

**Folly Quarter Middle School  
PTA Executive Board Meeting  
December 13, 2007**

**Minutes**

Meeting was called to order at 6:10 pm by VP Jennifer Hays.

The minutes from the November meeting were reviewed and acknowledged to be accurate.

**Treasurer – Debbie Oldhouser**

- There was not much activity in the past month with regard to budget items.
  - o A deposit from the magazine drive was made.
  - o A grant for the cultural arts program was posted.
  - o The tax return and sales tax return were filed.
  - o Bonding insurance and council dues were paid.

**Delegate – Joanne Griesser**

- The PTACHC meeting was held on December 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- The Board of Education (BOE) is recommending a brief tutorial on the BOE website so PTA members can find information about renovations, contracts, boundary lines and other issues. To get a brief informational tutorial, call 410-313-7194.
- Cultural proficiency workshops will be offered to PTA members in January and May. Dates to be announced.
- The coat drive was a major success. Coat donations are still being accepted at the ARL.
- The book drive will soon be underway.
  - o Schools wishing to receive books should contact Nehemiah at PTACHC.
  - o Schools wishing to donate will be given flyers and announcement materials.
  - o This year, schools will collect and sort books according to age groups.
  - o The schools donating books will be given the name of a school that needs books and a contact person at that school.
- The Joan Dykstra Leadership award is being changed to the Joan Dykstra Advocacy Award. Nominations are being accepted for people who make significant contributions to the PTA. A \$300 award is given to the winner to be used on their project. Forms are available on the BOE website.
- Once again, the Homewood School thanks everyone for their generous support.

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- The PTA President from Atholton High School reported she was the only Howard County representative at the Maryland Education Convention this year. She asked that PTA encourage someone from each school board to attend this valuable conference.

### **Directory Committee – Dana Potts**

- The directories were delivered.
- An amendment will be disseminated in January to include any newcomers to the school or recent add-ons.
- Rita Morsberg will be handling the PTA newsletter and also helped with the directory.
- Any updates for the webpages should go to Dana and items for the newsletter should go to Rita.

### **Principal – Dr. Perkins**

- The staff expressed their thanks and appreciation for the dinner during conference week. Approximately 700 conferences took place that week.
- Thanks also for helping with American Education Week.
- 8<sup>th</sup> grade articulation with Glenelg and River Hill High Schools is occurring and will continue.
- The Glenelg High School Safety Council had invited Dr. Perkins and Jennifer Hays to a meeting. Neither could attend but will follow-up on this effort. The purpose of the council is to try to teach kids about alcohol and drug abuse, drinking and driving, and other outside of school safety issues.
- Falcon Day will occur on December 21. Information will be provided in the school newsletter and in an ESchool Newsletter. Parent volunteers are needed to assist.
- The next Coffee and Conversation is scheduled for Thursday, December 20th at 9:00am. The topic is “The School Improvement Plan: Status and Progress.” All are welcome.
- A request was made by Dr. Perkins for the PTA to establish a committee to handle teacher and staff awards.
  - o One such award is coming up and is due on February 8<sup>th</sup>. It is the Washington Post Outstanding Teacher Award.
  - o This committee could also handle other recognition items such as honor roll and ice cream awards.
  - o After some discussion, it was decided that the PTA would attempt to establish such a committee after the holiday break, possibly by requesting volunteers through an ESchoolNewsletter.
- There were not many visitors during American Education Week.
  - o Dr. Perkins stressed that a “visit” does not have to be a physical visit but also includes phone calls and emails to the teacher.
  - o It was suggested that the Gayle Danley residency possibly occur during American Education Week next year to encourage more parents to visit.

### **Staff Reports**

- Mrs. Szalecki provided a list of Dates to Remember:
  - o 12/14 – Progress Reports go home
  - o 12/20 – Coffee and Conversation
  - o 12/20 – Winter Concert 1 at Marriotts Ridge High School
  - o 12/21 – Falcon Day
  - o 1/4 – Jazz Reunion Concert at River Hill High School
  - o 1/8 – Winter Concert II at Marriotts Ridge High School
  - o 1/9 – Science Fair
  - o 1/17 – End of 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter
- The Folly Quarter town council has adopted three families to sponsor through the holidays and beyond. Gift card donations to gas stations, grocery stores, etc. are being accepted and should be provided to Mr. Ceglia or to homeroom teachers.
- The next intramural offered will be on Fashion Design.
- The drama production will occur on January 11<sup>th</sup>.

### **Committee Reports**

- **Membership - Karen Drake**
  - o 436 total members so far
  - o The membership cards have been printed and will be sent home with students.
  - o All member names have been posted in the state database.
- **Cultural Arts – Heidi Trout**
  - o “Good Queen Bess” was performed on December 10<sup>th</sup> for the 7<sup>th</sup> grade. It is a living history presentation depicting Queen Elizabeth.
  - o A sword fighter will be scheduled in January or February for the 8<sup>th</sup> grade.
  - o An astronaut is scheduled on December 18<sup>th</sup> to address the 6<sup>th</sup> grade.
  - o A rapper delivered a presentation on not smoking.
- **After School Programs – Susan Joseph**
  - o Glenelg High School will host the January 11<sup>th</sup> performance of High School Musical.
  - o Tweenz Art has one more week in January. A second running is possible later in the year with items for boys.
  - o Susan is looking into a fencing program as well.
- **Community Outreach - Karen Mobley**
  - o The book drive will begin after the holiday break. An ESchoolNewsletter will announce the start of the book drive.
  - o A committee member suggested having the students make cards for the recovering military personnel at Walter Reed Medical Center. The committee member is checking to ensure that Walter Reed will accept such letters. If so, the proposal is to have students make cards during Falcon Day.

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- The winter project will be to organize an assembly with speakers from Grassroots Homeless Shelter, Congregations concerned for the Homeless, Pupil Personnel Workers from HCPSS and Johns Hopkins Bayview Child Psychiatry. After the assembly, a collection drive will take place focused on items needed by these groups.
- **Hospitality Committee – Donna Flemister**
  - The Hospitality Committee has recently supported or will do so in the near future the following events:
    - The Gold Honor Roll Breakfast
    - Ice cream for Honor Roll students
    - Baskets for bus drivers and custodians
    - Cookies in teacher mailboxes
    - Lunch for teachers
    - Items for the Coffee and Conversation
    - Science Fair in January
- **8<sup>th</sup> Grade Committee – Melody Scaldara and Tracy Wynn**
  - A committee member dropped out so the first Falcon Night has been rescheduled. One will occur in February and one in May.
  - A proposal has been made for the 8<sup>th</sup> grade to take a cruise rather than have the end of year picnic. The cruise would include breakfast and a DJ and will cost \$7200. This is approximately \$30 per student.
    - In the past, there has been a luncheon and dance held for the students as well as a picnic on the grounds of the school.
    - The current budget for 8<sup>th</sup> grade activities is \$3000 which includes funds for the t-shirts and party/picnic and cakes for graduation.
    - The 8<sup>th</sup> grade is proposing to sponsor two dances, possibly in January and April, in order to raise funds for the cruise and possibly doing other fundraisers.
    - Discussion took place as to whether the cruise was the best option for the kids and best utilization of funds.
    - Melody and Tracy will go back to Ms. Marusich to discuss the options.

Meeting adjourned.