

Middlebrook PTA Meeting May 17, 2012

MINUTES

- I. Call to Order - Room Y121, Middlebrook School @ 9am
- II. Approval of April 12, 2012 meeting minutes Lisa Benison moved, Dottie Jankowski second.
- III. Principal's Report - Julia Harris: Thanks to PTA hospitality committee for delightful and memorable events during Teacher Appreciation Week the first week of May, especially Bev Hermann, Laurie Collins, Veronica Campbell, Kelly Lash, JoAnn Logiurato, and Kim Troy for all that you have done to celebrate and feed our staff this year! Thank you for spoiling us!
- On Tuesday, May 1, the State of Connecticut, Office of the Attorney General issued an Official Citation recognizing 8th grade student Jessica Kobsa for her "outstanding work and writing skills as celebrated by winning third place in the 2012 Law Day Essay Contest." The topic for the essay was: "Should the government pass a law setting a minimum age for kids to join social networking sites?" Or, should it be left up to parents, kids, and/or the social networking sites themselves to determine and enforce age restrictions on joining such sites. If the government should make the rules, what should be the minimum age?"
- On Friday, May 4, 2012 Middlebrook 8th grade students competed at the adjudication festival, MUSIC IN THE PARKS, at Six Flags Great Adventure in New Jersey. We are proud to announce the following results:
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|---------------|-----------------------|-----------|
| Chorus | 2 nd Place | Excellent |
| Orchestra | 1 st Place | Excellent |
| Band | 2 nd Place | Excellent |
| Jazz Ensemble | 2 nd Place | Superior |
- Additionally, the Orchestra won BEST OVERALL, and 8th grader Quinn Reedy won Outstanding Jazz Soloist. The trophies are on display in the front office.
- Finally, I would like to thank all of you for your contributions to the PTA fundraiser this year. Our allocation committee met on Monday and allocated over \$21,000 to fund a variety of enrichment activities.
- IV. Teacher Representative - Rob Foley: 8 Green will be enjoying a southern tea party to end reading of To Kill a Mockingbird. 8 Yellow is about to kick off team project called Why Wage War. 8 Red is still working on digital guidebook of all memorials at Middlebrook. 7 Green enjoyed a wonderful trip to the UN and lunch at the Golden Unicorn in Chinatown. 7 Yellow complemented their unit of Anne Frank with a guest

speaker who spoke about being hidden by a Christian family during WWII. 7 Red will be taking their UN trip on June 5th. 6 Green is planning their Year in Review project. 6 Yellow will be holding their Greco-Roman Festival performance on May 25th at 1:00 pm with a reception to follow. 6 Red has their independent study project in full swing and they are getting ready to present at Closing House.

- V. President's Report - Beth Johnson: Beth moved that the PTA provide a gift of funds to cover the discrepancy in the "Music in the Parks" funding for \$1900 for the year 2013. Lisa Benison seconded the motion, which passed. The bylaws have been amended as discussed. The Wilton schools have been approached by Lifetouch photography to consider switching from Coffee Pond to Lifetouch for school portraits for the school year 2013-2014 and beyond. This is being discussed by the PTA Council, the school principals, PTA presidents, and photo chairs at each of the schools. The PTA is also accepting ideas/requests from the school for additional gifts to the school in the area of technology. For example, funding the online library and/or e-readers next year.
- VI. Officer Reports:
- a. Vice President - Stacy Crameri: ideas were discussed on how to increase PTA membership, including the plan to combine PTA membership with first directory purchase for the 2012-2013 school year, as well as possibly including the directory order/membership form in with the contact and health forms each family completes at the beginning of the school year.
 - b. Treasurer - Lisa Benison: no report.
- VII. Committee Reports:
- a. Wilton Youth Council: No report.
 - b. 8th Grade Dinner Dance: 8th grade dinner dance committee is in full swing. Volunteers and sub-committees are formed and invites are out! We have a great group on various committees, and we are all set, except we can still take volunteers for Friday, June 8th for decorating during the day and clean up. If anyone is available, please contact me at jthtsully@aol.com. Decorating is happening between 1-6:30 and clean up 9:30-10:30. All help is most appreciated and clean up is very quick! We are still waiting for photos for kindergarten and a recent photo from 8th grade for the photo hall, which are due next week. Tickets for the dance will be available at lunch, Mon, Tues and Wed, May 21-23 at lunch. Please return permission slip with check.
 - c. Soaring Ahead: Bev Hermann, Laurie Collins, and Kim Troy.
 - d. Hospitality: Bev Hermann is looking for members for next year's committee.
 - e. Special Education: Our Top Inclusion Models had a very successful morning at Middlebrook 2 weeks ago, Spreading the Word to end the Word, and handing out bookmarks for disability awareness month. Hopefully this will turn into a yearly

event. Our next targeted event at MB is the 8Th grade dinner dance. It was suggested that we send a group to help out in general and also accompany selected students. We have not worked out all the logistics yet.

f. Nominating Committee: Michelle and Dottie have worked hard to fill open positions for the 2012-2013 school year, and are still seeking people to fill the 6th grade activity nights and Weekly Messenger/website positions.

1. Vote on proposed PTA Executive Board slate for 2012-2013: the slate was approved as proposed: Beth Johnson, President; Stacey Cramer, Vice President; Maria Wilcox, Treasurer; Aileen Senneff, Secretary; and Savet Constantine, Parent-at-Large.

VIII. New Business: None brought.

IX. Adjournment