**PTG Meeting Oct. 8, 2019**

Meeting held in the JHS Library @ 9:40 am

First standard meeting of the school year, the first being a meet and greet welcome back style meeting

held September 10, 2019.

**In attendance:** Tara Belfi, Edina Bobelian, Dana Lynch, Wendi DeSchutter, Tami Schneider, Sheela Haja, Tara Dircks, Ray McNulty, Liz Squicciarini, Dianne Breitstone, Stephanie DiNozzi, Carol Kessler, Kristen Drakos, Lynette Simmons, Tara Vaccaro, Suzi Berg, Emilie Hartman, Monica Stingi, Marie Strunk, Stacey Guine.

**BOE Board Members in attendance:** Ingrid Wright, Amy Brogan, Anthony Paolano, Julie Starrett

**May 7, 2019 minutes reviewed and approved by:** Approved by Edina Bobelian and seconded by

Wendi DeSchutter

**Announcements:**

**Diane Breitstone PTG Membership**

Great start with 285 member families belonging to the PTG. Will continue efforts to increase.

**Tara Vacarro Committees**

Staff Breakfast of 9/19 went well. Next event is the Holiday Cookie Bake chaired by Pam Bell and Amy Howell. Still looking for Literary Lunch volunteers.

**Tara Belfi SEPTO, Educational Foundation**

SEPTO is in the middle of their membership drive. So far 75 memberships, looking for 25 more. Next meeting will be on Oct 22 in the district office. Discussion will be in a round table style, topic will be the pros

and cons of using medication to help your child.

The Educational Foundation launched a new Parent Partnership. There will be leveled giving this year. POP Party tickets will be included with some levels. They are planning a Sip’n Shop at Tori Burch Manhasset with a 20% discount for the evening.

**Board of Education Appreciation Month**

Wendy DeSchutter mentioned that October is Board of Ed appreciation month. Each board member in attendance stood and was applauded.

**Dana Lynch Cultural Arts**

There will be a Civil War Re-enactment on Oct. 24. On Nov 6 and 8 Veterans will be in the school for 7th, 8th and 11 grade classes. Seeking food volunteers for the November dates.

**Dr Bolen, Principal**

Spirit Week is being enthusiastically received by the students. There is a pep rally planned for Friday and sports games will be held on almost every field. They are looking for a beautification volunteer

as the volunteer doing this currently has a graduating child this year.

**Dianne Breitstone, Sports Booster Club**

Tickets to Homecoming football game this Friday night are $30 and include BBQ and food under the tent. Will have a photo booth. An active and festive Homecoming has been planned. As an option to buying tickets, the Snack Shack will still be open and food can be purchased.

**Educational Foundation, Youth Ambassador Program**

**Carly Genser President**

**Martina Simone VP of Marketing**

**Katie Belfi Events President**

Students representing the Youth Ambassador Program of the Educational Foundation spoke. They began an Instagram account for the Foundation, made promotional videos, wrote articles and introduced local businesses and students to the Foundation. They advise the Foundation on how to improve the school. Since the Foundation underwrites the Robotics Club, they have shown different activities this club is engaged in.

**Mr Monastero Tech Talk**

Mr Monastero showed us, via a Power Point presentation, the various software programs the school

offers to keep track of what’s going on with students. The Parent Portal has assignments, grades, assessments and course recommendations. Items may not appear if using a Mac in an old safari browser due to security encryption issues, use Chrome instead.

Canvas has been updated this year, it integrates with Google and is a web based application. Most teachers are using Canvas. Demonstrated how to sign on. Explained that Remind is a notification app.

**Dr Fenter Mr Stucchio**

**Bond Presentation**

Purpose of the Bond is to support and continue high quality education. It is three pronged:

* enhancing safety and security;
* expanding academic opportunity;
* address long term facility needs in a pro-active manner.

The Board of Education visited other schools to learn about facilities that they have and we do not.

They conducted a survey among residents of the district which resulted in 475 responses. The top concerns were infrastructure, updating the science rooms and supporting technology and engineering.

The Bond is for $34.4 million and is tax levy neutral. $1.2 million will come from the capital reserve fund and $33.2 million from the bond. Our district has a AAA bond rating. The Bond forum is scheduled for Nov 12 at the Francis Roberts Community Center with the vote to be held on Nov 19 from 6 pm to 10 pm in the Field House at the High School.

**Meeting Adjourned 11:25 am.**

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Kessler, Secretary