

PTA Minutes January 11, 2023

Thank you to Dr. Secaur for meeting with us prior to the PTA meeting. Dr. Secaur took the time to informally share district priorities and accomplishments and allow for Q & A to get authentic feedback from our school community.

The general meeting of the Accomsett Middle School PTA, was called to order at 10:17 am at the art room.

In attendance: Danielle Chisari, Gina Kandrach, Michelle Laurino, Mr. McNeil, Mrs. Donahue (13 total in attendance).

Principal's Report: Mr. McNeil

- Congratulations to Louis Mincieli who is now recognized by the NYS Master Teacher program. The New York State Master Teacher Program consists of more than 1400 outstanding public school K-12 STEM teachers throughout the state who share a passion for their own STEM learning and collaborating with colleagues to inspire the next generation of STEM leaders.
- There will be upcoming state assessments; reading and math is on a local level. It helps identify students who may need intervention. There is a lot of learning loss from the pandemic.
- Bond work was voted and approved. There will be HVAC improvements, acoustical lighting and AC put in at the auditorium, fire alarm renovations, field irrigation work, locks put in on the interior classroom doors, as well as renovations of multi stall bathrooms and alterations to the science classrooms.
- Police officers will be coming in for a program.
- Lock down drill to be conducted on Friday, January 13, 2023.
- The Battle of the Classes that last took place during the 2019- 2020 school year, will be back this year. Fun activities will be held during the school week. The event will take place on February 3 and similar to homecoming and spirit week at the High School. The band & chorus will be kicking it off and a DJ/MC will be hosting. The half time show will be performed by the kickline team. Students participate in fun games and there will be a big trophy awarded to the grade that wins. The PTA will be working with Mr. McNeil, to iron out the details. Each grade to wear a different color (red, white or blue).

Guest speaker, Mrs. Richardson (from the guidance office) was present.

- During Jan & Feb, the counselors are on the beginning phases of scheduling for the next school year. Counselors will be meeting with the students.
- In 2 weeks, the current 6th graders will have a presentation to help chose course electives for 7th grade.
- A World Language (you will have to select a first choice and a second choice): French, German, Italian or Spanish.
- An Elective: Project Lead the Way, or Pre-Algebra
- Please log into the parent portal and make the selections between Feb 1 and Feb 10.
- Recommendations are being done by teachers now.
- 7th graders will get the opportunity to choose honors social studies and honors English going into 8th grade.

- 8th grade students are meeting on January 23 for a group presentation to talk about high school and graduation requirements.
- On January 25, there will be a similar group presentation for the parents; the students can attend as well.
- In Feb, the 8th grade students will be shown how to log into the science classes in the high school.
- Current 5th grade students entering 6th grade next school year, can reach out to guidance now to go over any concerns.
- Feel free to reach out to the counselors at any time throughout the school year.
- Mrs. Richardson (A-G) krichardson@smithtown.k12.ny.us
- Ms. Martin (H-L) gmartin@smithtown.k12.ny.us
- Ms. Bootle (M-Z) ebootle@smithtown.k12.ny.us

Mr. Arsinicos (band teacher) was present:

- 7 day lesson cycle pull outs.
- 8th graders are going to HSW on January 12 during 4th and 5th period to hear the HS students play.
- On June 2, the 7th & 8th grade band, 8th grade chorus and select chorus will be performing for adjudication for the 2023 LI Music Festival at SCCC, Brentwood campus, followed by fun afternoon at Adventureland.
- NYSMA registration is due by Friday Jan 20. Students perform a solo on their level and get rating. Students who do well go to the All County Festival. A few students are selected from each school. From our district, 1 student was chosen for All County Jazz, 9 from band, 2 from orchestra and 13 for chorus.
- There will be a school musical on May 5 and 6th. Auditions will take in the end of January/beginning of February.
- The marching band will be marching in the Memorial Day parade (6th-8th graders).
- End of the year spring concerts in May are up on the district website.

President's Report: Danielle Chisari

- The 7th grade dance will be held on January 20 (7-9). The theme will be a winter ball.
- Working with vendors for battle of the classes.
- High School West PTA will have open positions on the PTA: 1st VP, 2nd VP, and Corresponding Secretary (2 year terms).
- March 21 @7pm: fashion show will be at Flowerfield. It's a fundraising event and all are welcome to attend. The teenagers wear dresses and tuxedos and the funds raised, supports the 12th graders.
- 8th grade yearbook pictures, please keep submitting photos of baby pictures and friend photos.
- There is a link to do this on the PTA website, it's also listed on the AMS bulletin and there is a downloadable app as well.

Treasurer's Report: Gina Kandrach

- As of yearend closing, we have \$23,000 as the ending balance.
- It's never too late to join the AMS PTA. Membership is ongoing.
- At SEL and AEL PTA meetings, please let them know there is merchandise for sale which makes a great graduation gift for 5th grade.
- The PTA is selling "Cool to Be Kind" T-shirts and two styles of AMS spirit wear t-shirts for \$20, as well as a brand new Smithtown Bull for \$15 each during our next popcorn Fri on January 27.
- SPIRIT WEAR link is as follows:
<https://1stplacespiritwear.com/schools/NY/Smithtown/Accompsett%20Middle%20School>
- Thank you to everyone who participated in the AmazonSmile donation in the past. Unfortunately, the AmazonSmile customer-directed donation program will permanently shut down on February 20, 2023.

Arts in Ed: The representative was absent. Danielle Chisari reported the following:

- Rohan Murphy is an American Paralympian, wrestler and motivational speaker that will be coming in to speak to the 8th graders.
- 7th graders will get a presentation from Star Labs.
- 6th graders will have an assembly with John Shoe.
- The Long Island Science Center is being looked into, as a 6th grade field trip.
- Theatre Three will be putting on a grade level appropriate production for the 7th grade students related to the Holocaust.
- 8th grade Science students will go to the DNA Learning Center in Cold Spring Harbor.

Meeting Adjourned at 10:51 am

Accompsett Middle School 2022-2023 PTA Executive Board

*Danielle Chisari-President
Veronica Herzfeld-1st Vice President
Suzanne Arbia-2nd Vice President
Kristin Seely- Corresponding Secretary
Michelle Laurino- Recording Secretary
Gina Kandrach- Treasurer
Jennifer Luikart- Council Delegate*

Please sign up at the link below to receive periodic emails from the PTA as a means of communication. We will post events, volunteering and fundraising opportunities, and important news from our school and district.

<https://amspta.ch2v.com/secure/content.asp?Redirect=True&RedirectPage=/admin/register.asp>