year and introduced new PTA board.
 - b. Meeting was transitioned to Aida Swon- new PTA President
 - i. She has 18 years experience in various school systems, first as a teacher and now as a school guidance counselor, with a private practice.
 - ii. 4 children, ranging in age from 8 to 5 months
 - iii. Aida is excited to serve in this new role and work together with Mr. Diaz, Mrs. Suchovic, PAC and BOE to renew excitement, trust and enthusiasm within the UTS community
 - c. Roger Stricker-Treasurer
 - i. Bringing his knowledge as a CPA to help the PTA regain trust
 - ii. Has had leadership roles in Boy Scouts
 - iii. Grew up in Union Township (Class of 1983)
 - iv. Roger has one child at NHHS and 2 children at UTMS
 - d. Miguel Abreu -VP of Assemblies*
 - i. Miguel has 2 children at UTES
 - ii. Has a business background and currently works from home
 - iii. Looking forward to supporting the community and helping in any way he can
 - iv. Miguel's role as VP of Assemblies will become effective Friday, 9/29 (his wife was a PTA member last year, so he signed up as a new family on 9/13/17 and must be a member for 15 days before holding a position)
 - v. Can always find him on the soccer field
 - e. Tara Trego-VP of Fundraising
 - i. Tara served on the board for 2 years as Secretary (2014-2016)

- ii. She has two children at UTES
 - iii. Tara will lead all fundraising efforts (big and small) and create a lot of fun opportunities for families to come together
 - f. Kelly Flynn-Secretary (unable to attend the meeting as she was sick)
 - i. Kelly has two children at UTES
 - ii. She has a diverse background in business
 - iii. Kelly moved to Union Township two years ago and is looking forward to getting involved with the PTA and enriching the school community
 - g. NJ PTA will be providing training on October 20th
 - h. Board had meeting with Mr. Diaz and Mrs. Suchovic on 9/25; both are willing to support the PTA in any way they can
7. PTA Budget for 2017-2018
- i. Presented by Roger Stricker
 - ii. Budget is a work in progress; Board will review each line item to identify what it will continue to fund and what items are no longer warranted
 - iii. Expenses outlined are based on prior years
 - iv. Fundraising activities are on hold for time being
 - v. Transparency of all financial matters is paramount; Members are welcome to ask Roger questions at any time
 - vi. Internal controls established (two signers on all checks, monthly review of bank statements by members) will be maintained going forward
 - vii. Revised Budget will be presented and voted on by members at a future meeting
 - 1. Question: Does membership have a say about what PTA funds in the future? Answer: Board will send out surveys periodically through Survey Monkey to get feedback from the community and gauge interest/tailor decisions
 - 2. Question: What is the average budget for a district of our size? Answer: Board to discuss with NJ PTA at Training next month. PTA typically reserves some funds from year to year depending on anticipated needs
 - viii. Motion to approve budget for 2017-2018
 - 1. 17 'Yes' Votes
 - 2. 0 'No' Votes
 - 3. Budget approved
8. Audit of 2016-2017 Books
- a. Roger is leading the audit for 2016-2017
 - b. Full audit by accounting firm would cost roughly \$10,000
 - c. 2 other members/accountants are assisting Roger; audit is due to NJ PTA on 10/15/17
 - d. Report of findings will be presented at next membership meeting
9. PTA Communication
- a. All meeting minutes will be posted online
 - b. Weekly email from UTES & UTMS will have PTA section with latest news/events
 - c. Looking into bringing back PTA newsletter
 - d. Word of mouth-please pass along any positive thoughts from PTA meetings and/or events
 - e. Patience and trust are needed between PTA Board and UTS community
10. Open Chair Positions--a handout was passed around with a description of each position for sign ups-
- a. BOE/PTA Liaison

- b. Goodwill-supporting teachers with special events in their lives
 - c. Nominating Committee-finding new candidates in spring time
 - d. Teacher Appreciation
 - e. New Membership Welcome
 - f. Membership Coordinator
 - g. 8th Grade Graduation Coordinator
 - h. Webmaster
 - i. Directory Spot-looking at if this will come back as perk for PTA members
 - j. *Board will prioritize what is most important if not enough volunteers
11. Events/Fundraising through end of 2017-report by Tara
- a. Trunk or Treat (self-funded event)
 - i. Tentative date of 10/28 (back up date of 10/21)
 - ii. Maria Moreno will Chair again; looking for Parents/UTMS volunteers
 - iii. Publicizing via flyer and PTA emails
 - iv. Holding contest for "Best Decorated Trunk" (substantial prizes will be given out for 1st, 2nd, 3rd place winners)
 - v. Cost- \$5/child or \$15/family
 - vi. Dance party and games in gym starting at 6PM and Trunk or Treat in parking lot from 7-7:45 PM (festivities end at 8PM)
 - b. Teacher Dinners during November P/T Conferences
 - c. Breakfast with Santa
 - i. Hosted by Girl Scout Troop 81127 for second year (date TBD)
 - d. UTMS Masquerade Dance-Melissa Hoffman
 - i. Grades 5-8
 - ii. DJ and Photobooth
 - iii. Board to discuss if holding dance same night as Trunk or Treat makes sense
 - e. Volley for Veterans-on track for November
 - f. Spirit Wear
 - i. Closed on 9/25
 - ii. Price points set as low as possible
 - iii. Way to bring community spirit to students/teachers/parents
12. Update provided by PTA attorney, Steven Margolis
- i. 2015 Case-State vs. Crystal Bernat
 - 1. Provided check to Treasurer for \$122 (payment of \$28/month by defendant)
 - 2. Checks are cleared by the State of NJ and then sent to Margolis Law Firm (via a monitored account) who will then forward to PTA Board
 - 3. If future restitution payments are not received, a civil judgement against the defendant would affect her ability to buy a home, buy a car, etc.
 - ii. 2016 Case-State vs. Robin Patton
 - 1. Payment totaling \$16,020 received at May 12th hearing from defendant
 - 2. Still owed \$100; Steven to reach out to Asst. Prosecutor Burke who prosecuted both cases
13. Outgoing PTA Board was given flowers and a GC from Aida
14. Motion to Adjourn meeting. Meeting Adjourned at 8:15 PM.