

## **Mattituck-Cutchogue PTA - Board Meeting**

February 25, 2025 at 6:30pm - In-person in CE library

### **Attendees:**

- President, Molly Jernick & Amanda Ayzenberg
- Vice President, Tim MacDonald
- Treasurer, Courtney Stewart
- Recording Secretary, Jennifer Klodnicki
- Supervisor Shawn Petretti
- Principal Amy Brennan
- PTA members - Kerri Chituk, Jeffrey Connolly, Grace Holdsworth, Aleksandra Kardwell, Dana Knatz, Celly Maldonaldo, Emma Mirsky, Caitlin Boyce Oswald

### **Meeting Notes:**

- 6:35 Meeting called to order
- Old Business
  - Vote to approve last meetings minutes - approved
  - Events since last meeting:
    - **Charleston Wrap fundraiser** - net \$3,800
    - **Fall Fest**
      - K-2nd grade parents came in for craft, local farm donated apples for snacks, parents were excited to come into the school and see kids
      - \$375 spent
    - **Book Fair**
      - Week long Scholastic book fair, timed with Literacy Week and open on Literacy Night which worked well, great volunteers
      - Net \$2,400 in cash plus an additional \$1,000 in Scholastic Dollars to fulfill teacher wish lists
    - **Teacher Mini-grants**
      - Every year we put aside funds for teachers to apply for grants for classroom supplies and learning materials

- 13 teachers applied and all were fulfilled - school paid half and PTA paid half (PTA's portion \$1,456). (Thank you cards from teachers and their students shared at meeting)
- **Holiday Shop**
  - Week long event led by Morgan Maul, Julie Dantes & Meghann Salerno
  - Net \$3,212 (similar to LY)
- **Staff Appreciation Holiday Breakfast** - Tuesday before December break Jill Kubetz and Aleksandra Kardwell chaired the event, Ammirati's provided buffet breakfast, staff enjoyed opportunity to sit down together before holiday, timing worked well
- **Parent Workshop-Tech Talk and Book Club – Jan 9<sup>th</sup> w/ Dr. Kardaras**
  - 50 people attended, many purchased the book
  - Parent book club afterwards on Feb 4th wasn't very well attended, busy time of year and many families were sick
  - Should we do a version for students before summer?
  - Explore another topic for the next parent workshop (ideas that have come up have been: anxiety in kids, and nutrition).
- **New Business**
  - **Community Family and Kid events:**
    - **Open Gym Nights** – First one on Feb 14, well attended, kids played old school games like kickball, dodgeball and knock out; kids loved being in the High School, organized schedule by age, 40 kids attended, next one is this **Friday, Feb 28**
    - **Open Skate at Greenport Roller Rink - March 9** - includes all ages, free skate rentals
    - **Spirit Night at Urban Air - March 21** (conference day) - 20% of proceeds go to PTA, open to public - no limit on attendees
  - **Fundraisers:**
    - **NoFo Neighbor cards** (ongoing) - brought in half of projection so far, expire in June, recently promoted to Middle School and HS

- **Square1 Art Fundraiser** is coming up - run by Mr. Costello, students' art projects printed on mugs, keychains, etc; arrive before Mother's Day, flyers sent out in March
  - No color run this year, many community races during this time of year (possibly next yr)
  - **June - End of Year basket raffle** is in the planning phase. Aleksandra Kardwell is spearheading.
- **School based events:**
  - **Math Night - Mar 25, 6-8pm** - PTA setting up a table with math games, providing refreshments, mini math-related basket raffles - one for younger kids, older kids, and family; each attendee gets a free ticket and additional tickets for sale
  - **STEAM night - April 8** - PTA will do a States of matter table and a Lego table, CE colored slime take-home. That night will also be the 3rd grade recorder show, Art Show and Science Fair
  - **Laser Light assembly - March 14**, space theme, need a dark space
  - **School Dance - April 4** - 6th graders picked glow-party theme, all grades - younger kids come early and older kids later, reserved DJ, PTA now has a popcorn machine and Molly has a cotton candy machine that can be used.
  - **Tuck Night Jr (5th and 6th grade) - May**, need parent volunteers, kids play games, ice cream party after
  - **Field day - June 11** - working on tshirt design, 6th graders select design and signatures go on back, PTA needs to place the full school order by May 1 so that the shirts arrive in time for field day.
  - **6th grade luncheon - June 25** - usually planned and run by 6th grade parents, need volunteers
  - **6th grade graduation - June 25** - at HS at night on the same day, reception usually run by 5th grade parents so they know what to expect for next year
- **Next PTA Meeting is May 6th at 7pm – Board Elections**
  - 1 Co-president spot will be open for next year
  - 1-2 Secretary positions will be open for next year - secretary/secretaries are needed to help with: recording meeting minutes, helping to update the by-laws this summer for next year, administrative support like correspondence/email to members, facebook and social media posts, weekly parent square posts. Since it

is a board position, secretary/secretaries are expected to attend quarterly PTA general meetings and biweekly PTA Board meetings.

- Email co-presidents if interested - [msiller89@gmail.com](mailto:msiller89@gmail.com) or [amanda.senaayzenberg@gmail.com](mailto:amanda.senaayzenberg@gmail.com)

- **Treasurer's Report**

- As of January 15 - Checking account balance \$55,000
- \$30,000 in reserve is on target
- Budget moves
  - Accountant fees were paid and we took the \$350 surplus and moved to STEAM night
  - Color run budget was redeployed - \$1,500 to basket raffle and \$1500 to year end party
  - \$250 left from discount card budget, \$45 left from Trunk or Treat and \$112 left from parent tech talk redeployed to Family night budget (WINGO, math night, open gym)
  - Student program budget was \$5,000 - took \$1,000 and moved to Spring dance budget, \$1300 allocated to Laser light assembly, \$2,300 remaining if something comes up

- **Strategic Plan Proposal - Shawn Petretti, Superintendent of Schools**

- Presentation available on school website - [link](#)
- Mr. Connolly and Ms. Anderson from the Board in attendance
- Review challenges we are anticipating in the next few years
- All decisions are made in support of the mission
- Priorities
  - Fiscal responsibility - anticipating cuts in State aid (Foundation Aid Cuts), we receive \$2M in state aid per year, anticipating losing \$1.3M per year soon due to election cycle and declining enrollment
  - Demographic shifts/Student needs
  - Enrollment Decline
  - Solution/Next Steps - opportunity to do things differently
- Commitment to maintaining robust/diverse programs - we are similar to other districts our size; our offerings are above and beyond what is required by law
  - 17 AP course offerings
  - 49 HS electives

- 8 support classes
  - 39 sports teams - 12 combined with other districts
  - 36 secondary clubs
- Anticipated Foundation Aid cuts
  - Reserves are well funded but limited in what we can use
  - Exploring using reserves when state aid cuts occur
- Demographic Shifts/ Student needs
  - **ENL:** In 2012 we had 4% ENL students and we had 14% ENL in 2024
    - Hispanic population now 30%
    - Added specialized teachers and classes to support
  - **Economically disadvantaged**
    - 2012 15% qualified and in 2024 30% are considered economically disadvantaged
    - Supports - food pantry, free lunch
  - **Special Education**
    - 2012 14% and 2024 16% - trend mirrors NYS
- AP results improving significantly
  - 2021 - 128 AP students, 75% scored 3+
  - 2024 - 140 AP students, 92% scored 3+
  - More Special Ed and ENL students in AP classes in the past which shows the strength of the supports offered
- Enrollment - significant decrease in enrollment, will be difficult to maintain programs
  - Class sizes - Kindergarten is currently 63 students and 12th grade is 91
  - District enrollment - 2012 it was 1,481 and in 2032 it is projected to be 777
  - Secondary (7-12 grade) enrollment in 2012 was 837 and by 2032 it is projected to be 337
  - What is causing the decline?
    - Nationally People are getting married later and having fewer children
    - Local real estate prices risen dramatically - difficult for young families or first-time homebuyers
- Opportunities

- Work with neighboring districts on adjustments and new efficiencies
    - Busing students for academic programs i.e. physics, however will lose academic time
    - Online/virtual class offerings
    - Sharing teachers - Greenport and Southold share a music teacher, Our Physics teacher teaching 1.5 classes in Greenport
    - Merge secondary schools
    - Merge into one districts
    - Many benefits and challenges to each proposal. Examples:
      - Benefits - shared resources, maintaining programs
      - Challenges - sports teams, transportation time, legacy, school identities, fear of job security, no guarantee of additional state aid, mergers have never been undone
  - Next steps
    - Board determines direction
    - Investigate options for studies
    - Explore partners
    - Perform the study - class offerings, facilities, staffing, transportation, tax rates, board structure
    - Review and share findings with stakeholders
    - Districts plan together
    - All involved board vote on a plan
    - All boards present to the plan to their communities for a vote
  - Supervisor Petretti is sharing the information to start the conversation and is open to questions and discussion
- **Principal Brennan Updates**
  - Gratitude - thank you, it's been a great year
  - Bully Prevention Survey - starts Thursday, we will be able to compare results to LY and the impact of having the curriculum in place
  - Care Committee - invite parents to join, we have community members and teachers but need more parents, next meeting is March 18
    - Revisit timing so more can attend, explore adding virtual
  - Student Cares committee - monthly during morning meeting on Thursday - all ages, calling it the Kind Club which was a Kindergartener's idea

- State assessments in April and May - students encouraged to take the tests, students are doing well
- **Meeting adjourned at 8:09pm**

#### **Important Dates for PTA**

- Feb 28 th from 5pm-7pm: Open Gym @ MHS! (Open to all 3rd -6th graders)
- Mar 9th from 3:30-5:30pm: Skating at Greenport Roller Rink (Open to all grades)
- Mar 21 st 4pm-8:30pm: Spirit Night at Urban Air! (Open to all grades)
- Mar 25th 6pm-8pm: Math Night at CE!
- Apr 4th : School Dance at CE!
- Apr 8th : STEAM Night at CE!
- May 16th : Tuck Night Jr. at CE! (Open to all 5 th and 6 th graders)
- Jun 11: Field Day (6/18 field day rain date)
- Jun 20: PTA End of Year Celebration at Veterans Park
- Jun 25: 6th grade luncheon and moving up ceremony