

Hamagrael PTA Meeting

October 13, 2011

Agenda

1. **Call to Order**

***Special Presentation** from Bethlehem Public Library Children's librarian. Handouts distributed outlining how public library can work with students in many ways to enhance school activities/projects/ homework. More information can be found by calling the Bethlehem Public Library Children's department.

2. **Presidents' Report:** Amy Higgs and Holly Dellenbaugh

A. Report from Presidents' Council: President's Council was canceled this month.

3. **Treasurer's report:** Sharmon Valerian and Christi VanRoyen

Review of inputs and expenses. Highlights included: Nearly 1200.00 raised at this year's Fall Family Picnic- great job! Craft fair money is coming in from vendors. Membership dues in; 368 members. Parent membership down from last year but teacher membership up. Directory printing cost \$270.

Suggestion from PTA member to investigate Spirit Wear vendor for next year; may know of another vendor who is cheaper.

4. **Principal's Report-** David Ksanznak

New Superintendent appointed: Dr. Thomas Douglas; will start January 2nd, 2012. Thank you to Dr. Tebbano for his dedication and hard work given to the district.

Parent letter coming out to explain new teacher evaluation system tied to "Race to the Top" funding. Hamagrael teachers grades 3-5 will be evaluated on student test scores. Mr. K.

expressed that Hamagrael will not be operating under the “teach to the test” mentality.

5. **New Business**

A. Committee Chair Reports

1. CAPER (Debbie Kearns): Will begin on Nov. 3rd at 6:30pm; 1x/month; Sign up with Mrs. Held in library.
2. Newsletter (Jen Gannett): Being prepared to go out next week. With information on Committees, upcoming events, and highlighting ways the PTA is involved in fundraising and programming for Hamagrael.
3. Family Math and Science Nights (Carrie Hennessey): Jan 9,10,11 6:30-8pm; in need of volunteers for set-up, clean-up, sign-in. There will be a K Math night later in the spring.
4. Gift Card Fundraiser: Will be happening closer to December to align with upcoming holiday season.
5. KHK: During Halloween party there will be a craft table dedicated to making items for residents at Beverwyck and Good Samaritan Nursing Home. Halloween Party at Beverwyck with residents and students planned for Oct. 30th.
6. Fall Book Fair (Ellen Sauer): Coming up Nov 14,15,16. Set up will be on Nov 10th due to holiday on the 11th. Possibly have movie night on Nov. 15th and PTA meeting will be held in the library.
7. Visiting Authors: (Ellen Eisenbraun): Jarrett Krosoczka of the “Lunch Lady” series will be coming on Nov. 15th. Students will have opportunity to purchase books to have signed. Cost around \$1700.
8. Halloween Party: (Carol Roeder): Great group of parents getting Haunted House together. Still in need of parents of younger children to participate to ensure active group over the years.
9. Green Committee: (Lisa Kwong): Adopt a Forest idea delayed due to site being “overgrown” and hesitation to proceed due to lack of involvement so far from Hamagrael families. Hope that newsletter and more exposure of committee will increase involvement in Spring of next year.

6. Other

Vote to recognize Dr. Uhl for his ongoing participation in the Halloween party despite no longer having children at Hamagrael. His help with lighting is invaluable each year. Agreed to purchase \$100 gift certificate for local restaurant to give as a thank you gift for his multiple years of voluntary participation/assistance.

7. Adjournment