

PFA Meeting – January 13, 2012

Welcome

- Maggie Pople, president, welcomed everyone and started meeting at 9:15 am

Guest Speakers

Denise Zallow – 5th grade presentation

- The Disney Planet Challenge is being conducted by the students in 5C. Eight students came to present their information at the meeting
- Disney's Planet Challenge (DPC) is a project-based learning environmental competition for classrooms across the United States. DPC teaches kids about science and conservation while empowering them to make a positive impact on their communities and planet. Disney's Planet Challenge is by Disney's Friends for Change.
- This year's class is focused on the Emerald Ash Borer, a beetle native to Asia that was accidentally introduced to Marshall Township through a shipping crate brought in containing building materials. The Emerald Ash Borer lays eggs in the Ash trees and eventually kills it and others nearby. The top of the tree dies first and the borer creates an "S" pattern in the bark. The bark eventually falls off and the tree is left with holes in the trunk.
- The students in 5C partnered with Marshall Township to replace trees that were dying because of the emerald ash borer. They raised money (\$265) and planted several new trees to improve Knob Hill Park. They planted Hickory trees which are native to Pennsylvania and have no known predators to attack it.
- On February 2nd from 6:30 – 8:30 pm, there is a meeting at the Marshall Township Community Center to inform the community about the problem the Emerald Ash has caused and what they can do to stop it from spreading. Everyone is encouraged to attend. There will be speakers from Penn State and Phil Gruszka, Director of Pittsburgh Parks Management and Maintenance.

Beth Ludwig – NA Foundation

- Beth Ludwig has been on the School Board for 10 years and has just been re-elected for another term. She oversees the NA Foundation program.
- The North Allegheny Foundation is dedicated to encouraging excellence and innovation in the North Allegheny Schools. The Foundation achieves this by providing money to facilitate the development of new programs. It has brought programs such as Traveling Art Gallery, mini grants for teachers and scholarships for graduating seniors.
- Website – to locate the NA Foundation, go to www.northallegheny.org website, then community, then NA Foundation.
- Webmaster for the NA Foundation – Krista Tozier
- The NA Budget outlook is bad for the next 5-10 years and the foundation is trying to raise money to continue to bring what is expected to the NA school district. This year the monies raised will go towards Elementary and Middle School technology.
- Fundraisers in the Spring:
 - Fashion Show & Luncheon at the Chadwick – April 22, 2012

- The show will focus on women’s clothing fashions brought by Cabi. Teachers and administrators will be modeling the fashions. Pittsburgh Elegance will display prom gowns and Miss Priss will show a whimsical dress for young girls.
 - The goal of the fashion show is to increase community awareness and involvement in the foundation as well as raise money to fund programs. \$25 per guest.
 - Each school building has been asked to create a themed basket worth \$75-150. MES may do a “Renew Yourself For Spring” basket done by Krista Tozier and Amy Belden utilizing PSCs.
 - Encouraging a Table for 8 – your group can reserve a table for 8
 - Advertising in the program - \$100 for a full page ad, \$50 for ½ page, \$25 for a business card
 - Golf Outing at Diamond Run – June 18, 2012
 - Details to come – golf and heavy appetizers afterwards (tickets approximately \$175-\$200)
- “Honor Someone Special” poster
 - Began in 2005 to recognize anyone who works or was employed by the district for their impact on you.
 - \$50 to honor person. Honoree receives a special certificate with comments included about their honor and their name listed on the “Honor Someone Special” plaque.

President’s Report

- Calendar Review Highlights– full calendar available on the website
 - January – 1/19 - Parent Preview – 4th/5th Growth and Development Program at Bradford Woods, Band Concert (MES, 7 pm), 1/25 – Kindergarten Registration (MES – 9:30 am and 1:30 pm, 6 pm Hosack only), 1/26 – Orchestra Concert (MES Gym, 7 pm), 1/27 – Q and U wedding (1st grade, 2:15 pm), 1/30 - 4th/5th Growth and Development Program at McKnight
 - February – 2/2 – Diversity Puppet Show (2nd grade), 2/6 – 10 – CogATs (Grades 2 and 4), 2/7 – 9 - After School Program begins, Jump Rope for Heart (2/13), 2/14 - Valentine’s Day Party (2:30 pm)
- PFA Updates
 - Community Service Hours needed – Susie Walsh has a girl scout troop who needs 100 hours of service for 100 years of scouting. Any help needed, please contact Susie Walsh. *Maggie needs help laminating nametags for the After School Program.*
 - Welcome Committee – Christine Griffin is soliciting ideas to assist the welcome committee in putting together a program to make new families feel welcome. All ideas are welcome.
 - Treasurer – Heidi Coltin reviewed budget. Some highlights:
 - Box Tops – received a check for \$1,700 which included box tops from last spring (great job Heather Zottoli). There is a promotion this week at Giant Eagle to earn an additional 50 box tops based on purchases.

- Room Parties – encouraging parents to please turn in receipts for reimbursement
- Testing Rewards – for IOWAs (pencil/bookmark) and for PSSAs (bracelets and pretzels/water during movie)

Administrative Report – Dr. Jim Bradley

- Testing – finishing IOWA testing today and doing make-ups this week and beginning of next week. Should be completed by Wednesday, 1/18/12. CogATs in February and PSSAs in March (includes 4th grade Science and 5th grade Writing)
- Maternity Leaves ending – Mrs. Klaus (Deily) (1/20 return – Mrs. Garrow has been sub), Ms. Brown – speech and language teacher (1/20 return), Ms. Kevan – ESAP teacher (end of February or beginning of March return), Ms. Dixon – special education teacher (end of February return).
- Superintendent Meeting at MES on Wednesday night (1/11/12) – Dr. Gualtieri spoke – very informative. Summary to be available on the website.